

Covenant Community Church



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

We Gather

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: In the never-ending flow from Abraham to Christ, in the ever-reaching flow from Christ to the present, you are planted in Life by the power of the Holy Mystery, the power of the Holy Spirit.

People: We are your people; you are our salvation.

Leader: Waiting for your coming, rejoicing in your being, we offer you our hearts, prayers, and praise.

People: Merciful One, in you we have found our place

Leader: Glory to God, through Jesus Christ!

People: Glory forever and ever!

Leader: Glory to God whose wisdom knows no bounds.

People: Glory forever and ever! Amen

Lighting of Advent Candle

Opening Hymn#134

Long Ago, Prophets Knew

Verse 1

Long ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew,
come to make all things new,
bear his People's burden,
freely love and pardon.

Chorus 1

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes,
who will make him welcome?

Verse 2

God in time, God in man,
this is God's timeless plan:
he will come, as a man,
born himself of woman,
God divinely human.

Verse 3

Mary, hail! Though afraid,
she believed, she obeyed.
In her womb, God is laid
till the time expected,
nurtured and protected.

Verse 4

Journey ends! Where afar
Beth'lem shines, like a star,
stable door stands ajar:
unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!

Chorus 2

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes, Jesus comes,
we will make him welcome!

CCLI Song # 1958634
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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

Luke 1:26-38

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

Sermon

We Respond

Interlude

Hymn #148

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming as saints of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when halfspent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright she bore to us a Savior,
when halfspent was the night.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man yet very God, from sin and death he saves us
and lightens every load.

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation to Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Dedication

We Are Sent into the World

Closing Hymn #174

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Of the Father's love begotten,
ere the world began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessed,
when a virgin, blest with grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race;
and the babe, the world's Redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!

Let the heights of heav'n adore him;
angel hosts his praises sing:
pow'rs, dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
ev'ry voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
and unwearied praises be:
honor, glory, and dominion,
and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore!

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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 Reader:

Rev. Jeannette Conner
Peter Olson
Mary Sylver
Laurie Prior

Luke 1:26-38 New Living Translation

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. ²⁸ Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"

²⁹ Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. ³⁰ "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!"

³⁴ Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin."

³⁵ The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month. ³⁷ For the word of God will never fail."

³⁸ Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her.

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