

**GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN  
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
Morning Worship – 9:30 a.m.**

**December 6, 2020**

*Silent prayer for use in preparation for worship:*

*We love Thee, O God, and we desire to love Thee more and more. Grant that we may love Thee as much as we ought. Let Christ dwell in our hearts, so to keep watch over our lips, our steps, and our deeds. In love for Thee, give us love, sweetest of all gifts, which knows no enemy. Most loving Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, let our hearts, frozen in sin, cold to Thee and cold to others, be warmed by Thy divine and cleansing fire. So help and bless us in Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

*A prayer of Anselm of Canterbury, 1033-1109*

**PRELUDE** *Andante Religioso* *Felix Mendelssohn*  
*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* *arr. Mark Hayes*

**OLD TESTAMENT** *Isaiah 40:1-11*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *(adapted from Psalm 85)*

Show us Thy steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us Thy salvation.

LET ME HEAR WHAT GOD THE LORD WILL SPEAK, FOR HE WILL SPEAK PEACE TO HIS PEOPLE, HIS SAINTS, BUT LET THEM NOT TURN BACK TO FOLLY.

Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, that His glory may dwell in our land.

MERCY AND TRUTH ARE MET TOGETHER; RIGHTEOUSNESS AND PEACE HAVE KISSED EACH OTHER

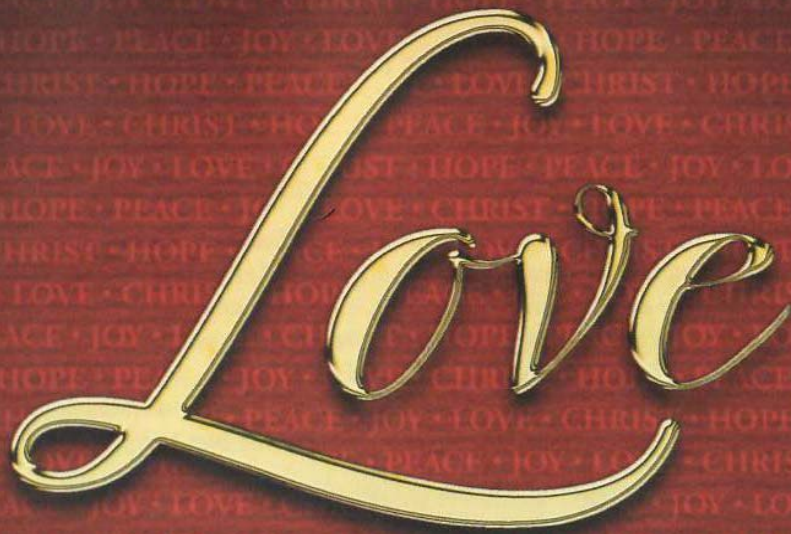
Truth shall spring out of the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

RIGHTEOUSNESS WILL GO BEFORE HIM AND WILL MAKE A PATH FOR HIS STEPS.


**\*PRAYER OF ADORATION** *(in unison)*

ETERNAL GOD, THROUGH LONG GENERATIONS YOU PREPARED A WAY FOR THE COMING OF YOUR SON, AND BY YOUR SPIRIT YOU STILL BRING LIGHT TO ILLUMINE OUR PATHS. RENEW US IN FAITH AND HOPE, THAT WE MAY WELCOME JESUS CHRIST TO RULE OUR THOUGHTS AND CLAIM OUR LOVE, AS LORD OF LORDS AND KING OF KINGS, TO WHOM BE GLORY ALWAYS, AMEN.

**\*+HYMN** *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*



Love



*The kindness and love of God  
our Saviour toward man appeared.*

TITUS 3:4

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*first silently, then in unison*):

ALMIGHTY GOD, YOU HAVE GIVEN US YOUR ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON TO TAKE UPON HIMSELF OUR HUMAN NATURE, AND AT YOUR APPOINTED TIME TO BE BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY. HAVING BEEN GIVEN NEW LIFE IN HIM AND MADE YOUR CHILDREN BY ADOPTION AND GRACE, WE ASK YOUR FORGIVENESS FOR OUR SINS AND DAILY RENEWAL BY THE POWER OF YOUR HOLY SPIRIT, THROUGH THE MERIT AND MEDIATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, WHO LIVES AND REIGNS WITH YOU AND THAT SAME SPIRIT, EVER ONE GOD, WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN. (*A prayer of Thomas Cranmer, 1489-1556*)

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Believe the good news of the Gospel.  
IN JESUS CHRIST, WE ARE FORGIVEN.

**\*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.*

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**            *He Shall Feed His Flock*            *G.F. Handel*  
   *Bill Cheney, Baritone*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**        *Mark 1:1-8*  
   *II Peter 3:8-15*

**\*HYMN**                            *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

**SERMON**            A GRACIOUS INVITATION TO BE RIGHT AT HOME

**AFFIRMATION**            *Westminster Confession of Faith, Ch. VIII, Par. II*

THE SON OF GOD, THE SECOND PERSON IN THE TRINITY, BEING VERY AND ETERNAL GOD, OF ONE SUBSTANCE AND EQUAL WITH THE FATHER, DID, WHEN THE FULLNESS OF TIME WAS COME, TAKE UPON HIM MAN'S NATURE, WITH ALL THE ESSENTIAL PROPERTIES, AND COMMON INFIRMITIES THEREOF, YET WITHOUT SIN; BEING CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY GHOST, IN THE WOMB OF THE VIRGIN MARY, OF HER SUBSTANCE. SO THAT TWO WHOLE, PERFECT AND DISTINCT NATURES, THE GODHEAD AND THE MANHOOD, WERE INSEPARABLY JOINED TOGETHER IN ONE PERSON, WHICH PERSON IS VERY GOD AND VERY MAN, YET ONE CHRIST, THE ONLY MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD AND MAN.

**OFFERING**

*\*Doxology*

*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!*

*\*Prayer of Dedication*

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

*The Invitation to the Table*

*The Eucharistic Prayer*

The Lord be with you.

**AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

Lift up your hearts.

**WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.**

**YOU ARE HOLY, O GOD OF MAJESTY, AND BLESSED IS JESUS CHRIST, YOUR SON, OUR LORD, WHO DESCENDED FROM YOUR HEIGHTS TO KNEEL IN OBEDIENCE TO LOVE'S COMMANDS. THE CUP OF SUFFERING HE DRANK HAS BECOME FOR US THE CUP OF SALVATION. IN HIS DEATH, HE HAS DELIVERED US FROM DEATH'S DOMINION; IN HIS RESURRECTION, HE HAS OPENED THE WAY TO LIFE FULL, ABUNDANT AND ETERNAL. WE EAGERLY AWAIT HIS COMING AGAIN, THAT HIS RULE MAY BE COMPLETE AND YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS REIGN OVER ALL; AT THAT TIME WE WILL FEAST AT HIS ROYAL BANQUET AND SING YOUR PRAISES WITH THE CHOIRS OF HEAVEN. AND NOW ACCEPT THIS OUR SACRIFICE OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING AS A LIVING AND HOLY OFFERING OF OURSELVES, THAT OUR LIVES MAY PROCLAIM THE ONE CRUCIFIED AND RISEN, WHO TAUGHT US TO PRAY, "OUR FATHER ..."**

*The Words of Institution*

*The Communion*

*The Prayer of Thanksgiving*

**\*HYMN**                            *Give Thanks!*

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son; (2x)*

*And now let the weak say, "I am strong;" let the poor say, "I am rich,"  
because of what the Lord has done for us (2x)*

*(repeat first stanza once, end with "Give thanks!")*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**                            *Festive Recessional*                            *David Laskey*

*\*(the people standing, as able)*



# Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

The Lord has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives. Isaiah 61:1

1. Come, Thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free.  
2. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a Child and yet a King,

From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's Strength and Con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it, Rule in all our hearts a - lone;

Dear De - sire of ev - ery na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

TEXT: Charles Wesley

MUSIC: Rowland H. Prichard; arranged by Robert Harkness

A lower setting may be found at No. 309

HYFRYDOL

8.7.8.7.D.

CCLI LICENSE #1301953

## ISAIAH 40:1-11

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?"

"All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."

You who bring good tidings to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!"

See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

## MARK 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger before you, who shall prepare your way; a voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

## II PETER 3:8-15

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise as some understand slowness, but He is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should 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 in it will be laid bare. Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of persons ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives, as you look forward to the day of God and hasten its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heaven by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But according to His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. "

Therefore, beloved, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him. Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given him.



# Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

he LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him. Hab. 2:20

Unison

1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and  
 2. King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on  
 3. Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van - guard  
 4. At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim, with

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,  
 earth he stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man ves - ture,  
 on the way, as the Light of light de - scend - eth  
 sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the pres - ence,

for with bless - ing in his hand, Christ our God to  
 in the bod - y and the blood, he will give to  
 from the realms of end - less day, that the pow'rs of  
 as with cease - less voice they cry, "Al - le - lu - ia,

earth de - scend - eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.  
 all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.  
 hell may van - ish as the dark - ness clears a - way.  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Liturg of St. James, 5th cent.  
 Adapted by Gerard Moultrie, 1864

PICARDY 8.7.8.7.8.7.  
 French melody, 17th cent.  
 Arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

**GREENWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH, PRESBYTERIAN**  
**805 MAIN AVENUE**  
**WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND 02886**  
**December 6, 2020**

*WELCOME to all who are worshipping in our sanctuary today; welcome, too, to all worshipping with us online! As done these past thirty-six weeks, the service will be archived and posted @ twenty minutes after the benediction and will be available for viewing and/or downloading for at least one week. A special word of welcome to any and all visiting with us in person or online this morning ... welcome to our fellowship!*

**Flowers Today** are given to the glory of God by Evelyn Murray in loving memory of her grandparents, James Francis & Ida Bickley (McLaren) Howard.

**FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE:** Once again we are partnering with the Eleanor Slater Hospital to provide Christmas gifts to their long-term adult psychiatric patients. These patients tend to be forgotten during Christmas. Each patient was asked to think of three things they wished to enjoy. You are invited to choose one of the coded ornaments downstairs in fellowship Hall. Each ornament on the tree in Fellowship Hall will have their code and three wish items. You may provide one, two or all three of the items. If you are one who watches online, but wishes to help, we will leave a copy of the spreadsheet next to the tree in fellowship hall. You're welcome to stop by during the week and pick an ornament. We ask you fill out the spreadsheet for any ornaments you take. There are 54 ornaments so we invite you to stop by and take one (or more). Please return items to the church by **Sunday, December 13** unwrapped with the coded ornament. Thank you to all who can help those most likely to be forgotten this Christmas!

**IN PERSON SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTINUES TODAY 10:30-11:00 A.M.** Pre-K and Kindergarten students meet in the first floor Kindergarten classroom; Grades 1-5 meet in the third floor Sunday School wing and Grades 6-12 meet in the 29Eleven room. An online version of the **Jesus Storybook Bible** lesson is also available on **GREENWOOD CHURCH'S SUNDAY SCHOOL FACEBOOK** page (taught by Lisa David); it may be viewed at any time during the week.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** We will offer two Christmas mini-concerts on **December 9 and 16 (Wednesday evenings) at 7:00 p.m.** Special selections will be presented by our wonderful soloists of all ages, and by our music staff, and we will have a special virtual choir presentation from our Youth Choir. This will primarily be a live-streamed event on our Facebook page, with the sanctuary open for those who are not able to access the online broadcast. A freewill offering will be taken to benefit our music program.

**HELP NEEDED:** If you have technical and/or audio-visual expertise, we are in need of capable volunteers to help with the recording or our worship services! Please see Pastor Clark and/or Matthew Majeika if interested; thank you!

**THE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** have HAND MADE ADULT AND CHILD FACE MASKS available for sale in Fellowship Hall (\$5 adult, \$4 children, by honor system). All proceeds will go to the Presbyterian Women's Community Outreach Fund.