

## **Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, Day 23 – Kaylee Danielson**

### **(Welcome)**

Hello, and welcome to Vespers for the Advent season. My name is Kaylee Danielson, and today is the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of Advent, Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **(Centering)**

As we begin our time of reflection and devotion, let's take a moment to center ourselves.

Make sure other distractions are quieted for the next few minutes.

If possible, bring your body to complete rest.

As you become aware of the stillness around you, focus on your breathing as we inhale and exhale slowly together.

Breathe in, exhale.

Breathe in, exhale.

Breathe in, exhale.

### **(Responsive Prayer)**

As we continue in prayer together, speak the words of this responsive prayer.

LEADER – God of love

RESPONSE – May this season remind us of your steadfastness

LEADER – Christ of hope

RESPONSE – May this season remind us of your promises

LEADER – Spirit of peace

RESPONSE – May this season remind us of your comfort

LEADER – As it was from the beginning,

RESPONSE – So now, may the joy of this season burn in our hearts

TOGETHER – Amen

### **(Lectio Divina)**

For the next few moments, let's dwell in God's Word.

Our reading today comes from Paul's letter to the Colossians, Chapter 3

I will read the passage through 3 times - each time with a different way for you to experience the scripture.

### **(1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

## Hear the Word of God

12 Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

13 Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### **(After 1<sup>st</sup> Reading Prompt)**

As we read through the 2<sup>nd</sup> time, take notice of what word or phrase stands out to you and hold onto it. If you would like to write your reflections down or tell someone else your findings, feel free to pause the video after this 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

Passage Repeated

### **(After 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Prompt)**

If a word or phrase caught your attention, what, if anything, do you sense God saying to you about the PEACE that Advent brings? Listen for that invitation during this final reading. If you would like to write your reflections down or tell someone else your findings, feel free to pause the video after this 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.

Passage Repeated

### **(After 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Prompt)**

As we conclude this time of reading together, let me offer this question as a challenge to be aware of as you go about your Advent season:

What other things besides peace compete to rule in your heart?

How is the PEACE of Advent a guard against these other rulers?

**(Benediction)**

Thank you for spending time with us today. As you continue this week, may the PEACE of the Advent resound in every part of your life. If you will, speak these words with me as we conclude:

ALL – Lord of hosts,  
                    Who breathed the words of creation and  
                    spoke the Word of the Incarnation  
Ignite our imaginations  
Fill us with awe and wonder  
Prepare the way for the Messiah, within and without  
For unto us, a Child is born  
Unto us, Emmanuel is given  
Bring us Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace  
As we receive, once again, Your greatest gift to the world  
Amen, and amen

**(Conclusion)**

Join us every day of Advent for a time of reflection and devotion.  
May God go with you through this season of PEACE.  
Blessings, dearly beloved.