

*Community Church of Barrington
The Second Sunday of Advent – Hope
Communion Sunday
December 6, 2020*



PRELUDE

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime. (Joseph Martin)
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (Mark Hayes)
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Jan Sanborn)

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE – HOPE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One Voice: Lord of Hope, we come into Your presence with confidence You will meet us here.
Many Voices: Meet us and change us.
One Voice: Where there is sadness, bring joy; where there is fatigue, bring refreshment;
Many Voices: Where there is despair, bring a renewed sense of hope.
One Voice: Change us to be more and more like you, filled with light, and love, and joy.
All Voices: Come thou long expected Jesus. Come and set us free to be the people you intend us to be. Amen.

Margaret Akerstrom

***OPENING HYMN**

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

INVOCATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Margaret Akerstrom

Daniel 3 Selected Verses

King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold, sixty cubits high and six cubits wide, and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. He then summoned . . . all the . . . provincial officials to come to the dedication of the image. . . . So, . . . all the . . . officials assembled for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up, and they stood before it.

Then the herald loudly proclaimed, “Nations and peoples of every language, this is what you are commanded to do: As soon as you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace”

At this time some astrologers came forward and denounced the Jews. They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, “May the king live forever . . . ! [T]here are some Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon—Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego—who pay no attention to you, Your Majesty. They neither serve your gods nor worship the image of gold you have set up.”

Furious with rage, Nebuchadnezzar summoned Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego . . . Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true. . . that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up . . . ? [I]f you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?”

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, “King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand. But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.”

Romans 8:31 What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

Reader: The word of God, for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God**

*GLORIA PATRI:

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Glory to the Father, glory to the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit, Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be, world without end. Amen

THE LORD’S PRAYER (unison):

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

GATHERING the JOYS and CONCERNS of the CHURCH

CALL to PRAYER

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

SILENT PETITIONS and PRAYER

ANTHEM

Come Again, Emmanuel

Words: Nancy Price Music: Don Besig

Come Emmanuel, we're waiting for you. We long to know the story is true.
That God will send to earth a Son. And the whole wide world is waiting for You to come

Come Emmanuel, come. Come Emmanuel come.

Come Emmanuel, the time is at hand to spread the news all over the land.
That you will come to set us free. And the whole wide world is waiting, waiting to see

Some are waiting for a mighty King with crimson robes and golden rings,
To rule with strong and powerful hand, but that is not the Father's plan.

Come Emmanuel the moment is near for all to see and all to hear
That faith and hope are born anew. And the whole wide world is waiting, waiting for you.

And you will come as a tiny child, poor and humble, meek and mild.
To live in faith and teach of love, to serve on earth and reign above

Come Emmanuel we're waiting for you, We long to know the story is true.
That God will send to earth a Son . And the whole wide world is waiting for You to come

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

One Voice:

May the words of my mouth,

All Voices:

**And the meditations of our hearts, be acceptable in
Thy sight, O Lord, our Strength and our Redeemer. Amen**

SERMON

Net Hopeful

Rev. Zina Jacque

INVITATION to the TABLE

One Voice:

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst." Christ our Lord, who gave Himself in such great love, invites to His table all who love Him and seek to grow into His likeness. Let us draw near, with faith, and in humble confession.

Many Voices:

God of grace and communion, we confess that we have failed to love You with all our heart, soul, and mind. By Your mercy, grant us Your forgiveness, and strengthen us in our love for You as we partake of the bread and cup, symbols of Your life, given for us.

One Voice:

Come to the table, see yourself as Christ sees you, precious, chosen, beloved, and worthy of the sacrifice of his very life.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING of the BREAD

Bread of the World (Verses 1 and 2)

This Communion Anthem, based on the "Eucharist Hymn", was arranged by Dennis Eliot.

Bread of the world, in mercy broken,
Wine of the soul, in mercy shed.
By whom the words of life were spoken,
And in whose death our sins were dead.

Look on the heart by sorrow broken,
Look on the tears by sinners shed;
And by Thy feast to us the token
That by Your grace our souls are fed.

SHARING of the CUP

Bread of the World (Verses 3 and 4)

Sit at this place, dear Lord and Father,
Fill up the cup and break the bread;
Oh, let us feel your loving power,
O let us hear the words You said:

This is my blood and body broken,
Refresh your spirit, make it whole;
Remember Me with food, the token,
Bread of the world, wine of the soul.

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING (unison) Our God we recognize it is by grace, through faith, that we have been invited to this table and we have been saved. We humbly acknowledge that our participation in this supper is based on nothing we have done or can ever do. Our place at Your table is possible only through God's great gift of the Son. For this we thank You and praise Your holy name. Amen.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Emmanuel

Arr. Fred Bock

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIRTUAL WORSHIP AND OFFICE HOURS. Beloved, because of Illinois' rising Covid numbers, the church Council has voted to return to virtual worship. Each Sunday a small group of folks (less than 10) will be sure the services are ready and streamed on Facebook. Please continue to meet us on Sunday morning at 9:45 for the prelude and 10 am for worship at www.facebook.com/ccbarrington/live. Also, during this time, we will staff the office with one to two of us at a time (Dr. Sami, Sandy, or Pastor Zina). If you need to drop by or need us to do anything for you, please call to be sure we are here. We will staff the office, each day, 8 am – 3 pm. However, from time to time we run errands and we do not want to miss your smiling face. Thank you for your continued contributions and your continued prayers.

ADVENT CANDLE AND COMMUNION Each Sunday, we will light our Advent candle in the Sanctuary and we ask you to light (well turn on) your Advent candles at home. And, this Sunday is Communion Sunday. Please be sure to have something to serve as the cup and the bread, as we share in the Lord's Supper, together.

BARRINGTON GIVING DAY. It is that time of year again. We hope you might be willing to purchase children's boots, sizes 8 – 16, and donate them to Barrington Giving Day. The drop off box is outside the church office door. The deadline is December 9th. Please be a blessing to a child who will stay safe and warm because of your generous heart. And, if you need a personal shopper, or someone to pick up boots you have purchased, Jim Majzan is your guy. Jim is available to come to your home and pick-up cash to purchase boots or, boots you have purchased. Thank you, Jim.

THE LONGEST NIGHT – BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE. Beloved, Christmas 2020 is different from any Christmas prior. As a people, and as a nation, we have come through many transformative moments. We have been shaped by it all. At 6 pm on Sunday, December 20th, the Sunday closest to the longest night of the year, we will gather, virtually by Zoom, to share in a brief, contemplative, quiet service of worship. We will focus on the challenges we have faced, while looking forward in hope. The Zoom link will be shared closer to the 20th. We hope you will join us for this moment of meditation and hope.

