

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 34 South Main Street Rochester, NH 03867 (603) 948-1225 or (603) 948-1179 Email at Office@firstumcrochester.org

# December 10 2023

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(\*) The congregation will please stand as able (BOLD-FACED TYPE) Congregation responds

# THE CHURCH GATHERS

## SILENT PRAYER AND TIME FOR CENTERING

PRELUDE: Chorale Prelude <u>"Es Ist Ein Ros</u> Music: Public Domain Johannes Brahms

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP \*\*\*

Light of God, rising in the wilderness, awaken us to your glory. By your revealing light,

# may we see ourselves clearly, and repent. Light of Christ, making level the uneven ground, awaken us to your way. By your guiding light, may we free ourselves of all fear and hatred. Spirit's light, rising in our hearts, awaken us to the gift of love. By your transforming light, baptize us with your Holy Spirit, that we may prepare for your coming

with hearts full of love and lives of compassion. Come, dear Jesus, come! Amen.

## **\*HYMN OF PRAISE**



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#### \*ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING \*\*\*

Reader 1:

In days when God's people longed for peace, Isaiah declared, "Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God."

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" (Isaiah 40:1).

Reader 2:

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.

# **Congregation:**

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

Reader 1:

We light these candles as signs

of God's shocking hope and just peace. May they be beacons calling us to repent and to live the good news of Jesus Christ as we wait and watch and labor for the day when all people can gather together to worship and glorify God. Amen.

*Light two candles of the Advent wreath.* 

## **SUNG RESPONSE:** To the tune of WE THREE KINGS

Light the Advent candle two; with the hope of peace on earth; The <u>Lord</u> of peace is on the way to comfort and heal us all. O candle of peace, burning bright; shining in the cold winter night; Peace of Jesus, lead and guide us; fill our hearts with Christmas light. \*Passing the Peace of Christ

## THE CHURCH HEARS THE WORD OF GOD

<u>OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:</u> <u>Isaiah 40:1-11</u> (Pg. 581) \*\*

<u>ANTHEM</u> <u>Bethlehem Wind</u> Words and Music, Joseph M. Martin

<u>Chorus</u>

Blow, blow, Bethlehem wind over the hills and the valleys Blow, blow, Bethlehem wind, God's promise of love and salvation

Blow, blow, spirit of Truth carry the news of a Savior. Blow, blow, Spirit of God preparing the world for God's son <u>Chorus</u>

Blow, blow Bethlehem wind carry the song of the angels Blow, blow, Bethlehem wind move through the hearts of the nations <u>Chorus</u>

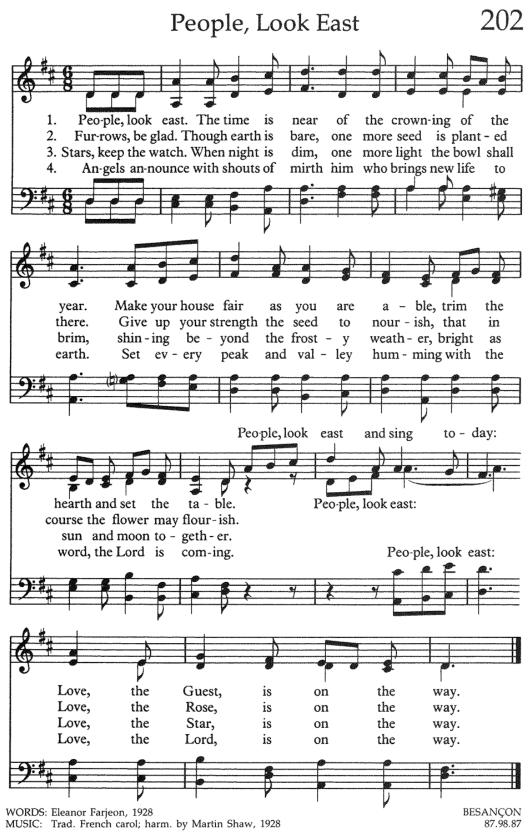
Blow, blow, Spirit of Hope scatter the leaves of our sorrows Blow, blow, spirit of God warm a whole world with your love

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia...

Words and Music: Joseph M. Martin, <u>CCLI Song #2477224</u> © 2006 Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. 285 Century Place, Suite 100 Louisville, CO 80027 All rights reserved. <u>www.ccli.com</u> <u>CCLI License #21279385 / #21279392</u>

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US CHILDREN MESSAGE: (WHEN CRILDREN ARE PRESENT)

## **\*HYMN OF PREPARATION**



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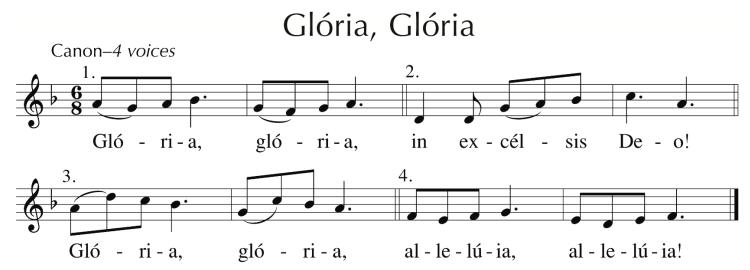
#### GOSPEL LESSON:

Mark 1:1-8

Please remain standing for the Gospel Lesson

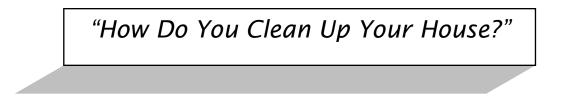
For the word of God in Scripture, For the word of God among us, For the word of God within us, **Thanks be to God!** 

### \*GLORIA PATRI



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#### SERMON Ho-Soon Han

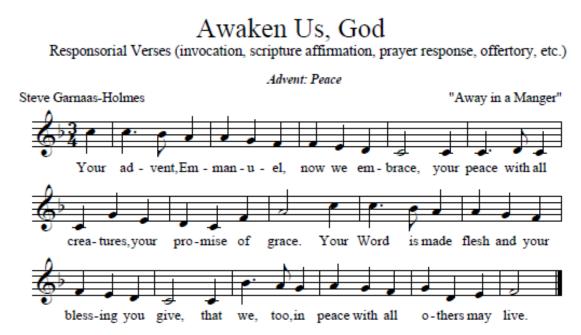


# THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD



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### PRAYER SONG



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#### **INVITATION TO PRAYER:**

- "The Lord be with you " Leader:
- "And also with you..." People:

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

(UMH p. 895)

#### **PRAYER SONG** (As above)

#### Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

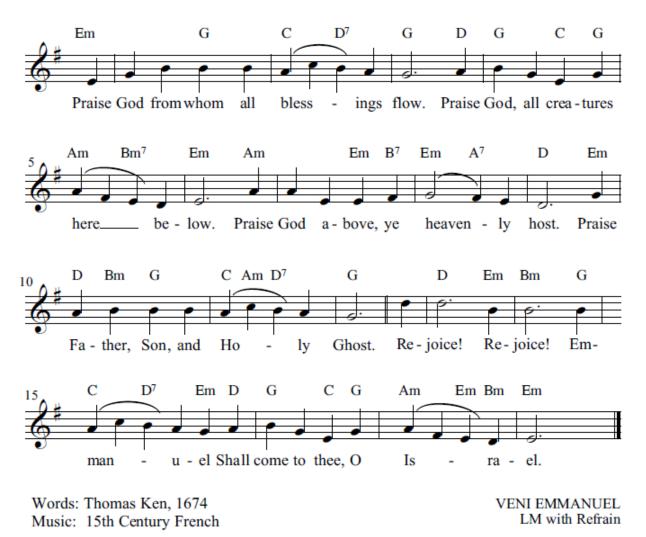
During this time, we are grateful for your continuing financial support of our ministries.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Improvisation Kevin G. Lindsay

### Doxology

For Advent



Text and tune adapted by Dean McIntyre, The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203-0003. Telephone 615-340-7073. Website http://www.umcworship.org. Email address: music@gbod.org. Text and tune are public domain.

#### **Offertory Prayer:**

# THE CHURCH IS SENT TO SERVE

## **\*HYMN OF DEDICATION**





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#### \*Benediction

#### VOLUNTARY

#### Chorale Prelude on "BESANCON"

Wayne Wold

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## VOLUNTEERS ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

<u>Liturgist:</u> Video and Sound Engineer: Mark Leahey

Kent Marzoli

<u>Altar Flowers:</u> In celebration of Pam Nester-King's Birthday/ from Dawn Nester (Mom)

Image on Cover: Bruegel, Pieter, 1564-1638. Preaching of Saint John the Baptist, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <u>https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58375</u> [retrieved December 4, 2023]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pieter\_Bruegel\_the\_Elder\_-\_The\_Sermon\_of\_Saint\_John\_the\_Baptist\_-\_Google\_Art\_Project.jpg.

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• \*\*\*Worship elements by Steve Garnass Holmes at *unfoldinglight.com* 

• UMC Discipleship Resources

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#### Looking Ahead

<u>Readings for December 17, 2023</u> Third Sunday of Advent, Year "B" <u>Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11 / Psalm 126 OR Luke 1:46-55</u> <u>1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 / John 1:6-8, 19-28</u>

More information about our church can be found by following <u>THIS HYPERLINK</u>

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