

Covenant Community Church



First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2020

We Gather

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill my promise to my people.

People: Justice and righteousness will fill the land and all will live in peace and safety.

Lighting of Advent Candle

Opening Hymn #128

Prepare the Way, O Zion!

Prepare the way, O Zion! Ye awful deeps, rise high;
sink low, ye lofty mountain, the Lord is drawing nigh.
The righteous King of glory, foretold in sacred story;
O blest is he that came in God the Father's name.

O Zion, he approaches, hour Lord and King for aye;
strew palms where he advances, spread garments in his way.
God's promise faileth never, hosanna sound forever;
O blest is he that came in God the Father's name.

Fling wide our portals, Zion, and hail your glorious King;
his tidings of salvation to ev'ry people bring,
who, waiting still in sadness, would sing his praise with gladness:
O blest is he that came in God the Father's name.

The throne which he ascended is fixed in heav'n above;
his everlasting kingdom is light and joy and love.
Let us his praise be sounding for grace and peace abounding:
O blest is he that came in God the Father's name.

Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen

We Hear the Word

Scripture

Matthew 2:1-6 & Micah 5:2-4

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

We Respond

Interlude

Hymn #120

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.

Chorus: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

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. (Chorus)

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
and order all things, far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and cause us in her ways to go. (Chorus)

O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid now our sad divisions cease,
and be thy self our King of peace. (Chorus)

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Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation to Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

We Are Sent into the World

Closing Hymn #136

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers!

Rejoice, rejoice, believers! and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing and darker night is near.
The Lord is now arising, and soon he will draw nigh.
Up, watch in expectations! At midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning, replenish them with oil;
Look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.
The watchers on the mountain proclaim the Lord is near.
Go meet him as he comes now with alleluias clear.

All you who wait his coming, rehearse the joyful song,
which we shall sing in glory with all the angels throng.
The holy feast is waiting, the gates wide open stand.
Rise up, your heirs of glory! The Master is at hand.

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for, above this darkened sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free.

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Response

*The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious, gracious, gracious to you,
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
And give you, give you, give you peace.*

Leader: Go in Peace. Love and serve the Lord!

People: Praise be to God!

We Fellowship Together

Virtual Coffee Time and Sharing

Helping Us Worship

Minister to the Congregation:

Music Leader:

Scripture Reader:

Advent Readers:

Rev. Jeannette Conver

Peter Olson

Lynn Conver

Ken and Grace Wakeman

Matthew 2:1-6 New Living Translation (NLT)

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, ²“Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.”

³King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. ⁴He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, “Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?”

⁵“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they said, “for this is what the prophet wrote:

⁶‘And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah,
are not least among the ruling cities of Judah,
for a ruler will come from you
who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.’”

Micah 5:2-4 New Living Translation (NLT)

²But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
are only a small village among all the people of Judah.
Yet a ruler of Israel,
whose origins are in the distant past,
will come from you on my behalf.

³The people of Israel will be abandoned to their enemies
until the woman in labor gives birth.

Then at last his fellow countrymen
will return from exile to their own land.

⁴And he will stand to lead his flock with the LORD’s strength,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

Then his people will live there undisturbed,
for he will be highly honored around the world.

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