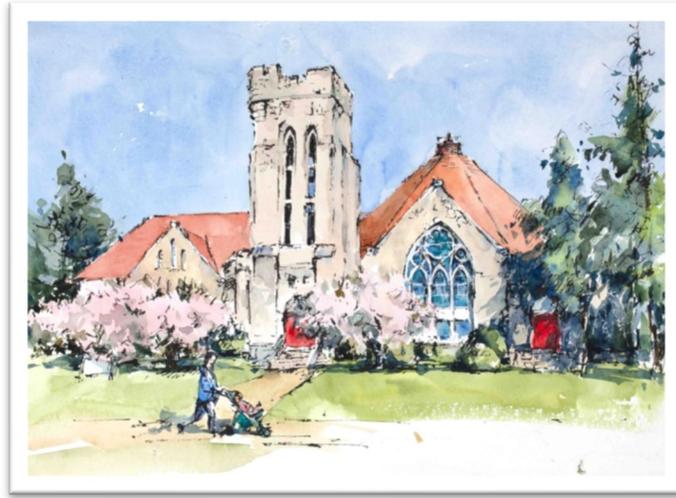




**LOVE FIRST.  
SERVE FIRST.**

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
OF MONTCLAIR & VERONA**



© Ling Chen | lingchen.art

**WE WELCOME YOU ALL TO OUR SUNDAY SERVICE  
AND APPRECIATE YOUR VIRTUAL PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION.**

December 6, 2020 + The Second Sunday of Advent + 10:00 AM

**Bolded text** - said in unison by all

**UMH** - *United Methodist Hymnal*

**TFWS** – *The Faith We Sing*

*\* If able, please stand where indicated.*

**CALLED TO PRAISE AND PRAY**

**Prelude**

" *An Advent Prayer*" – James Southbridge

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: He is coming! Yes, Christ is coming!

**All: We wait for him patiently but with expectation!**

Leader: He is coming! Yes, Christ is coming to meet our expectations and beat our expectations.  
He is coming to blow our minds!

**All: Without Christ, we can do nothing.  
We need him more than the next breath we breathe.  
So, come on, Jesus! You know we're here and we're waiting!  
Come, fill us again until we are overflowing! Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn**

*Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

UMH 211

1. 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.
2. 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.

**Opening Prayer**

Pastor: Come on, Jesus! We've been waiting on you. We need you. We're here because of you. Come in our midst today. Work out for my brothers and sisters what has been working on them. Fill us in this place. Change us in this moment. Come and change us again and again. We don't mind waiting, but we really can't wait to see you! This is your day. This is your house. We are your children. God, we're waiting for you. We pray this in the Name of the One who is to come. Amen!

**Prayer of Confession**

**All:** You call us to wait, to watch, to be ready. But we are so easily distracted, busily doing other things. We grow drowsy and complacent. Give us wisdom, as we prepare for your coming. Forgive our foolishness and our impatience. Restore us by your grace. Look upon us with your favor, that we might know your presence. Shape us into vessels of blessing, for we are your children, longing to touch your Spirit. Amen. **(Pausing for Siler Prayer...)**

Leader: God is the potter who shapes our lives. God is the parent who loves us. We are the people of God.

**All: God loves us. All will be made well. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Lighting of the Second Advent Candle (Love)**

**The Arseneault Family**

**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.

**Reader Two:** O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

### Sharing Our Joys & Concerns

Please share your joys and concerns in any of the following ways:

- Share it in the church's WhatsApp group (First UMC of Montclair).
- Write it as a comment on the wall of the Facebook Livestream.
- Send a text to Pastor Kim

### Pastoral Prayer

### Children's Message

Dr. Leslie Lester

### Responsive Hymn

*I Love You, Lord*

TFWS 2068

I love You Lord, and I lift my voice to worship You! O my soul, rejoice!  
Take joy, my King, in what You hear, may it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear

### **CALLED TO THE WORD**

### Psalter Reading

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

**You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin.**

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

**Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.**

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

**Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.**

### Hymn of Illumination

*Jesus, Name Above All Names*

TFWS 2071

Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.  
Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, living Word.

### Epistle Lesson

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Vidal Guzman

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of

slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given him.

### **\*Gospel Lesson**

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

**Sermon**

**"With His Promise"**

Rev. Myungim Kim

### **\*Passing the Peace of Christ**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR ADVENT**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day

when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,

when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,  
whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations.  
You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts  
and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation.  
You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree.  
You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send empty away.  
Your own Son came among us as a servant  
to be Emmanuel, your presence with us.  
He humbled himself in obedience to your will  
and freely accepted death on a cross.  
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection  
you gave birth to your Church,  
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,  
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Breaking the Bread**

### **Giving the Bread and Cup**

### **Prayer after Thanksgiving** (unison)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery In which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go Into the world In the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **CALLED TO SHARE**

### **Offering**

#### **\*Doxology**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below:

Praise him above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

### **CALLED TO WITNESS IN THE WORLD**

#### **\*Closing Hymn**

*Go Tell It on The Mountain*

UMH 251

#### **[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.

2. The shepherds feared and trembled, When lo! above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth.
3. Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

**\*Sending Forth**

Rev. Myungim Kim

**\*Circle of Blessing**

*Shalom to You*

UMH 666

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.  
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

**Postlude**

*"Prepare The Royal Highway " – James Manfield*

***Please continue to pray for all those affected by the pandemic.***