

## WORSHIP HANDOUT

December 6, 2020

A Person of Hope



### OPENING OF WORSHIP

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent Bible Study via Zoom on Monday evenings.  
Still some Advent Take Home Kits if you want one. Let PA know.  
Help us Decorate for Advent

### PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

A voice cries out:

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

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

Speak to us Lord.

As you promised through your prophets Isaiah and John the Baptist,  
come to us now.

May all the barriers be removed  
so that we can receive your Word and worship you,  
in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH – Love/The Way

### HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Verses 1,2,6,7) UMH #211

## TIME OF PRAYER

### UNISON PRAYER

Gracious God help us to meet you as you come to us.  
Help us to prepare your way in our lives,  
and to announce your coming in love to others.  
Take, O God, what we give and transform it, to your glory.  
Take, O God, what we do and transform it to your acting.  
Take, O God, what we say and transform it to your singing.  
Take, O God, what we live and transform it to your creating.  
Lord, hear our prayer....

Lord, hear too our prayer for those rough places in our lives  
and in the lives of others that we name before you.  
Fill the valleys with your light,  
level the uneven paths with your grace,  
and grant that your Spirit might so move us and others,  
that your saving presence might be visible to all.  
Lord, hear our prayer....

Lord, on this Sunday of preparation,  
this Sunday which celebrates your peace,  
help there to be peace in our lives and peace in our churches,  
and peace in our world.  
Where we have sinned, move us to repentance,  
and help us confess to those we have grieved and seek their  
forgiveness;  
and where others have sinned against us  
help us to trust in your vindication  
and grant that those who have hurt us  
might see your light and be made new in Christ.  
Lord hear our prayer....

## SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYER (MUSIC)

We ask all these things in the name of the one John pointed to—  
Christ Jesus your living Word. **Amen.**

### 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  
trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And  
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For  
thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory now and  
forever. Amen.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LESSON 1      CEB

Isaiah 40:1-11

**Comfort, comfort my people!**  
**says your God.**

**<sup>2</sup> Speak compassionately to Jerusalem,**  
**and proclaim to her that her compulsory service has**  
**ended,**  
**that her penalty has been paid,**  
**that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all**  
**her sins!**

**<sup>3</sup> A voice is crying out:**  
**"Clear the Lord's way in the desert!**  
**Make a level highway in the wilderness for our God!**

**<sup>4</sup> Every valley will be raised up,**  
**and every mountain and hill will be flattened.**  
**Uneven ground will become level,**  
**and rough terrain a valley plain.**

**<sup>5</sup> The Lord's glory will appear,**  
**and all humanity will see it together;**  
**the Lord's mouth has commanded it."**

**<sup>6</sup> A voice was saying:  
“Call out!”  
And another said,  
“What should I call out?”  
All flesh is grass;  
all its loyalty is like the flowers of the field.**

**<sup>7</sup> The grass dries up  
and the flower withers  
when the Lord’s breath blows on it.  
Surely the people are grass.**

**<sup>8</sup> The grass dries up;  
the flower withers,  
but our God’s word will exist forever.**

**<sup>9</sup> Go up on a high mountain,  
messenger Zion!  
Raise your voice and shout,  
messenger Jerusalem!  
Raise it; don’t be afraid;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
“Here is your God!”**

**<sup>10</sup> Here is the Lord God,  
coming with strength,  
with a triumphant arm,  
bringing his reward with him  
and his payment before him.**

**<sup>11</sup> Like a shepherd, God will tend the flock;  
he will gather lambs in his arms  
and lift them onto his lap.  
He will gently guide the nursing ewes.**

**The beginning of the good news about Jesus Christ, God's Son, 2 happened just as it was written about in the prophecy of Isaiah:**

***Look, I am sending my messenger before you.***

***He will prepare your way,***

***3 a voice shouting in the wilderness:***

***“Prepare the way for the Lord;  
make his paths straight.”***

**4 John the Baptist was in the wilderness calling for people to be baptized to show that they were changing their hearts and lives and wanted God to forgive their sins. 5 Everyone in Judea and all the people of Jerusalem went out to the Jordan River and were being baptized by John as they confessed their sins. 6 John wore clothes made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. 7 He announced, “One stronger than I am is coming after me. I'm not even worthy to bend over and loosen the strap of his sandals. 8 I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”**

**L: This is the Word of God for all people.**

**P: Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE**

**“The Voice that Fulfills”**

**HYMN**

**Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice**

**TFWS #2089**

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

Let us pray.

**O God,  
who desires good for all creatures,  
satisfy our hunger not just for food,  
but for freedom, truth, justice and love.**

**O Risen Christ,  
you revealed yourself to us  
as one who gives to the poor and cares for all people.  
We dedicate our lives and our offerings to your service.**

**O Holy Spirit,  
bless these gifts and abide in our hearts  
so that our gifts and our actions  
may live out our faith,  
glorify God,  
and bring forth a fruitful harvest for the kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

—from [A Service for the Eve of Thanksgiving](#) written by the Rev. Thomas L. Weitzel, a pastor of the ELCA, and posted on [Liturgy by TLW](#).

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

UMH #204

POSTLUDE