

# Covenant Community Church



**Second Sunday of Advent**  
**December 6, 2020**

**We Gather**

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: A voice cries in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord;

**People: Lift up every valley;**

Leader: Lower every mountain

**People: For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed."**

Litany Reading

Lighting of Advent Candle

Opening Hymn #124

*O Promised One of Israel*

O promised one of Israel by prophets long foretold,  
we wait in urgency and hope to see God's will unfold.  
The dark of night and cold predawn arouse our anxious fears.  
Help us to see the light ahead through trials, doubts, and tears.

In silent suffering some await your reign of justice here,  
while others, dulled by wealth and ease, can not explain their fear.  
When prophets spoke and Mary sang of tables over turned,  
dare we admit, in trembling awe, our hearts within us burned?

Creation stands alert and tense to see your sovereign power.  
You choose to come a tiny child revealed this day and hour.  
O grant us patience to receive without pretense or pride  
the gift of God's redeeming grace: a Savior by our side.

Opening Prayer

## **We Hear the Word**

Scripture

Isaiah 40:1-11

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

Sermon

## **We Respond**

Interlude

Hymn #131

*Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People*

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.  
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;  
tell her that her sins I cover and her warfare now is over.

Hark, the voice of one that crieth in the desert far and near,  
bidding all to true repentance, since the kingdom now is here.  
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God away;  
let the valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked; make the rougher places plain,  
let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;  
and all flesh shall see the token that his Word is never broken.

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation to Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

Communion Hymn #551

*As We Gather at Your Table*

As we gather at your table,  
as we listen to your Word,  
help us know, O God, your presence;  
let our hearts and minds be stirred.

Nourish us with sacred story  
till we claim it as our own;  
teach us through this holy banquet  
how to make love's vict'ry known.

Turn our worship into witness  
in the sacrament of life;  
send us forth to love and serve you,  
bringing peace where there is strife.  
Give us, Christ, your great compassion  
to forgive as you forgave;  
may we still behold your image  
in the world you died to save.

Grant us vision, gracious Spirit,  
seeking guests to share that feast  
where triumphant love will welcome  
those who had been last and least.  
There no more will envy  
blind us nor will pride  
nor will pride our peace destroy,  
as we join with saints and angels  
to repeat the sounding joy.

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## Communion

### 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 Are Sent into the World

Closing Hymn #130

*Come, You People of the Promise*

Come, you people of the promise, sing for joy!  
The time is near! God, the covenant fulfilling,  
soon among us will appear!  
As proclaimed in prophet's story,  
Christ will come in humble glory--  
God with us, Emmanuel!

Long in darkness we have waited,  
through the shadows made our way,  
gloom and sorrow our companions  
as we longed for signs of day--  
great our need for hope and healing,  
some great light our God revealing,  
God with us Emmanuel!

God's own Son shall dwell among us;  
shadows vanish in that light.  
Earth shall know his peace and justice:  
Christ who comes shall rule in might.  
Let our joy dispel all sadness:  
he who comes turns tears to gladness--  
God with us Emmanuel!

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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

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## **Helping Us Worship**

Minister to the Congregation:

Rev. Jeannette Conver

Music Leader:

Peter Olson

Scripture Reader:

Karen Zidovsky

Advent Readers:

Josy and Gordon Moore

## **Contact Information**

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**Isaiah 40:1-11** New Living Translation (NLT)

“Comfort, comfort my people,”  
says your God.

<sup>2</sup>“Speak tenderly to Jerusalem.

Tell her that her sad days are gone  
and her sins are pardoned.

Yes, the LORD has punished her twice over  
for all her sins.”

<sup>3</sup>Listen! It’s the voice of someone shouting,

“Clear the way through the wilderness  
for the LORD!

Make a straight highway through the wasteland  
for our God!

<sup>4</sup>Fill in the valleys,  
and level the mountains and hills.

Straighten the curves,  
and smooth out the rough places.

<sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed,  
and all people will see it together.  
The LORD has spoken!”

<sup>6</sup>A voice said, “Shout!”

I asked, “What should I shout?”

“Shout that people are like the grass.  
Their beauty fades as quickly  
as the flowers in a field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers and the flowers fade  
beneath the breath of the LORD.  
And so it is with people.

<sup>8</sup>The grass withers and the flowers fade,  
but the word of our God stands forever.”

<sup>9</sup>O Zion, messenger of good news,  
shout from the mountaintops!

Shout it louder, O Jerusalem.

Shout, and do not be afraid.

Tell the towns of Judah,  
“Your God is coming!”

<sup>10</sup> Yes, the Sovereign LORD is coming in power.

He will rule with a powerful arm.

See, he brings his reward with him as he comes.

<sup>11</sup> He will feed his flock like a shepherd.

He will carry the lambs in his arms,  
holding them close to his heart.

He will gently lead the mother sheep with their young.