



**We are a Reconciling Congregation!**

**Grow, Play and Serve with a people with  
Hearts for Children and Hands for Service**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 6, 2020**

**10:00 a.m.**

PRELUDE

*Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming  
He is Born*

Robert Edward Smith  
Albin Whitworth

WELCOME

CONFESSION PRAYER (*unison*)

***Holy Lord, in this time of Advent, we confess we often are distracted by the season's busyness, by the stress of commitment, and even by putting our own traditions ahead of the true meaning of Christmas. We confess we also often prefer being sentimental to being charitable. Forgive us for all the times we have missed seeing you in our midst, for all the times we have doubted your presence, and for all the times we have failed to hold your mystery. Pour peace into our lives and let us be bearers of your peace to others. Remind us that this is a season of waiting and preparation for the greatest gift of all. In the holy name of our savior, Jesus, we pray. Amen.***

*silent prayer*

FORGIVENESS AND ASSURANCE

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners, that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

*Blessed Be the God of Israel*

Becky Netherland, soloist

*v. 1 Blessed be the God of Israel who comes to set us free, who visits and redeems us, and grants us liberty. The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release; God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.*

*v. 2 Now from the house of David a child of grace is given; a Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven. Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way, the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.*

*v. 3 On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise, the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes, to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace; O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!*

LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE - PEACE

Chris Walters

Prayer

It is hard, O God in these days, to have hope and peace, to invest in things we do not understand. To believe in things we have not experienced, to trust that all will be well. But you, O God, are a keeper of promises. You promised a savior, and you bring us true peace in him. You promised forgiveness, and you give it. We grasp for you in hope and peace. We await your return with expectation. We look to the renewal of all things with joy. We prepare for you through acts of love. Amen.

Sung Response

*Kindle the flame of peace, may it burn bright and true  
Lighting the way we seek to God, the journey we pursue.*

MUSIC

*Meditation from Thais*

Jules Massenet

Thomas Yang, violin

READING

*Isaiah 40:1-8*

Sarane Siewerth

*Comfort, 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 lower 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 flowers fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.*

MUSIC

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*

13<sup>th</sup> century

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 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

READING

*Isaiah 35:1-10*

*The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.*

*Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear!*

*Here is your God. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

RESPONSE

*Gloria*

French Carol

MUSIC

*In the Bleak Mid-Winter*

Gustav Holst

READING

*Luke 1:26-35, 38*

*In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."*

*Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.*

MUSIC

*Breath of Heaven*

Amy Grant

I have travelled many moonless nights Cold and weary with a babe inside.  
And I wonder what I've done. Holy Father, you have come and chosen me to carry your Son.  
I am waiting in a silent prayer; I am frightened by the load I bear.  
In a world as cold as stone, must I walk this path alone? Be with me now.  
Breath of heaven, hold me together, be forever near me, breath of heaven.  
Breath of heaven, lighten my darkness, pour over me your holiness, for you are holy, breath of heaven.  
Do you wonder as you watch my face, if a wiser one should have had my place?  
But I offer all I am for the mercy of your plan. Help me be strong, help me be, help me.

READING

*Isaiah 65:17-25*

*For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. For like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain, for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord--and their descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent-- its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.*

MUSIC

*In Dulci Jubilo*

14<sup>th</sup> century

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR ADVENT

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.  
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.  
When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.  
You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,  
and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day  
when justice shall roll down like waters  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,  
when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war anymore.  
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,  
whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations.  
You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts  
and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation.  
You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree.  
You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send empty away.  
Your own Son came among us as a servant  
to be Emmanuel, your presence with us.  
He humbled himself in obedience to your will  
and freely accepted death on a cross.  
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection  
you gave birth to your Church,  
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,  
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me."  
When the supper was over he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."  
And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.  
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.  
Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

***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 forever. Amen.***

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Prayer after Communion

#### OFFERING

*All loose coins and singles in the offering plate during December will go to Kids Above All (formerly ChildServ).*

*Please mail your offering to the church office or donate online.*

*If you have a special prayer request, please call or email the church office.*

#### HYMN

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

*v. 1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits; the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!*

*v. 2 Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set a part from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.*

*v. 3 Thy Holy Spirit lead us on until our glorious goal is won; eternal praise, eternal fame be offered, Savior, to thy name!*

#### COMMUNITY LIFE AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

#### BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

David Lasky

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Following the loving example of Jesus Christ, we affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person as a beloved child of God. We welcome into the life and ministry of Glenview United Methodist Church all persons of every age, ability, race, gender identity, ethnicity, nationality, marital status, sexual orientation, family configuration, or socioeconomic or employment status.

***Please return your pledge card to the church office!***

***ALL GIFTS FOR WHOSE BIRTHDAY ARE DUE BY 10:30 SOCIAL HALL ENTRANCE!***

#### COMMUNITY LIFE AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

#### OUR PASTOR

regularly calls all members of the congregation who are known to be in the hospital. If you know of anyone who is ill, please call the church office. In the hospital this past week was Sarane Siewerth.

**DON'T FORGET OUR FOOD PANTRIES AS YOU DO YOUR SHOPPING - THEIR SUPPLIES ARE LOW!**

They especially need boxed cereal, boxed potatoes, soups, rice and rice mixes, pet food.

**MITTEN TREE FOR OLIVET**

The Mitten Tree is up in the rotunda by the church office to collect mittens, mittens and more mittens (it's hard for kids not to lose a mitten or two each season). We are also collecting any other type of warm clothing; new or clean/gently used hats, scarves, coats, sweaters and blankets too. Donations can also be put in the collection bin by the social hall. Deliveries will be made periodically to Olivet, our Chicago West Side sister church, during the collection period.

**LOOSE COINS AND SINGLES**

in the offering plate during December will go to *Kids Above All* (formerly *ChildServ*). Since 1894 their mission has been to protect, heal and educate children and families so they can build better lives. Every child in their care has experienced trauma - abuse, neglect, poverty, toxic stress or violence. They encourage healing and personal growth so the children can realize their dreams. Foster care, adoption service, early childhood education and group homes for youth are services provided. If you are called to give more, please submit a check with *Kids Above All* on the memo line.

**THIS WEEK: December 6 - December 13, 2020**

**Tuesday:** 7:00 Trustees via Zoom  
**Wednesday:** 7:00 Prayer Service via Zoom  
**Thursday:** 2:00 Support Group via Zoom  
**Saturday:** 7 am A. A., choir room

**Next Sunday: *Third Sunday of Advent***

9:30 Sunday School via Zoom  
10:00 Worship with Christmas Family Reading and Advent Candlelighting, on line  
4:30 GUMYouth/Confirmation via Zoom

**STAFF**

Rev. Dr. Eun-Hye Choi, Senior Pastor, email: [echoi@glenviewumc.org](mailto:echoi@glenviewumc.org)  
Beth and Greg Peterson, Directors of Children, Family and Youth Ministries,  
email: [petersons@glenviewumc.org](mailto:petersons@glenviewumc.org)  
Heidi Ortiz, Sunday School Director, email: [hortiz@glenviewumc.org](mailto:hortiz@glenviewumc.org)  
Michel Agriopoulos, Facilities Manager, email: [m.agriopoulos@comcast.net](mailto:m.agriopoulos@comcast.net)  
Tom Tobin, Music Director, email: [tombtn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tombtn@sbcglobal.net)  
Kathleen Heetland, Organist  
Joanne Richter, Lay Leader  
Doris Stengl, Administrative Assistant, email: [office@glenviewumc.org](mailto:office@glenviewumc.org)  
Janet Ferrone, Director of Communications, email: [jferrone@glenviewumc.org](mailto:jferrone@glenviewumc.org)

Glenview United Methodist Church  
727 Harlem Avenue, Glenview, IL 60025  
Phone: 847/729-1015 • Fax: 847/729-1019  
Web site: [www.glenviewumc.org](http://www.glenviewumc.org)