

## A Minute for Stewardship

### Communion Hymn #347 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" *(Glory to God)*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand  
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords in human vesture, in the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

### The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation to the Lord's Table  
Communion Prayer  
The Words of Institution  
The Sharing of the Bread and the Cup  
Prayer

### The Church Goes Forth to Serve

#### The Hymn #87 "Comfort, Comfort Now My People" *(Glory to God)*

"Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God.  
"Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load.  
To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them!  
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over."

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,  
calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.

O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way.

Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.

Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.

Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.

For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,  
and all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

## The Benediction

## The Postlude

### Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church

201 E. Jefferson Street, Butler, PA 16001 Phone: (724) 287-4777

Website: [www.standrewsupc.org](http://www.standrewsupc.org) Email: [office@standrewsupc.org](mailto:office@standrewsupc.org)

# Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church

November 29 2020

First Sunday of Advent

10:30 AM

## The Church in Preparation

### The Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

### The Introit and Time of Centering #92 "While We are Waiting, Come"

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come;  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

### The Lighting of the Advent Wreath: The Hope Candle

Advent is a season of watching and waiting. We wait for Christmas and the celebration of Christ's birth. We wait for the day when Christ will come again and God's reign will be complete. The prophet Isaiah tells us, "For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples; But the Lord will arise upon you and his glory will appear over you." We light this candle to proclaim the coming of God's light into the world; for in this light, there is hope.

### The Call to Worship

Leader 1: Listen –

Leader 2: God invites us to prepare the way.

Leader 1: Watch –

Leader 2: Signs appear in the wilderness.

Leader 1: Prepare –

Leader 2: Good news is on the way.

Leader 1: Let us worship God with prayer and praise.

Leader 2: Rejoice! Christ comes to heal and to save.

### The Opening Prayer *(In Unison)*

Loving God, we thank you for the hope you offer in Jesus Christ. Help us to welcome our Savior with open hearts and willing spirits. Empower us to reflect the light of your goodness. May our words and our deeds bring your hope and healing to our hurting world, through the grace of Christ. Amen.

**The Opening Hymn #93** “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” *(Glory to God)*

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits;  
the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart  
from earthly use for heaven’s employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.  
Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.

**The Prayer of Confession** *(In Unison)*

**Patient and loving God, you call us to lead faithful, loving lives. Yet we are slow to change our ways, even when we know they do not please or glorify you. Forgive us, Lord. Straighten our crooked paths and smooth the rough places of our hearts. Help us to live to your glory and honor, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**A Time of Silent Confession**

**The Assurance of Pardon**

**Musical Response**

“Gloria Patri”

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

**The Church in Proclamation**

**Scripture Readings**

Isaiah 40: 1 – 11

Mark 1: 1 – 8

Leader: The word of the Lord Thanks be to God

**Musical Response #106**

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

*(Glory to God)*

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!

Let every hill and valley a level way appear.

Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

O blest is Christ who came in God’s most holy name.

He brings God’s rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.

His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love.

Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.

O blest is Christ who came in God’s most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior’s rule embrace,  
and tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.

All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing.

O blest is Christ who came in God’s most holy name.

**The Sermon**

Rev. Merry Meloy

**The Hymn #96**

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

*(Glory to God)*

On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God within,  
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;  
without your grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand; our health restore, and make us rise to fall no more.

O let your face upon us shine and fill the world with love divine.

**The Church Responds**

**The Affirmation of Faith** - Apostles' Creed *(In Unison)*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**The Prayers of the People and 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.**

lift it up, do not fear;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
“Here is your God!”  
<sup>10</sup> See, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.  
<sup>11</sup> He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead the mother sheep.

### **Mark 1: 1 – 8**

<sup>1</sup> The beginning of the good news<sup>[a]</sup> of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.<sup>[b]</sup>  
<sup>2</sup> As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,<sup>[c]</sup>  
“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,<sup>[d]</sup>  
who will prepare your way;  
<sup>3</sup> the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,’”  
<sup>4</sup> John the baptizer appeared<sup>[e]</sup> in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of  
repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around  
his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> I have baptized you  
with<sup>[f]</sup> water; but he will baptize you with<sup>[g]</sup> the Holy Spirit.”

*Announcements*

*and*

*Scripture Readings*



## Scripture Readings



### All in the Family

The sympathy and resurrection faith of the congregation go out to the family and loved ones of Margy Hoffman Tebay. Margy died on Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at Concordia.



### Happy Birthday

November 29  
December 3

Terri Bonnett  
David Fleeger

### Pictures Needed



We would like to include your picture in this year's virtual Christmas Eve service. If you're doing any "Christmasy" activities in the coming days (decorating your tree, putting up lights, arranging a crèche, baking cookies, etc.), please take some digital photos. If that's not possible, please send us any photo you have. Actually, send two or three! We just want to be able to see your smiling face!! Please send your pictures to Deanna at [DeannaDGolden@gmail.com](mailto:DeannaDGolden@gmail.com) by Wednesday, December 9th. Thanks!

### Hunters Sharing the Harvest



Hunters, would you be interested in donating all or part of this season's harvest to the Community Dinner Program here at Saint Andrews? It's easy to do. Simply take your deer to one of the processors listed below and list Saint Andrews as the recipient.

#### Meat Processors:

Bim's Boloney—N. Washington	724-894-2569
Bob's Deer Processing—Prospect	724-865-2484
McKruit's Meat Packing—Cabot	724-352-2988
R & B Meat Processors--Herman	724-321-1769
T.A. Giger—Valencia	724-898-2244

This is a great way for hunters to help those in need in our community!

### Isaiah 40: 1 – 11

**40** Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.

<sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her

that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup> A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup> A voice says, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,  
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand forever.

<sup>9</sup> Get you up to a high mountain,  
O Zion, herald of good tidings;<sup>[a]</sup>

lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,<sup>[b]</sup>