

First Presbyterian Church

Kingsford, Michigan
Rev. Michael March, Pastor

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 6, 2020

Greeting: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Response: **And also with you.**

Announcements

--Rev. Ed Laarman

Call to Worship: Isaiah 40:3-5

A voice cries:

“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.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

*Hymn: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

O come, O come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. (*refrain*)

O come, thou wisdom from on high and order all things, far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go. (*refrain*)

O come, desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind. Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. (*refrain*)

Lighting of the Advent Candle: *Faith*

*Prayer of Confession: Isaiah 60:1-3

Arise, shine, for your light has come.

O God, we sometimes live as if the light had never come.

And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

We confess that we often ignore the Christ you sent to be among us and in us.

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

We've kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season and do not yearn for his birth each moment in our waiting hearts.

And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Lord, you came to us in the fullness of time. Forgive us for not recognizing him and receiving him as we should. Let the light of Christ shine fully in us and through us.

*Assurance of God's Pardon: 1 John 1:5-7

*Song of Response: *Joy to the World!*

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth receive her king. Let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the savior reigns; let men their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow, nor thorns infest the ground. He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Sermon Text: Luke 1:5-17

Sermon: *An Angel Appears to Zechariah* --Rev. Ed Laarman

Special Music: *Blessed Be the God of Israel* (“Song of Zechariah”)
--Mike Vross, Jean Panek

*Creed (The Second Helvetic Confession of 1566):

The Gospel is properly called glad and joyous news, in which, first by John the Baptist, then by Christ the Lord himself, and afterwards by the apostles and their successors, is preached to us in the world that God has now performed what he promised from the beginning of the world, and has sent, nay more, has given us his only Son and in him reconciliation with the Father, the remission of sins, all fullness and everlasting life.

*INTERCESSIONS & PRAYER CONCERNS:

Pastor Mike, Mary Larsen, Fred Fox, Fran Jamar,
Marcia McGregor, Charlie Novara, Steve Lorge,
Linda Peterson, Karyn Daft, Kenny Kasten, Henry Kasten;
the family of Jerry Kelly (*husband of Lorraine*)

*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 and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.**

*Benediction

*Response: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy
grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest
praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming
tongues above; praise his name, I'm fixed upon it, name of
God's redeeming love.

BLESSED BE THE GOD OF ISRAEL (*“Song of Zechariah”*)

Blessed by the God of Israel, who comes to set us free
and raises up new hope for us: a branch from David's
tree. So have the prophets long declared that with a
mighty arm God would turn back our enemies and
all who wish us harm.

With promised mercy will God still the covenant recall,
the oath once sworn to Abraham, from foes to save us
all, that we might worship without fear and offer lives
of praise, in holiness and righteousness to serve God all
our days.

My child, as prophet of the Lord, you will prepare the
way, to tell God's people they are saved from sin's
eternal sway. Then shall God's mercy from on high
shine forth and never cease to drive away the gloom
of death and lead us into peace.