



# Centenary

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**December 13, 2020**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)

**The Prelude**

*Savior of the Nations, Come*

Johann Sebastian Bach

**The Welcome**

**The Opening Prayer**

Leader: God loves justice!

**People: God calls us to act in compassionate ways toward others.**

Leader: Rejoice, God has placed God's trust in you  
to be those who will bring good news of peace and joy.

**People: With the healing love of God in our hearts,  
we journey through this season, getting ready to welcome  
the One who will turn the world upside-down.**

Leader: Come, let us worship and praise God whose love is showered over us.

**People: Lord God, be with us as we seek your guidance  
and work to do your will. Amen.**

**The Hymn No. 196**

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

1. 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.

2. Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit,  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Leader: We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy.  
May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show  
us the way of salvation.

**People: O come, O come, Emmanuel.**

**The Old Testament Lesson**

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

**The Sermon**

*And Justice for All....*

Dr. Matthew D. Bates

**The Offertory Prayer**

## The Offertory Solo

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Wilbur Held

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## The Prayers of the People

The Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

## The Lord's Prayer No. 895

**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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.**

## The Hymn No. 2177

*Wounded World that Cries for Healing*

HEALING SPIRIT

1. Wounded world that cries for healing  
here we hold each other's pain,  
wounded systems,  
bruised and bleeding bear the load,  
the scars of strain;  
dollars ration out compassion,  
hard decisions rule the day,  
Jesus of the healing Spirit,  
free us to another way!
2. Through our nation's spent frustration,  
through the corridors of stress  
may there move a kindlier wisdom  
all my feel,  
and all may bless;  
tax and tithe are for a purpose  
shared to shield the poor and weak;  
past the symptoms of our sickness  
let the voice of justice speak.
3. Honor those whose loving spirit  
nurses hope, restores and heals,  
towel and basin used in service  
like the Christ who comes and kneels;  
in the tending,  
in the mending  
may we see the right and fair,  
in our common quest for wholeness  
heal each other by our care.

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## The Benediction

## The Postlude

*The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*

USA Folk Melody

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*We thank these persons who helped us in worship this morning.*

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Matthew D. Bates
Minister to Young Adults:	Rev. Drew Willson
Director of Music:	Stanley M. Baker
Pianist:	Lee Covington

## Scripture

### Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

#### The Good News of Deliverance

61 The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;

<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;

<sup>3</sup> to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

<sup>4</sup> They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

<sup>8</sup> For I the LORD love justice,  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;<sup>[a]</sup>  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
<sup>9</sup> Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

<sup>10</sup> I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup> For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

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