



A joyful church, guided by God, loving our neighbors.

2nd Sunday of Advent/Virtual Service
Sunday, 6 December 2020

THE GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

arr. Parker/Shaw Verse 2

O, Come Thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine Advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. K. Nicholas Yoda

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The McNeil Family
AJ, Khadedra, Jayden, and Ethan

OPENING HYMN #87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

GENEVAN 42

“Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God.
“Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load.
To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.”
For the herald’s voice is crying in the desert far and near, calling us to true repentance,
since the reign of God is here.
O, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way.

Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.
Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God’s holy reign.

For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad, and all flesh shall see the token that God’s word is never broken.

CALL TO CONFESSION: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not within us. In confession, we acknowledge our brokenness and our need for God who is faithful, just, loving, and forgiving. In humility, and in faith, let us confess our condition to God by praying together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: **Creator God, you made us to be neighbors, members of one family blessed with great diversity. You created us to be helpers and friends to one another, entrusting to us your justice and your joy. Yet we have denied justice and joy to many, creating worlds of poverty, pain, lost opportunities, and absence of hope. In so many ways, we break each other's hearts. Still, you do not reject us. We ask your forgiveness and pray to be transformed. Through the power of your Spirit, you shape us to be for others what Christ is for us: pardon and peace, new life and blessing. We give you thanks for your love, forgiveness, and constant presence. Amen.**

(Time of Silent Personal Confession)

THE KYRIE: **Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Having confessed our sin, we remember the promises of God's redemption, and the claims God has on all human life. The assurance of God's forgiving grace is declared in the name of Jesus Christ. We accept God's forgiveness, confident that in dying to sin, God raises us to new life.

GLORIA PATRI #581: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

GIFT OF THE WORD

GOSPEL LECTIONARY TEXT

Mark 1:1-8

1 The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

2 As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

3 the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,'"

4 John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 6 Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. 8 I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

arr. Merrill

VIDEO

The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey

SERMON

"The Pish-Posh Peace"

David Paulik

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

COMMUNION

CLOSING HYMN #100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.

Could the world be about to turn?

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.

Let the fires of your justice burn.

Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,

and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn, you will show your might,
put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.
My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.
From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.

The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.
My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.
Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.
My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

New Prayer Concerns:

- **Trish Adams**, Health concerns
- **DeMaria Family and friends**, passing of Orpha DeMaria
- **Vera Lambert**, Health concerns, hospitalized
- **All Families who have suffered a loss**

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

- **Denise Bien**, Health concerns
- **Bogart Family**, passing of Ray Bogart, husband of Mary Jane
- **Marian Fenker**, Health concerns
- **Dorothy Fisher**, Health concerns
- **Estelle Goode**, mother in law of Rev. Amy Snow
- **Sue Imm**, Health concerns

- **Allison McGrath**, Cancer treatment
- **Glenn Montague**, Health concerns
- **Tom Wise**, Health concerns

Serving in the Armed Forces:

- **Zachary Huffman**, Friend of Barb Imm
- **Brian Montague**, grandson of Glenn Montague

Mission Coworkers:

- **McGill Family**, back in the United States

****Please notify the church office of any prayer requests you may have including those of you who have loved ones in the Armed Forces or in Mission.**

BLESSED BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Month of December: 2 Nancy Schmidt, 3 Robert Porter, 6 Alexander McNeill, 8 Jean Graham, 9 Connie Beckett, 13 Sally Budig, 15 Bruce Anderson, 17 Sheila Potter, 29 Miles Suer, 30 Sarah Downs, 31 Stephanie Suer.