

**CROWN  
OF GLORY**  
ELCA LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Second Sunday of Advent  
December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Crown of Glory Lutheran Church**

*We gather in silence. Worship begins with the tolling of a bell.*

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Crown of Glory Prayer List:** As a community of faith, we hold one another in prayer. This week, we especially pray for Barb C., Sylvia Q., Terry B., Cameron C., Larry M., Lou V., Gary H., Gretchen C., Noel N., Larry E., Lois P., Shirley Lebo and family at the loss of her husband, Tom, and Mark Smith and family at the loss of Mark's mother. May God continue to surround us all with strength and peace.
- **Advent 2020 "Lament and Hope":** This year's Advent season is unlike any other! Not only will we be living into this time of waiting, but this year we will be embracing the tension between lamenting traditions lost due to COVID-19 and the strong hope that still awaits us at Christmas. Join us for an incredibly unique and special Advent Worship series at 9:30am on Sundays (12.13, 12.20). Be sure to have a candle ready!
- **CoG Virtual Giving Tree:** We are now coming to that time to offer our support to families in need through our Giving Tree! Each year we support about 100 individuals (about 25 families) with Christmas gifts, and this year the need is even greater than in years past. This year, our Giving Tree is virtual, so please visit our website and locate the "Give Plus" Icon to donate!
- **New Advent Hymn:** Yes! You read that right! Pastor Laura and Tom Paulson have once again collaborated on another hymn, *How Long, O Lord?* You can read all about this new hymn in your *Crownicle* and we will also be singing this hymn each Sunday in Advent. Praise God for the blessings of collaboration and music!
- **THANK YOU:** to our Worship Team for leading today's service, to Grant Taylor for reading scripture, and to our AV technician for helping to set up and run the livestream and the sound. We also want to thank the CoG congregation for your ongoing financial support and participation in worship during these times. Your support is greatly appreciated!
- To be transparent regarding the stewardship of the church and the life of our congregation, we have printed our YTD Financial Update and our Live-Stream Worship Attendance Update below.

**CoG Worship Attendance for Sunday, November 29:**

Live-stream Live views: 82

Live-stream Next Day views: 167

**October Sustaining Fund Updates:**

Year-to-Date Mortgage & Cash Payments	\$617,199
Year-to-Date-Revenues	\$582,718
Balance	(-\$34,481)

**HEAR US**

**OPENING DIALOGUE**

P: Hear us, O Shepherd, as we cry to you.

C: **Restore us, O God.**

P: You who lead Joseph like a flock,

C: **restore us, O God;**

P: you, who are enthroned upon the cherubim.

C: **Restore us, O God.**

P: Shine forth before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh.

C: **Restore us, O God.**

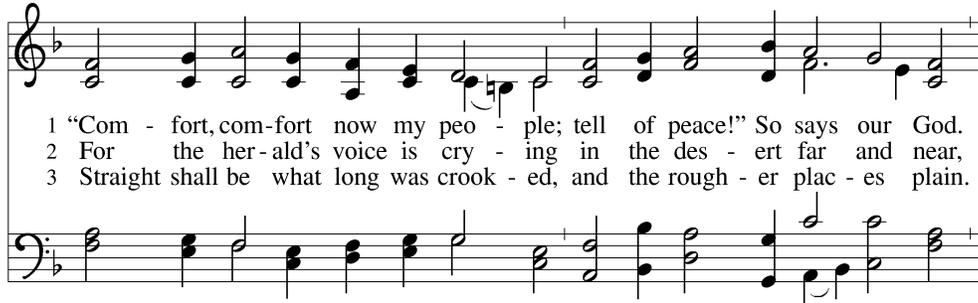
P: Stir up your strength and come to help us!

C: **Restore us, O God.**

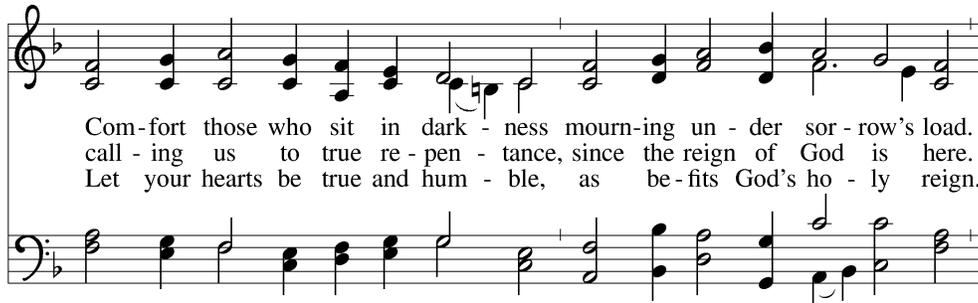
P: Restore us, O God;

**C: let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

**SONG *Comfort, Comfort, Now My People* (ELW 256)**



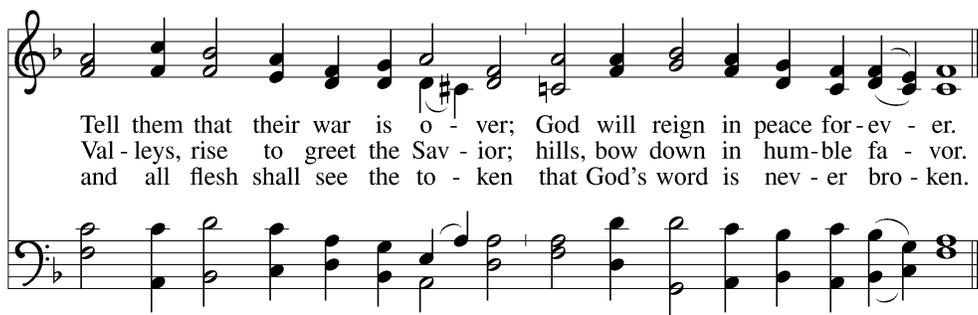
1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.  
2 For the her-ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.  
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.  
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseauxes de David*, Geneva, 1551

**LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: Candle of Peace**

**REFRAIN: *How Long, O Lord?* (vs. 1-2) (by Tom Paulson and Pastor Laura Laughlin)**

**Verse 1**

The land upon which we build our lives,  
groans with the betrayal of turning a blind eye.

The glances chanced from behind our walls of difference  
fail to see an equal.

### **Chorus 1**

How long, O Lord? How long, O Lord?  
Our souls long for you. Our souls long for you.

### **Verse 2**

Color erupts from the jails of hushed traditions,  
claiming its dignity, spilling in the streets.  
Disease and despair flood and burn  
the hills and valleys of our lives.

### **Chorus 2**

How long, O Lord? How long, O Lord?  
Our hearts yearn for you. Our hearts yearn for you.

*Tolling of a bell, followed by silence.*

### **REGROUPING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray. Eternal God,

C: **you lead your people with gentleness and wisdom. Bring peace to all on this earth, especially those in areas ravaged by war, poverty, greed, or pandemic, that all may be comforted by your salvation; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## **HEAL US**

### **SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 40: 1-11**

<sup>1</sup>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;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,  
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.

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

#### **GOSPEL: Mark 1: 1-8**

P: The holy gospel according to St. Mark.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup> As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,  
“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
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 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 water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

#### **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE “Angelos” (Pastor Reggie Klindworth)**

#### **MESSAGE “What Are We Preparing For?” (Pastor Reggie Klindworth)**

#### **SONG *Each Winter As The Year Grows Older* (ELW 252)**



1 Each win - ter as the year grows old - er, we each grow old - er,  
 2 When race and class cry out for trea - son, when si - rens call for  
 3 Yet I be - lieve be - yond be - liev - ing that life can spring from  
 4 So e - ven as the sun is turn - ing to jour - ney to the  
 5 O Child of ec - sta - sy and sor - rows, O Prince of peace and



too. The chill sets in a lit - tle cold - er; the  
 war, they o - ver - shout the voice of rea - son and  
 death, that growth can flow - er from our griev - ing, that  
 north, the liv - ing flame, in se - cret burn - ing, can  
 pain, bright - en to - day's world by to - mor - row's, re -



ver - i - ties we knew seem shak - en and un - true.  
 scream till we ig - nore all we held dear be - fore.  
 we can catch our breath and turn trans - fixed by faith.  
 kin - dle on the earth and bring God's love to birth.  
 new our lives a - gain; Lord Je - sus, come and reign!

Text: William Gay, b. 1920, alt.  
 Music: CAROL OF HOPE, Annabeth Gay, b. 1925  
 Text and music © 1971 United Church Press.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

*Tolling of a bell, followed by silence.*

**REGROUPING PRAYER**

- P: O Lord God of hosts, will you always be angry?  
 C: **How long, O Lord?**  
 P: Will you turn and hear our prayers?  
 C: **How long, O Lord?**  
 P: You feed us with the bread of tears.  
 C: **How long, O Lord?**  
 P: We drink tears day and night.  
 C: **How long, O Lord?**  
 P: Our friends revile us.  
 C: **How long, O Lord?**  
 P: Our enemies mock us.  
 C: **How long, O Lord?**  
 P: How long, O Lord, until you restore us?  
 C: **Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

**REFRAIN *How Long, O Lord?* (vs 3-4) (by Tom Paulson and Pastor Laura Laughlin)**

**Verse 3**

The eyes of the young and old look to the stable  
 with a doubt often stronger than faith.  
 The promise proclaiming that you will enter in  
 to this world is where our hope is found.

**Chorus 3**

How long, O Lord? How long, O Lord?



**Reader:**

Then [Jesus] began to speak to them in parables. “A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the wine press, and built a watchtower; then he leased it to tenants and went to another country.

**Cantors:**

You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;  
you cast out the nations and | planted it.  
You cleared the | ground for it;  
it took root and | filled the land.

**Reader:**

“When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard.

**Cantors:**

The mountains were covered | by its shadow  
and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs.  
You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea  
and its branches | to the river.

**Reader:**

“But they seized him, and beat him, and sent him away emptyhanded. And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted. Then he sent another, and that one they killed.

**Cantors:**

Why have you broken | down its wall,  
so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?  
The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,  
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.

**Reader:**

“And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed. He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’

**Cantors:**

Turn now, O | God of hosts,  
look | down from heaven;  
behold and | tend this vine;  
preserve what your right | hand has planted.

**Reader:**

“But those tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard.

**Cantor:**

They burn it with | fire like rubbish;  
at the rebuke of your countenance | let them perish.

**Reader:**

“What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others.

**Cantor:**

Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,  
the one you have made so strong | for yourself.

**Reader:**

“Have you not read this scripture: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the keystone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?”

**Cantor:**

And so will we never turn a- | way from you;  
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.

*Silence for reflection.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Loving and forgiving God,

C: **we confess that we are held captive by sin. Despite our best efforts, we have gone astray.**

**We have not welcomed the stranger;**

**we have not loved our neighbor;**

**we have not been Christ to one another.**

**Restore us, O God.**

**Wake us up and turn us from our sin.**

**Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

P: People of God, hear this glad news:

by God's endless grace

your sins are forgiven, and you are free—

free from all that holds you back

and free to live.

May you be strengthened in God's love,

† comforted by Christ's peace,

and accompanied by the presence of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## SONG *People, Look East* (ELW 248)

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965  
Music: BESANÇON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934  
Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.  
Arr. © 1999 Novello & Company Ltd., London, United Kingdom. All rights reserved. International copyright secured.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## PRAYER AND BLESSING

- P: Let us wait patiently for the Lord.  
**C: God's restoration will surely come.**  
P: Let us take courage in the face of the darkness.  
**C: God's light will surely shine.**  
P: Let us follow wherever God leads.  
**C: God's guidance is surely true.**  
P: Let us receive the Lord anew.  
**C: God's salvation has surely come. Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

- P: The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,  
the long-expected Savior fill you with love,  
the unexpected Spirit guide your journey,  
✠ now and forever.  
**C: Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

- P: Go in peace, protected by the light of Christ.  
**C: Thanks be to God. We will!**

*Worship ends with the tolling of a bell. We depart in silence.*