



## Second Sunday of Advent December 5, 2021

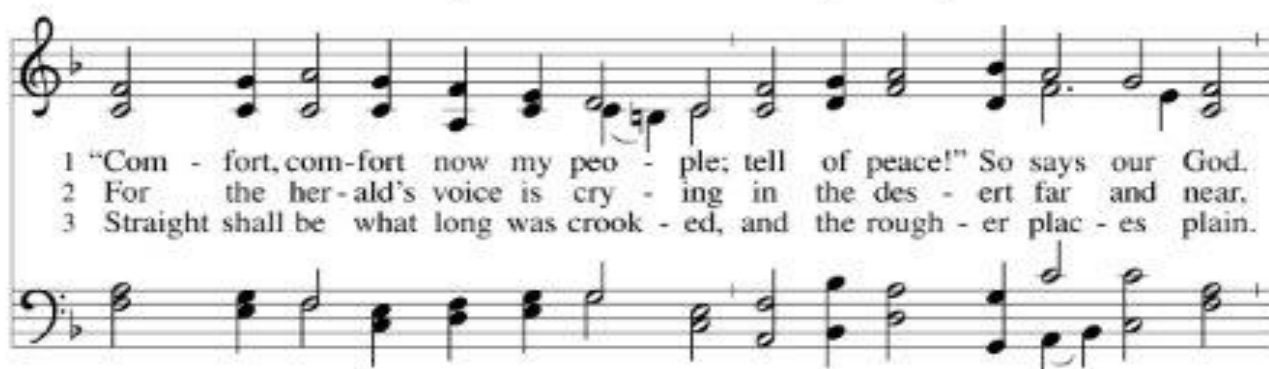


[www.riverofhopehutchinson.org](http://www.riverofhopehutchinson.org)  
Worship on Facebook Premiere, Sundays at 10:30am

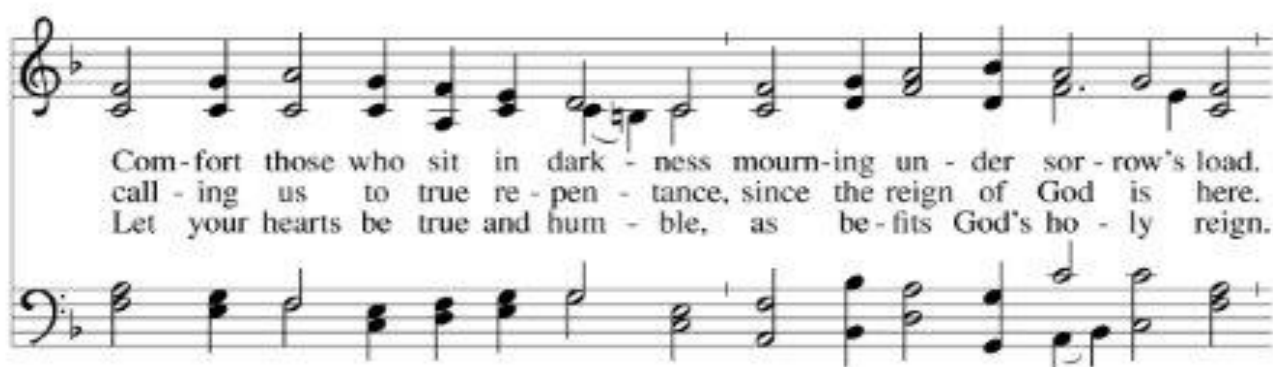
Gathering  
Music to Prepare Us For Worship

Gathering Song – "Comfort, Comfort, Now My People"

# Comfort, Comfort Now My People




1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.  
 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load,  
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.  
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!  
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.  
 Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.  
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
 Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

## Welcome

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe God meets you right where you are, and you are welcome here.

## No Longer Strangers Prayer

God of the Stranger, **You come to us in the most unexpected ways – as a baby, as a refugee. Help us to make room for you, to see you and to reach for you when you surprise us in strangers and friends. Amen.**

## Greet Someone New

*Music to Bring Us Back Together*

**LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS**

Larry Olson  
Hans Peterson

(guitar: capo 2)

Refrain

The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 3/4 time. The first staff begins with a 'Refrain' label and a key signature change to D major. Chords are indicated above the notes: E(D), A(G), and B(A). The lyrics are 'Oh the light shines in the dark - ness and the'. The second staff continues with chords A(G), B(A), E(D), A(G), and E(D). The lyrics are 'light will not be o - ver - come. In this world'. The third staff concludes with chords A(G), B(A), A(G), and B(A), followed by a 'Last time Fine' instruction and a final E(D) chord. The lyrics are 'bro - ken and scat - tered the light will not be o - ver - come.'.

Oh the light shines in the dark - ness and the

light will not be o - ver - come. In this world

bro - ken and scat - tered the light will not be o - ver - come.

Last time Fine  
E(D)

## **Advent Candle Litany: Peace Candle**

*Throughout the Advent season, use this litany with one, two, or multiple readers, or a call and response with the congregation.*

**Reader One:** Just as John the Baptist saw a world of violence, injustice, and oppression, so we too see the failure of those in power to do justice in this war-torn world.

**Reader Two:** But God sent John to witness to the light of peace, preparing the way for Jesus, who would call us to bring harmony and justice in places of discord and strife.

**Reader One:** (*light candle 1*) We light first the candle of hope, trusting that hope for a savior remains.

**Reader Two:** (*light candle 2*) And we light the second, believing that God's Son might usher in a new order, where lion and lamb lie peacefully together.

Handing out of Bibles / Kids Time

Confession and Forgiveness

Let us confess that God is God and we are not.

*Silence for reflection.*

Creator God,

**we admit we are not always loving and kind. Forgive us for the words we say and things we do that hurt other people. It feels impossible to fathom, but we know you love everyone. Everyone. Even the ones who hurt us. Make room in us for your forgiveness. Show us how to forgive those who are mean to us. Give us your power to forgive the ones who hurt us. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love – loves you as you are. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by his authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your in in the name of the Holy Trinity – God, Jesus, Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the community of the Holy Spirit is with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day    Let us pray together, Mighty God,

**(ALL): You sent John the Baptist as a voice to call your people to repentance. May his words ring in our hearts as well as our ears, that we might turn to you and receive your promised Savior. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

## THE STORY

(Reader): Our story and God's story begins today, with a reading from Philippians 1: verses 3-11.

(Reader): *The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.*

(Reader): <sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

**(Side 1): <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight**

**(Side 2): <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless,**

**(ALL): <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.**

(Reader): Our story and God's story continues today, with a reading from Luke 3: verses 1-6.

## BE STILL

Hans Peterson

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and

know that I am God.

A - midst the cha - os of the dai - ly hear the small voice.  
A - bove the rag - ing of the na - tions you weep for peace.  
Just as a hen cares for her young ones your wings, our home.

© 2001 Dakota Road Music  
All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.

(Reader): *John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.*

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

**(Side 1): “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.**

**(Side 2):   <sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,**

**(ALL):       and the rough ways made smooth;  
<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.' "**

(Reader): Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God's story.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon – Pastor Hans Peterson

Hymn – “Emmanuel”

# EMMANUEL

Steve Angrisano

F F/A B $\flat$  F B $\flat$  F C sus4 C

Come, come Em - man - u - el! Son of God, ap - pear.

Dm Dm/C B $\flat$  F Gm7 C sus4 C

Heav - en and earth, re - joice! Sal - va - tion is draw - ing

Dm C B $\flat$  F/A Gm7 C sus4 C F F/A B $\flat$  C *last time Fine - F*

near. Sal - va - tion is draw - ing near.

F F/A B $\flat$  C F F/A B $\flat$  C

O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,  
O come, O Wis - dom from on high,  
O come, O Rod of Jes - se's stem;  
O come, De - sire of na - tions bind  
Re - joice! Em - man - - - u - el

Dm Dm/C B $\flat$  C F F/A B $\flat$  C

And ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,  
Who or - dered all things might - i - ly;  
From ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them  
In one the hearts of hu - man - kind;  
shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

F F/A B $\flat$  C Dm Dm/C B $\flat$  F/A

That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
To us the path of knowl - edge show,  
That trust your might - y pow'r to save,  
Make all our sad di - vi - sions cease,  
Re - joice! Em - man - - - u - el

Gm7 B $\flat$ /C C F F/A B $\flat$  C

Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
And teach us in her ways to go.  
And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.  
And be for us the Prince of Peace.  
shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

©2004 Steve Angrisano  
All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.  
CCLI License #20028520



## Prayers for the World

*Together we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.*

*Each petition will close with the words: God of Life*

*And you are invited to respond: **Hear our prayer***

## Offering

**Worship Leader:** *Thank you for your continued generosity and for all the ways you support God's ministry here at River of Hope. You can contact the church office and sign up for simply giving or give online or drop a check off at the church office.*

## Offering Song " Christ, Be Our Light"

# Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



*Refrain*  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

# The Feast

Setting the Table *the children lead us as we pray together:* **Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. And let these gifts to us be blest. Blest be God who is our bread, may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen.**

## Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord is with you

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## Invitation to the Meal

*This is not my table or River of Hope's table, but rather this is Christ's table and all are welcome. If you hunger and thirst for grace and mercy that comes through Jesus Christ, then Christ has set this table just for you. Bring all that you are and all that you have to the table. You will be fed. You are forgiven. There is enough.*

As we gather in this place, we remember, that in the night when Jesus was betrayed by his best friends, he took bread. He blessed it and broke it and gave it to these same friends saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup, blessed it and gave it for all to drink saying, "This is the new covenant, the new promise, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me." Let us pray together the prayer our Lord taught us:

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

Communion Song: "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry"

# On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the  
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us  
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 way for God with - in, and let us all our  
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -  
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.  
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite  
 Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

## Blessing after Communion

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his peace. **Amen.**

## Prayer for Good Courage

O God,

**you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

# The Sending

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose?

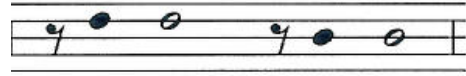
**We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.**

Purpose Sightings {Read slides so people online can hear}

**MILESTONES!** – “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (Chorus)  
*It's time for sharing milestones - a time where we join together as a community to share the big, small, good, and hard milestones in our life.*

# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Refrain*



Re-joice! Re-joice!



## Final Blessing

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us ✝ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song: "Bethlehem Highway"

# BETHLEHEM HIGHWAY

David Lee Brown  
James Hersch

$\text{♩} = 110$

G C G C D G

There is hope on Bethlehem high-way for the ones who will journey there. And the

hope is the child in a man-ger bringing us love be-yond compare. It's a lifeline for the need-  
Let the angels go be-fore

It's— sight— to those who can't see. It's a free-dom for the faith-  
us. Let the dark-ness be-come— light. Now the Sav-ior lives a-mong

G Am7 D  $\emptyset$  D G

ful in a Child of proph-e-cy. There is com-pare.  
us. Now— truth has come to life.



Go in peace – serve the Lord!    Thanks be to God

## Music to Send You Out

*From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2005 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS023086    CCLI License # 3277748    OneLicense.net license #A-726070*