



St. Mary's  
United Church  
of Christ

1441 E. Mayberry Rd.  
Westminster, MD 21158

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent  
November 29, 2020

**Prelude** – Of the Father's Love Begotten (Century Plainsong/arr. C. W. Douglas)

**Call to Worship**

**Hymn** – A Voice Cries Out

Console my people, the ones dear to me:  
speak to the heart of Jerusalem:  
the time of your mourning is ended now,  
the Lord of life will come.

A voice cries out in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord!  
A voice cries out in the wilderness:  
Make straight a highway for God!

Ev'ry valley is made a plain,  
ev'ry mountain is leveled  
the glory of God shall then be revealed,  
and the nations will sing in praise.

A voice cries out in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord!  
A voice cries out in the wilderness:  
Make straight a highway for God!

A voice shouts: "Cry!" O what shall I cry?  
All flesh is like grass and its flowers:  
the grass may wither, the flower may fade,  
but the Word of the Lord is forever.

A voice cries out in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord!  
A voice cries out in the wilderness:  
Make straight a highway for God!

Zion, shout from the mountain top,  
lift up your voice O Jerusalem,  
and say to the people of God's own land,  
"Behold, behold your God!"

A voice cries out in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord!  
A voice cries out in the wilderness:  
Make straight a highway for God!

The Lord will appear as a shepherd,  
holding his lambs in his arms,  
keeping his flock so close to his heart  
leading them all, old and young.

A voice cries out in the wilderness:  
Prepare a way for the Lord!  
A voice cries out in the wilderness:  
Make straight a highway for God!

***Advent Reading – Amanda Hartman***

***Collect for the first Sunday in Advent***

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come! By your merciful protection save us from the threatening danger of sin, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

***Lighting of the Advent Wreath***

***Hymn – O Come, O Come Emmanuel, v.1***  
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive  
Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here,  
until the Son of God appear. Rejoice, rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

***Readings***

**Old Testament: Isaiah 64:1-9**

**Psalm: 80:1-7, 17-19**

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,  
you who lead Joseph like a flock!  
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth  
**before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.**  
**Stir up your might, and come to save us!**  
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.  
**O LORD God of hosts,**  
**how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?**  
You have fed them with the bread of tears,  
and given them tears to drink in full measure.

**You make us the scorn<sup>[a]</sup> of our neighbors;  
our enemies laugh among themselves.**

Restore us, O God of hosts;  
let your face shine, that we may be saved.

**But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,  
the one whom you made strong for yourself.**

Then we will never turn back from you;  
give us life, and we will call on your name.

**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;  
let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

**New Testament: Colossians 1:1-14**

**Gospel: John 1:1-14**

***Gloria Patri***

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end, Amen, Amen!*

**Sermon – Fed Up Enough**

**Hymn – Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence**

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and  
trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly minded,  
for with blessing in his hand Christ our God to earth de-  
scendeth, our full homage to demand.

Truly God, yet born of Mary, as of old on  
earth he stood, word of God, in human vesture,  
in the body and the blood, Christ will give to all the  
faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard  
on the way, as the Light of light descendeth  
from the realms of endless day, that the powers of hell may  
vanish as the shadows clear away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with  
sleepless eye, veil their faces to the Presence,  
as with ceaseless voice they cry, "Alleluia, Alle-  
luia, Alleluia, God most high!"

***Pastoral 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.**

**Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

**Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

***Offertory Prayer***

**Gracious God, we give back a small portion of the harvest we have received from You, and we ask that our offering would be acceptable in Your sight. In humility we pray that you would fill us with the True Bread that comes down from heaven. All praise be to You, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.**

***Communion***

***Call to the Table***

For 400 years the people of God waited for a Savior, crying out, "Justice is far from us, and righteousness does not reach us; we wait for light, and lo! there is darkness; and for brightness, but we walk in gloom."

**In the fullness of time, the apostle John wrote, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." Here, in this meal, hope is kindled as Jesus comes to us in these elements of bread and wine, shared in this community of faith.**

***Communion Prayer***

***Words of Institution***

***Call to the Table***

This is the table of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love God and for those who want to love God more.

**So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little. You who have been here often and you who have not been here long. You who have tried to follow and all of us who have failed.**

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

**Come, not because you must, but because you are invited by Christ to be known and fed here. Amen!**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving***

**Father in Heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love, and our minds long to see the light of Your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth. Amen.**

***Hymn – The Lord is My Light***

**Refrain:**

The Lord is my light and my salvation, of whom should I be afraid, of whom should I be afraid?

The Lord is my light and my help; whom should I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom should I shrink?

There is one thing I ask of the Lord; for this I long:  
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living;  
hope in God, and take heart. Hope in the Lord!

***Benediction***

***Threefold Amen***

***Postlude*** – Hail to the Lord's Anointed (Ellacombe/Hofkapelle/Balcombe)

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## **Collect for the Week of November 29**

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come! By your merciful protection save us from the threatening danger of sin, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*My prayers for the week*



Caroleen Will  
Dave Cunningham  
Tom Cross  
Brian Cunningham  
Dawn Penney  
Ann Wilson

Joe Thornton  
Gene Brothers  
Diane Kuhn  
Guy Boyd  
Richard & Deborah Hahn  
Family of Jeff Campbell

Chelsea Cyr  
Perry Lyons  
Dave Moerschbacher  
Jeremy Dutterer  
Allen Showalter  
Sandy Suit  
Amber Ashe  
Savannah Price  
Karen Anderson  
Drucilla Short  
Cart Denner  
Ron Garrett  
Doug & Diane Hoffman  
Jim Boone  
Susan  
Baby Lacey  
Abe Weller  
Shari Armstrong  
Jean Snyder  
David Miller  
Margie Snyder  
Family of Nancy Brewer  
Shirley Amspacher  
Donna Rill

Anna Owings  
Ray Owings  
Jean Alexander  
Panzer Family  
Steve Morehead  
Mike Driscoll  
Nancy Brewer  
Terry Chavios  
Rob Finn  
Caitlyn  
Richard & Beatrice Hess  
Family of Norma Boone  
Jennifer Ramsey  
Rob Rickell  
Family of Keith Householder  
Denise and Joe Carrick  
Family of Mace Ireland  
Carolyn Yost  
Mike Knight  
Aunt Mae  
Ruth Hess Eichler  
Linda Mayo  
Family of Mel Pittinger