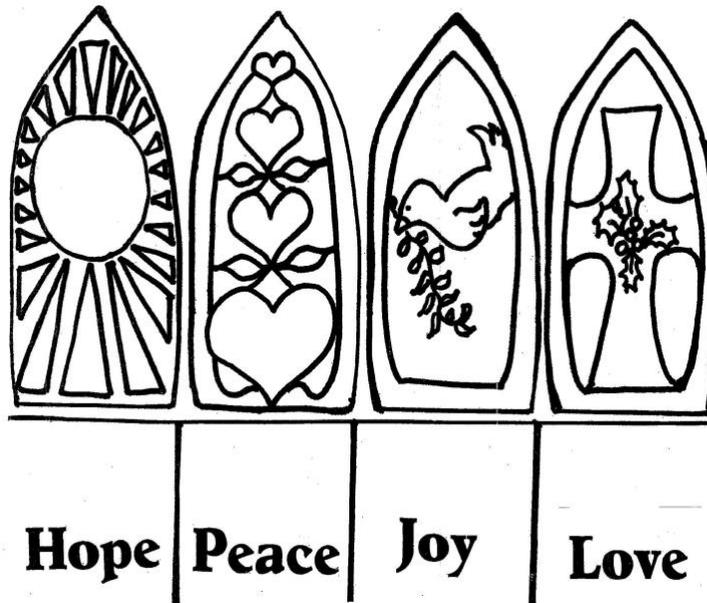


# Advent



**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 6, 2020**

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings.
  
- 2 Then cleansed be every breast from sin;  
make straight the way for God within,  
and let each heart prepare a home  
where such a mighty guest may come.
  
- 3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge, and our great reward;  
without thy grace we waste away  
like flowers that wither and decay.

*Celebrant* Blessed be the One, Holy, and Living God.  
*People* **Glory to God forever and ever. Amen**

*Celebrant* May God be with you.  
*People:* **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant* Let us pray together.

### **The Collect of the Day**

God of hope, you call us from the exile of our sin with the good news of restoration: you build a highway through the wilderness; you come to us and bring us home. Comfort us with the expectation of your saving power, made known to us in Jesus Christ, **Amen.**

### **The Lessons**

#### **First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11**

Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.  
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her  
that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”  
And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,  
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,  
O Zion, herald of good tidings;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,  
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,  
“Here is your God!”

See, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead the mother sheep.

***At the conclusion of the reading:***

**Reader:** Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### **Psalm 85**

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O God; \*  
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people \*  
and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 I will listen to what you are saying, \*  
for you are speaking peace to your faithful people and to those  
who turn their hearts to you.
- 9 Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, \*  
that your glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; \*  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, \*  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 You, O God, will indeed grant prosperity, \*  
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before you, \*  
and peace shall be a pathway for your feet.

### **Second Lesson: 2 Peter 3:8-15a**

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

*At the conclusion of the reading:*

**Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.**

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Deacon:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

*People:* **Glory to you O Christ.**

### **Mark 1:1-8**

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

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 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. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. 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. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

*At the conclusion of the Gospel:*

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## The Sermon

The Rev. Beth Sherman

## The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified and has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People

*Reader:* Let us be filled with the Holy Spirit and pray for the common good of the whole human family. *In the pause after each bidding, add your own prayers either silently or aloud.*

O come, Emmanuel, fill our hearts with your Holy Spirit as we pray for the good of the creation and the whole human family. We pray for the Church, the Body of Christ, especially Michael, our

Presiding Bishop and Nicholas, our Bishop; for the people of God, gathered from every nation under heaven; may we proclaim in every language, the dawning of a new age. In the **Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain. In the **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for Emanuel, Cumberland; and Emanuel, Newport.

*Silence*

*Reader:* For this we pray.

*People:* **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, guide people of faith to proclaim by word and deed the presence of your love.

*Silence*

*Reader:* For this we pray.

*People:* **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

O come, thou Lord of light, who has shown us that through love you choose the way of apparent weakness to draw humankind to your way, guide us in the paths of justice and peace.

*Silence*

*Reader:* For this we pray.

*People:* **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree. Bless all whose lives are closely linked to ours, that we may be images of your love to one another.

*Silence*

*Reader:* For this we pray.

*People:* **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

O come, thou Key of David, inspire us to minister in our communities,

as we are gifted and able to bring comfort and assistance to reveal the power of your compassion and mercy.

*Silence*

*Reader:* For this we pray.

*People:* **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, to heal, guide, and comfort all who suffer from illness or, distress remembering today\_\_\_\_\_

*Silence*

*Reader:* For this we pray.

*People:* **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

O come, Emmanuel, in whose embrace we commend those who have gone ahead of us to rest in your love, remembering \_\_\_\_\_

*Silence*

*Reader:* For this we pray.

*People:* **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

*Reader:* We give you thanks for the blessings of this life, including those celebrating birthdays: Jack Brown, Joel Brown, Aspen Richardson, Tim Fratus, Sarah Berggren, Alexander Boucher and Cordelia Wheelock.

*Silence*

*Reader:* For this we pray.

*People:* **Holy Spirit, guide our prayer.**

*Together:*

**God of unveiled truth, faithful flame in times of darkened sun and waning moon: lift up our unknowing hearts, and waken our**

**sleeping love to announce the coming dawn of unexpected peace;  
through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. Amen.**

**Additional Collects**

**The Vicar**

*Celebrant*      **Summing all of our prayers, let us pray the prayer  
Jesus taught us, saying:**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom  
come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our  
daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin  
against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and  
forever. Amen.**

**Closing Hymn      Come thou long-expected Jesus      66**

1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in thee.

2 Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art:  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

3 Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child, and yet a king,  
born to reign in us for ever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4 By thine own eternal Spirit

rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

### **The Blessing**

### **Dismissal**

*Dismissal response:* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia**

### **Announcements**

**Please remember to return your 2021 pledge cards.**



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