



**COMMUNITY UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

*REACH, GROW, SEND WITH GOD'S LOVE*

**November 29, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.  
First Sunday of Advent**

*Prayers for all of us during this time we are physically separated one from another.*

**Welcome and Announcements**

Pastor Riva

**Silent Meditation** *(Let us all be in silent meditation as the candles are lit)*

**Prelude**

*“Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel”*

arr. Mark Hayes

**Call to Worship**

Pastor Riva

*Leader: When the lights are on and the house is full, and laughter is easy and all is well...*

**People: Behold, I stand at the door and knock.**

*Leader: When the lights are low and the house is still, and the talk is intense and the air is full of wondering...*

**People: Behold, I stand at the door and knock.**

*Leader: When the lights are off and the house is sad, and the voices are troubled and nothing seems right...*

**People: Behold, I stand at the door and knock.**

*Leader: Welcome Jesus, be our friend and guest...*

**ALL: And may this day to us be blessed.**

**Hymn #202**

*“People, Look East”*

- v. 1 People, look east. The time is neat of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.  
People look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
- v. 2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in the course the flower may flourish.  
People look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.
- v. 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim,  
shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.  
People look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.
- v. 4 Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

**Opening Prayer**

Pastor Riva

Give us ears to hear, O God, and eyes to watch, that we may know your presence in our midst during this holy season of hope as we remember and celebrate yet again the birth of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Hymn of Preparation #2090** *“Advent Song”*

- v. 1 Light the Advent candle, one: Now the waiting has begun;  
we have started on our way, time to think of Christmas day.

*refrain* Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;  
candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

### Lighting of the Advent Candle

Veronica and Stacy Johnson

*(Reference: Isaiah 64:1-9 & Mark 13:24-37)*

Reader One: If ever there was a year we needed Advent, this is the year. We hardly know how to describe the year we have lived through. We hesitate to reflect on all the mess around us in 2020. All we know is that nothing seems right, nothing seems like it used to be, nothing. We need Advent!

Reader Two: *The prophet Isaiah cried out for us, "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down ... To make your name known ... so that nations might tremble at your presence." So tear through the mess, O Lord, and come down to us again. We long to be your people, a people of hope.*

Reader One: We light this first candle as a sign of our hope. Hope that you can meet us, even in the mess of our world. Hope that you still see us, though we feel we are lost in the rubble. Let this light be the guide that brings us to Emmanuel once more.

**Response: O Come, O Come Emmanuel (1<sup>st</sup> stanza)**

**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.**

### Children's Moment

Pastor Nancy

### Hebrew Bible

2 Samuel 7:1-16 (NRSV)

Pastor Nancy

### Gift of Song

*"Like a Child"*

Daniel Charles Damon

Les Johnson, soloist

### New Testament

Luke 1:26-38 (NRSV)

Pastor Riva

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

### Meditation

*"Presidents and Kings"*

Pastor Nancy

### Centering Meditation

Pastor Riva

### Lord's Prayer

**Our (Creator/God/Mother/Father\*) in heaven, Holy is your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.  
Amen.**

*\*Please use whichever name connects you deeply to the Divine.*

### Hymn #210

*"All Earth is Waiting"*

- v. 1 All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,  
and open furrows, the sowing of the Lord.  
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;  
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.
- v. 2 Thus says the prophet to those of Israel,  
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel,"  
for his name is "God with us," our brother shall be,  
with him hope will blossom once more within our hearts.

- v. 3 Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain;  
open new highways, new highways for the Lord.  
He is now coming closer, so come all and see,  
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.
- v. 4 In lowly stable the Promised One appeared,  
yet, feel his presence throughout the earth today,  
for he lives in all Christians and is with us now;  
again, with his coming he brings us liberty.

**Benediction**

Pastor Riva

**Postlude**

*“What Star is This”*

arr. Franklin Ritter

*Resources:*

1. *Iona Abbey Worship Book, Wild Goose Publications, 2001*
2. <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/prayers.php?id=48>

### **Worship Participants**

**Advent Candle Lighting:** Veronica and Stacy Johnson

**Gift of Song:** Les Johnson

### **Worship Team**

**Lead Pastor:** Pastor Riva Tabelisma

**Teaching Elder:** Rev. Nancy Victorin-Vangerud

**Music:** Dan Ritter

**Audio & Video Recording:** Andy Bixler

**Video Editing:** James Bordewick

## **Our Weekly Prayers for Centering in God's Presence:**

God of many names and forms –

Thank you for your gift of grace and redemption to us, even though we have not asked for it. We are grateful for family, friends and our faith circle who has been with us whether physically or otherwise. We are grateful for their support in all forms for us, and we are grateful too that we are there for them as they are for us.

Thank you for the changing of weather because it allows us to realize that in all of the challenges that we are facing, the days pass, and we are still able to enjoy each new sunrise.

God of love and compassion –

We continue to hold in our hearts our brothers and sisters who are suffering in many forms because of CoVid.

We remember those who have passed and the families that they left behind.

We remember those who are sick, especially those who are in our midst.

We also remember the health workers who are exhausted with the pandemic.

We remember those who are hungry, homeless, those who are struggling to fight for their identity.

God of grace and justice –

Forgive us when we think that we are better than others.

Forgive us when we excessively consume the resources that are around us.

Forgive us when our wants and needs come before listening to where you are calling us, and what you are calling us to do.

This we pray in the name of our brother Jesus Christ who taught us to pray –

## Coming up this week:

### Sunday, November 29 – First Sunday of Advent

- 9:00 a.m. [Adult Sunday School \(Zoom\)](#)
- 10:00 a.m. [Worship – Worship Broadcast \(FB\)](#)
- 11:00 a.m. [Zoom Fellowship](#)
- 7:00 p.m. Children’s Sunday School

### Monday, November 23

- 6:00 p.m. Meditation on Lament (FB)

### Thursday, November 26

*Thanksgiving – Office Closed*

### Sunday, December 6 – Second Sunday of Advent

- 9:00 a.m. [Adult Sunday School \(Zoom\)](#)
- 10:00 a.m. [Worship – Worship Broadcast \(FB\)](#)
- 11:00 a.m. [Zoom Fellowship](#)
- 7:00 p.m. Children’s Sunday School

**Cookie Walk (Covid Style) cancelled:** The UMW has decided NOT to hold the Cookie Walk due to the safety considerations.

**Gift Shop:** If you wish to buy items from the church gift shop contact Pat Good (651-348-6688). These items can be picked up on Wednesday mornings at 11 A.M.

**Tech support ministry:** If you need help in checking out your electronic devices in order to participate in our virtual service, send us ([office@communitymethodistchurch.org](mailto:office@communitymethodistchurch.org) or [leadpastor@communitymethodistchurch.org](mailto:leadpastor@communitymethodistchurch.org)) a note and we can send someone to come check it out for you (following safety guidelines and protocol).

**Emergency Phone Number:** If you need to contact the pastors for an emergency that cannot wait until the office phone is checked, we have added an emergency phone number: 612-757-7115. This is a cell phone that goes to the pastor on call.

**Wednesday Morning Bible Study:** Adult Bible Study venue will no longer be at the John Wesley Room in response to Bishop Ough’s appeal. Watch out for new procedures about this gathering.

### Giving Options:

Electronic Giving has two options. One is using the app **Give+** on your smartphone (Android or iPhone), or via the church website. Check out the videos at:

<https://communitymethodistchurch.org/online-giving/> .

Otherwise, mailing in a check works great (950 Gould Ave NE, Columbia Heights, 55421).



## **Our Vision**

*We are an urban, intergenerational, inclusive,  
and welcoming Christian fellowship woven  
into the fabric of our community.*

## **Community UMC's**

### **Statement of Reconciliation:**

Community United Methodist Church of Columbia Heights believes that we are all children of God, individuals of sacred worth, created in God's image with our many differences, and that God loves all people. We recognize that God's love is not limited by boundaries. Therefore, we welcome and affirm people of all ages, races, ethnicities, cultures, gender identities, sexual orientations, socio-economic statuses, physical capabilities, or mental abilities.

We believe that prejudice, hatred, or discrimination directed toward any individual or group is contrary to the life, spirit, and teaching of Jesus Christ. We have vowed to accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression. Therefore, we shall work to eliminate prejudice and discriminatory practices within ourselves and our community, and to show God's grace.

We proclaim ourselves a Reconciling Congregation and welcome all who seek a relationship with God.

*Adopted November 3, 2019*

## **Our Staff**

Lead Pastor	Pastor Riva Tabelisma
Teaching Pastor	Rev. Nancy Victorin-Vangerud
Ministers	All the Congregation
Office Manager	Martha Bentley
Music Director	Dan Ritter
Bell Choir Director	Karen Schneider

**Church Office Phone:** 763-788-9009

**Emergency/Pastor Contact Phone Number:** 612-757-7115

**Pastor Riva Tabelisma's email:**

[leadpastor@communitymethodistchurch.org](mailto:leadpastor@communitymethodistchurch.org)

**Pastor Nancy Victorin-Vangerud's email:**

[nvictorinvangerud01@hamline.edu](mailto:nvictorinvangerud01@hamline.edu)

**Office Email:** [office@communitymethodistchurch.org](mailto:office@communitymethodistchurch.org)

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