## OSLER MENNONITE CHURCH

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

## **DECEMBER 6, 2020**

Second Advent: On the road to repentance

Worship Leader: Terry Stefaniuk Children's Time: Adeline Cox Pianist: Naomi Schellenberg Sound: Stephanie Siemens Song Leaders: Ben Buhler, Michelle McKinnell, Loretta Sawatzky

Ushers: Lloyd Sawatzky, Harold Loewen

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

**Call to Worship**: (*Adapted from Isaiah 40:3-5*) Leader: Listen! A voice cries out in the wilderness:

People: Prepare the way of the Lord!
Leader: Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill made low.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord!

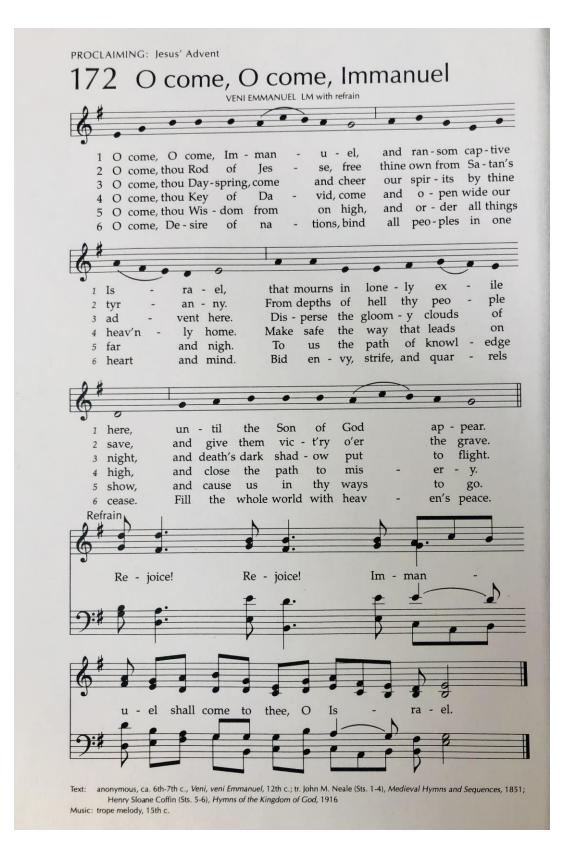
Leader: Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

(Light two Advent candles)

All: Prepare the way of the Lord!

Prayer of Invocation

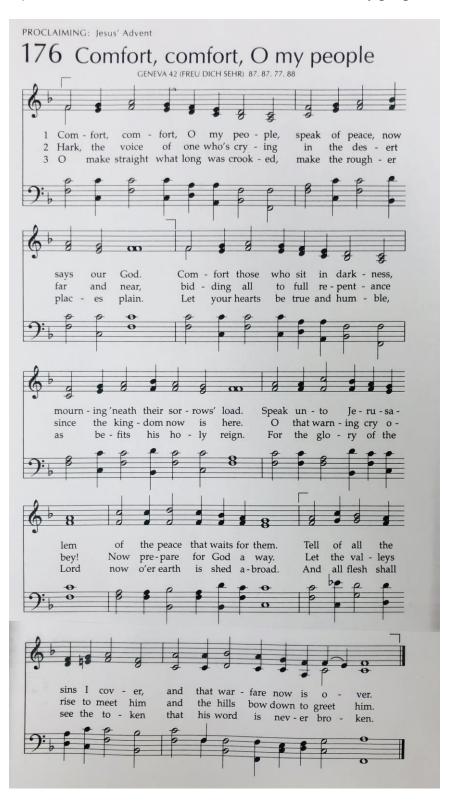
Hymn: Blue/HWB #172 "O come, O come Immanuel"



Children's Advent Gathering Song: Blue/HWB #204 "Gloria"

Children's Time: Adeline Cox

Hymn: Blue/HWB #176 "Comfort, comfort, O my people"



### Scripture Reading: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 (The Inclusive Bible)

Yhwh, favor your land once again and restore the fortunes of Israel; forgive the guilt of your people and cover all their sins.

I will listen to what you have to say, Yhwh — a voice that speaks of peace, peace for your people and your friends so long as they don't return to their folly. Your salvation is near for those who revere you and your glory will dwell in our land. 10 Love and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. 11 Fidelity will sprout from the earth and justice will lean down from heaven. 12 Yhwh will give us what is good, and our land will yield its harvest. 13 Justice will march before you, Yhwh, and peace will prepare the way for your steps.

#### **Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40: 1-11** (The Inclusive Bible)

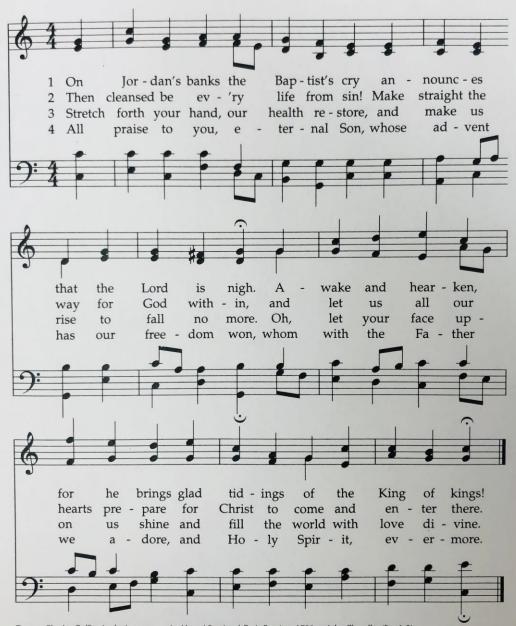
Console my people, give them comfort," says your God. "Speak tenderly to Jerusalem's heart, and tell it that its time of service is ended, that its iniquity is atoned for, that it has received from Yhwh's hand double punishment for all its sins." A voice cries out, "Clear a path through the wilderness for Yhwh! Make a straight road through the desert for our God! Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low; let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges become a valley!

Then the glory of Yhwh will be revealed, and all humankind will see it." The mouth of Yhwh has spoken! A voice commands, "Cry out!" and I answer, "What will I say?" — "All flesh is grass and its beauty is like the wildflowers: the grass withers and the flower wilts when the breath of Yhwh blows on them. How the people are like grass! Grass withers, and flowers wilt, but the promise of our God will stand forever." Go up on a high mountain, you who bring good news to Zion! Shout with a loud voice, you who bring good news to Jerusalem! Shout without fear, and say to the towns of Judah "Here is your God!" Yhwh, O Sovereign One, you come with power, and rule with a strong arm! You bring your reward with you, and your reparation comes before you. Like a shepherd you feed your flock, gathering the lambs and holding them close, and leading mother ewes with gentleness.

Hymn: Blue/HWB #183 "On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry"

# On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry 183

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Text: Charles Coffin, Jordanis oras praevia, Hymni Sacri and Paris Breviary, 1736; tr. John Chandler (Sts. 1-3),
 Hymns of the Primitive Church, 1837, alt.; (St. 4) Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861
 Music: Musicalisch Handbuch..., 1690, arranged by William H. Havergal, Old Church Psalmody, 1847

#### **Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8** (The Inclusive Bible)

Here begins the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God: 2 as it was written in Isaiah the prophet: "I send my messenger before you to prepare your way, 3 a herald's voice in the desert, crying, 'Make ready the way of our God. Clear a straight path.' "4 and so John the Baptizer appeared in the desert, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to John and were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. 6 John was clothed in camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist, and he ate nothing but grasshoppers and wild honey. 7 In the course

of his preaching, John said, "One more powerful than I is to come after me. I am not fit to stoop and untie his sandal straps. 8 I have baptized you in water, but the One to come will baptize you in the Holy Spirit."

#### **Response to the Scripture:**

Leader: For the Word of God in Scripture,

For the Word of God among us,

For the Word of God within us,

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: "On the Road to Repentance" George Janzen

Hymn of Response: Blue/HWB #599 "He leadeth me"

