

# Covenant Community Church



**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 13, 2020**

**We Gather**

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: God loves justice!

**People: God calls us to act in compassionate ways toward others.**

Leader: Rejoice, God has placed trust in you to be those who will bring good news of peace and joy.

**People: With the healing love of God in our hearts, we journey through this season, getting ready to welcome the One who will turn the world upside-down.**

Leader: Come, let us worship and praise God whose love is showered over us.

**People: Lord God, be with us as we seek your guidance and work to do your will. AMEN.**

Lighting of Advent Candle

Opening Hymn #140

*Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring*

Jesus came, the heavens adoring,  
came with peace from realms on high,  
Jesus came for our redemption,  
lowly came on earth to die.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Came in deep humility.

Jesus comes again in mercy,  
when our hearts are bowed with care;  
Jesus comes again in answer  
to an earnest, heartfelt prayer.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Comes to save us from despair.

Jesus comes in joy and sorrow,  
shares alike our hopes and fears;  
Jesus comes, what e'er befalls us,  
glads our hearts and dries our tears.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Cheering e'en our failing years.

Jesus comes on clouds triumphant,  
when the heav'ns shall pass away;  
Jesus comes again in glory,  
let us then our homage pay.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Till the dawn of endless day.

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Godfrey Thring  
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#### Opening Prayer & 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

Hebrews 1:1-3

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

Sermon

### **We Respond**

Interlude

Hymn #151

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

In the bleak midwinter,  
frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter,  
long ago.

Our God, heav'n cannot hold him,  
nor earth sustain;  
heav'n and earth shall flee away  
when he comes to reign;  
in the bleak midwinter  
a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God incarnate,  
Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels  
may have gathered there,  
cherubim and seraphim  
thronged the air;  
but his mother only,  
in her maiden bliss,  
worshipped the Beloved  
with a kiss.

What can I give him,  
poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man,  
I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him:  
give my heart.

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation to Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

## **We Are Sent into the World**

Closing Hymn #142

*Song of Zechariah*

Blest be the God of Israel, the everliving Lord.  
You come in pow'r to save your own, your people Israel.  
For Israel you now raise up salvation's tow'r on high  
in David's house, who reigned as king and servant of the Lord.

Through holy prophets did you speak your Word in days of old,  
that you would save us from our foes and all who bear us ill.  
On Sinai you gave to us your covenant of love:  
so with us now you keep your Word in love that knows no end.

Of old you gave your solemn oath to father Abraham:  
whose seed a mighty race should be and blest forevermore.  
You vowed to set your people free from fear of ev'ry foe,  
that we might serve you all our days in goodness, love, and peace.

O tiny child, your name shall be the prophet of the Lord;  
the way of God you will prepare to make God's coming known.  
You shall proclaim to Israel salvation's dawning day,  
when God shall wipe away all sins with mercy and with love.

The rising sun shall shine on us to bring the light of day;  
to all who sit in darkest night and shadow of the grave.  
Our footsteps God shall safely guide to walk the ways of peace,  
whose name forevermore be blest, who lives and loves and saves.

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

You are invited to stay after our (Zoom) worship service today for a virtual St. Lucia themed coffee hour!

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## **Helping Us Worship**

Minister to the Congregation:

Rev. Jeannette Conver

Music Leader:

Peter Olson

Scripture Reader:

Alice Marsh

Advent Readers:

Don and Susan Turner

## **Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11** New Living Translation

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is upon me,  
for the LORD has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted  
and to proclaim that captives will be released  
and prisoners will be freed.

<sup>2</sup>He has sent me to tell those who mourn  
that the time of the LORD's favor has come,  
and with it, the day of God's anger against their enemies.

<sup>3</sup>To all who mourn in Israel,  
he will give a crown of beauty for ashes,  
a joyous blessing instead of mourning,  
festive praise instead of despair.

In their righteousness, they will be like great oaks  
that the LORD has planted for his own glory.

<sup>4</sup>They will rebuild the ancient ruins,  
repairing cities destroyed long ago.  
They will revive them,  
though they have been deserted for many generations.

<sup>8</sup>"For I, the LORD, love justice.  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing.  
I will faithfully reward my people for their suffering  
and make an everlasting covenant with them.

<sup>9</sup>Their descendants will be recognized  
and honored among the nations.  
Everyone will realize that they are a people  
the LORD has blessed."

<sup>10</sup>I am overwhelmed with joy in the LORD my God!  
For he has dressed me with the clothing of salvation  
and draped me in a robe of righteousness.  
I am like a bridegroom dressed for his wedding  
or a bride with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup>The Sovereign LORD will show his justice to the nations of the world.  
Everyone will praise him!  
His righteousness will be like a garden in early spring,  
with plants springing up everywhere.

## Contact Information

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