

PRELUDE

Ann Kipper

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
ADVENT WREATH**

Gary & Attie

Readings: **Isaiah 40:1-11**
Mark 1:1-8

*We who gather today also seek comfort and peace,
yet we are unsatisfied with ideas of peace that tell us
to keep quiet and go with the flow.
We long for real peace, true peace, just peace* .
(*peace characterized by justice)*

**Congregation: We wait as people who yearn for
peace that bears the fruit of
community, equity, and flourishing for all.**

HYMN

Candle of Hope

TUNE #73

by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

***The candle of hope we light in this hour
Proclaims that the Lord is coming in power.
We wait for a future, now hidden from view,
When Christ in his glory will make all things new.***

***The candle of peace shines bright with God's plan;
The wolf will lie down and dwell with the lamb.
Our guns and our weapons, our hatred and war,
Will give way to gardens that heal and restore.***

PRAYER

Mark 1:3-4

FotW

**Loving God, you sent your prophet John
to prepare your way among us,
to call us to repentance & make our pathways straight.
Strengthen us to live lives of steadfast love and faithfulness
as we await the Messiah's return,
that all may see your reign of peace
through your just and gracious rule. Amen.**

EPISTLE READING

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Pastor

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Ps. 85:2 – via FotW

**Faithful God, we confess that
we have not led lives of holiness.
We suffer from impatience, apathy, and greed;
we have not been at peace.
We repent of these offenses and turn to you in love.
Forgive our iniquity and pardon our sins,
that we may walk in righteousness
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

CHOIR

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Savior God, guide us by your Word and Spirit
that we might hear your truth, heed your call and
be prepared for Christ's coming this Christmas. Amen.**

SERMON

HYMN

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INTERCESSIONS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BRINGING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER

(Mark 1:1-8)

GBoD/DM

Almighty God, we enter this season from a chaotic world
filled with violence, division, and injustice.

We hear your prophet Isaiah promising comfort --
then John the Baptist calling us to construction projects.

We are reminded we are called to prepare the way,
to be the designers of peace, the builders of justice,
the producers of kindness.

As we bring our tithes and offerings to you,
we pray that our giving continues to point
to the Christ who comes in love and compassion.

May our giving in this season reflect our hope
for the promised kin-dom to reign in our world.

We pray this in the name of the Messiah, Jesus our Savior.
Amen.

HYMN *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks* **236**

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

TMO/PO

*We do not leave this sanctuary and leave God behind.
God's call is clear. We are to prepare our hearts, minds,
communities and world for our Prince of Peace.
May this call be ever before us; guiding us, inspiring us,
enabling us to be Christ's body – his hands, his feet, his heart
– in this, God's world.*

May the grace, hope, peace, and love of God
our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
be with us all, now and forever. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Rick's Selection(s)

Bulletin Credits: Some of the Liturgy is by the pastor (*dwh*)

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or Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, used with permission, from her website.

or via Discipleship Ministries (**GBoD**), from the Worship Website.

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning>

or from Feasting on the Word (eg **FotW** - see also insert)

or from the Book of Common Prayer, (**BCP** - public domain).

or from Teri Mcdowell Ott, via Presbyterian Outlook (TMO/PO)

or from other sources as noted.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Today we light the candle of peace.



art by Rev. Chris Suerdieck, BWC

December 10, 2023 - 11:00am

Clarksburg United Methodist Church

23425 Spire St., Clarksburg, Maryland

<https://www.facebook.com/clarksburgdumc/>

Accompanist: Rick Beede

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Reflecting on and Praying with Scriptures

As suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary

Year B – Second Week of Advent; December 10, 2023

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Scriptures

Isaiah 40:1–11

2 Peter 3:8–15a

Psalms 85:1–2, 8–13

Mark 1:1–8

Questions for Reflection

The prophet Isaiah announces good news: God comforts and strengthens a wearied and exiled people in preparation for their homeward journey. Mark's Gospel announces the good news of God in Jesus Christ: God comes to turn the world right side up and baptize us with the Holy Spirit.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Messiah, what is the beginning of God's good news in your life, and how will it change the way you approach this season of expectation and hope?

Morning Prayers:

Household Prayer: Morning

Lord, how I love this season of new beginnings,
the opportunity to turn toward you and start again.

Empower me to be a messenger of good news,
and a leveling influence along the way,

as I seek to be one with you
in smoothing out the rough places I encounter. Amen.

Evening Prayers:

Lord, you have comforted me throughout this day
and rescued me from my exile.

Where I have flourished, I give you thanks;
where I have erred, I ask your forgiveness.

Protect me through the night that I may rest in your realm of peace
where righteousness makes a home. Amen.

Announcements & Notes

Some Calendar Notes

December 20: 7pm – Longest Night / Blue Christmas at WCUMC

December 21: Wesley Chapel Administrative Board

December 24: 9:30a Wesley Chapel Morning Worship – Advent 4

11:00a Clarksburg UMC Morning Worship – Advent 4

7:00p Clarksburg UMC Christmas Eve Worship

9:00p Wesley Chapel Christmas Eve Worship

December 31: First Sunday of Christmas – New Years Eve

If there are other calendar notes, please email the pastor...

Prayer Concern Notes