



## Gilead Presbyterian Church

November 28, 2021

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent, Year C

Convinced of God's Grace, we affirm that there can be no exclusiveness in the body of Christ. We welcome all regardless of race, ethnic heritage, national origin, age, ability, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic standing; and we encourage the full participation of all in the life of our congregation.

## WELCOME

OPENING MUSIC "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

tune: "Picardy," a trad. French Carol; arr. by Lani Smith  
Mary Temple, organ

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Carol Philips

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

**People: Advent means coming.**

Leader: We are preparing ourselves for the days when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares

**People: Their spears shall become pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.**

**ALL: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

**The people sing: Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.**

## Come, Come Emmanuel 91

Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Em -  
man - u - el. man - u - el.

This Advent refrain centers on the name of Jesus meaning "God with us" (Matthew 1:23, quoting Isaiah 7:14). Intended for repeated congregational singing, it can be expanded by the addition of stanzas sung by a soloist or choir, or it can serve effectively as a prayer response.

**BLUE HYMNAL #2 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**

- 1. Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.**
- 2. Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as if there were no justice. We live in deprivation, as if there were no abundance. We live in fear, as if there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truths, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYER**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**THE GLORIA, from "Angels We Have Heard on High"  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Jeremiah 33:14-16*

<sup>14</sup> The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup> In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup> In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

*Luke 21:25-36*

<sup>25</sup> "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see 'the Chosen One coming in a cloud' with

power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

<sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near.

<sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the realm of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup> "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Chosen One."

SERMON

"Why Wait?"

Rev. Martin McGeachy

MEDITATION

"Advent Medley"  
Juergen Tempel, cello

PASTORAL PRAYER

**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; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**BLUE HYMNAL #38** "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

1. It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth, To touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, From heaven's all gracious King":  
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.
3. And ye, beneath life's crushing load, Whose forms are bending low,  
Who toil along the climbing way With painful steps and slow,  
Look now! for glad and golden hours Come swiftly on the wing:  
O rest beside the weary road, And hear the angels sing.
4. For lo, the days are hastening on, By prophet bards foretold,  
When with the ever-circling years Comes round the age of gold;  
When peace shall over all the earth Its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world give back the song Which now the angels sing.

BENEDICTION

**BLUE HYMNAL #29 (G#138, P#136)**

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere;

**Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!  
1. While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold throughout the heavens There shone a holy light. (Refrain)**

POSTLUDE

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”  
Mary Temple, organ

tune: Ellacombe  
arr. by Henry Balcombe

*Thank you to our videographer, Stephanie Gould.*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- ▶ The Food Pantry can use monetary donations, as well as all non-perishable foods and toiletries. Leave in the outside bin or call Martin for appointment.
- ▶ Prayer Zoom each Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. The link is in the weekly bulletin email.
- ▶ Bible Study in the lounge and Zoom, Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. The link is in the weekly bulletin email.
- ▶ Bell Chimes rehearse right after worship today, to play in Worship on Dec.5.

† *We accept offerings through the “Online Giving” link on our website, [www.gileadchurch.org](http://www.gileadchurch.org), or mail checks made out to Gilead Presbyterian Church, 9 Church Street, Carmel, NY 10512. Or give elsewhere if you see a need. In doing so, we brighten the world, and brighten our hearts.*

### **GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Rev. Martin McGeachy, Pastor  
Mary Temple, Music Director  
Diana Drake Behan, Church School Superintendent

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[www.gileadchurch.org](http://www.gileadchurch.org)

