



**COMMUNITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

REACH, GROW, SEND WITH GOD'S LOVE

**December 6, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.
Second 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

“O Come, Little Children”

arr. Joseph Martin

Call to Worship

Pastor Riva

Voice 1: Listen! The voice of God calls out across the ages.

Voice 2: *We hear and respond. We rise up to worship God from the valleys, the mountains, and the plains.*

Voice 1: Like a shepherd God leads us and tenderly gathers us together.

Voice 2: *Comfort, comfort O my people says our God of love.*

All: The grass withers and the flower fades; But the word of our God will stand forever!

Hymn #220

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

v. 1 Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:

refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

v. 2 Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light:

refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

v. 3 Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star:

refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

v. 4 Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:

refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Opening Prayer

Pastor Riva

O God, you call to us from the wild places, you call to us from the inner chambers of our hearts. We come in answer to your call. We come to pray, to praise, to learn of your love for all creation. Reveal your glory that we may see it together – inform and inspire us to seek your kingdom on earth in our time. Amen.

Hymn of Preparation #2090 *“Advent Song”*

v. 2 Light the Advent candle, two: Think of humble shepherds, who filled with wonder at the sight of the child of Christmas night.

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

Dennis and Sharon Ruhnke

(Reference: Isaiah 40:1-119 & Mark 1:1-8)

Reader One: Our lists are long, even in this strange mess where we live these days. And we want to do it right, we want to be safe, but we want to be able to enjoy the season. We've got work to do to put right what has gone wrong, to heal what is broken, to mend the relationships, and to prepare for the company that will come.

Reader Two: The prophet Isaiah reminded us that there is work to be done. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." When God comes in, then healing is to be found, but we need to make the way; we need to open the door into our lives.

Reader One: So, we light these candles as a sign of our faith that the God we worship is not far from us and that we can clear the way for that God to come and dwell with us. We light these candles in faith that company is coming.

Response: O Come, O Come Emmanuel (2nd stanza)

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

Baptism of Iliana Margarete Maria Rodriguez

Congregational Pledge

Pastor: Members of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care Iliana Margarete Maria Rodriguez, whom we this day recognize as a member of the family of God. Will you endeavor so to live that this child may grow in the knowledge and love of God, through our Savior Jesus Christ?

Response: With God's help, we will do so order lives after the example of Christ, that this child, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

Gift of Song

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Naomi Jones, Soloist

Scripture

Mark 1:1-8 (NRSV)

Kristine Rodriguez

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Meditation

"How does our anticipation reflects our faith?"

Pastor Riva

The Great Thanksgiving

Affirmation of Faith

Our Social Creed (2016 Book of Resolutions)

We believe in God, Creator of the world; and in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of creation. We believe in the Holy Spirit, through whom we acknowledge God's gifts, and we repent of our sin in misusing these gifts to idolatrous ends.

We affirm the natural world as God's handiwork and dedicate ourselves to its preservation, enhancement, and faithful use by humankind.

We joyfully receive for ourselves and others the blessings of community, sexuality, marriage, and the family.

We commit ourselves to the rights of men, women, children, youth, young adults, the aging, and people with disabilities; to improvement of the quality of life; and to the rights and dignity of all persons.

We believe in the right and duty of persons to work for the glory of God and the good of themselves and others and in the protection of their welfare in so doing; in the rights to property as a trust from God, collective bargaining, and responsible consumption; and in the elimination of economic and social distress.

We dedicate ourselves to peace throughout the world, to the rule of justice and law among nations, and to individual freedom for all people of the world.

We believe in the present and final triumph of God's Word in human affairs and gladly accept our commission to manifest the life of the gospel in the world. Amen.

Words of Institution

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,
Praised for you or criticized for you.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.
And now, O wonderful and holy God,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
you are mine, and I am yours.
So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.

Centering Meditation

Pastor Nancy

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 #2089 "Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice"

- v. 1 Wild and lone the prophet's voice echoes through the desert still,
calling us to make a choice, bidding us to do God's will:
Turn from sin and be baptized; cleanse your heart and mind and soul.
Quitting all the sin you prized, yield your life to God's control.
- v. 2 "Bear the fruit repentance sows: lives of justice, truth, and love.
Trust no other claim than those; set your heart on things above.
Soon the Lord will come in power, burning clean the threshing floor:
then will flames the chaff devour; wheat alone shall fill God's store."

- v. 3 With such preaching stark and bold John proclaimed salvation near,
and his timeless warnings hold words of hope to all who hear.
So we dare to journey on, led by faith through ways untrod,
till we come at last like John to behold the Lamb of God.

Benediction

Pastor Riva

Postlude

“Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying”

arr. David Cherwien

Worship Participants

Advent Candle Lighting: Sharon & Dennis Ruhnke

Reading: Kristine Rodriguez

Soloist: Naomi Jones

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

CUMC Prayer for an Advent Sunday

*For the darkness of waiting
of not knowing what is to come
of staying ready and quiet and attentive,
we praise you, O God:*

*For the darkness and the light
are both alike to you.*

*For the darkness of staying silent
for the terror of having nothing to say
and for the greater terror
of needing to say nothing,
we praise you, O God:*

*For the darkness and the light
are both alike to you.*

*For the darkness of loving
in which it is safe to surrender
to let go of our self-protection
and to stop holding back our desire,
we praise you, O God:*

*For the darkness and the light
are both alike to you.*

*For the darkness of choosing
when you give us the moment
to speak, and act, and change,
and we cannot know what we have set in motion,*

*but we still have to take the risk,
we praise you, O God:
For the darkness and the light
are both alike to you.
For the darkness of hoping
in a world which longs for you,
for the wrestling and laboring of all creation
for wholeness and justice and freedom,
we praise you, O God.
For the darkness and the light
Are both alike to you.*

May we follow Jesus, and as his waiting people, let us learn from him, he who stood with the vulnerable and didn't settle for the ways things are. It is his prayer that we still pray in our time:

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.

Resources:

Bread of Tomorrow: Prayers for the Church Year, Janet Morley, ed. (Mary Knoll, New York: Orbis Books, 1992), p. 22, 23

Beth Richardson https://betharichardson.com/2015/09/02/some-days-are-very-hard/?fbclid=IwARiXeOH_sRWaMzaUgGSk4T7w-a_g932Ok4KdVQhQeNeUV6_YuXWMdR79Zd8

Marian Wright Edelman, *Guide My Feet: Prayers and Meditations for our Children* (harper/Perennial, 1995, p. 65).

#WhereLoveLivesUMC

Coming up this week:

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

Monday, December 7

- 6:00 p.m. Meditation on Lament (FB)
- 6:30 p.m. Core Team Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, December 9

- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, December 13 – Third Sunday of Advent – Lessons & Carols

- 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

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 or 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:

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Pastor Nancy Victorin-Vangerud's email:

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Visit us online at www.communitymethodistchurch.org
or find us on Facebook