

**Order of Worship – December 6, 2020 – WOV Setting 4**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**

Welcome

**Better Is One Day**

How lovely is Your dwelling place,  
O Lord Almighty.  
For my soul longs and even faints for You.  
For here my heart is satisfied  
Within Your presence.  
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

Better is one day in Your courts,  
Better is one day in Your house,  
Better is one day in Your courts  
Than thousands elsewhere.  
Better is one day in Your courts,  
Better is one day in Your house,  
Better is one day in Your courts  
Than thousands elsewhere,  
Than thousands elsewhere.

One thing I ask and I would seek:  
To see Your beauty,  
To find You in the place  
Your glory dwells.  
One thing I ask and I would seek:  
To see Your beauty,  
To find You in the place  
Your glory dwells.

Better is one day in Your courts,  
Better is one day in Your house,  
Better is one day in Your courts  
Than thousands elsewhere.

**Change My Heart Oh God/Spirit Song**

Change my heart, oh God,  
Make it ever true.  
Change my heart, oh God,  
May I be like You.  
Change my heart, oh God,  
Make it ever true.  
Change my heart, oh God,  
May I be like You.

You are the potter, I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, oh God,  
Make it ever true.  
Change my heart, oh God,  
May I be like You.  
Jesus, oh Jesus,  
Come and fill Your lambs.

Better is one day in Your courts,  
Better is one day in Your house,  
Better is one day in Your courts  
Than thousands elsewhere,  
Than thousands elsewhere.

My heart and flesh cry out  
For You, the living God.  
Your Spirit's water to my soul.  
I've tasted and I've seen.  
Come once again to me.  
I will draw near to You,  
I will draw near to You, to You.

Better is one day, better is one day,  
Better is one day than thousands elsewhere.  
Better is one day, better is one day,  
Better is one day than thousands elsewhere.

Better is one day in Your courts,  
Better is one day in Your house,  
Better is one day in Your courts  
Than thousands elsewhere.  
Better is one day in Your courts,  
Better is one day in Your house,  
Better is one day in Your courts  
Than thousands elsewhere.

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Jesus, oh Jesus,  
Come and fill Your lambs.

Oh, let the Son of God enfold you  
With His Spirit and His love,  
Let Him fill your heart  
And satisfy your soul.  
Oh, let Him have  
Those things that hold you,  
And His Spirit, like a dove,  
Will descend upon your life  
And make you whole.

Jesus, oh Jesus,  
Come and fill Your lambs.  
Jesus, oh Jesus,  
Come and fill Your lambs.

Oh, come and sing this song with gladness  
As your hearts are filled with joy,  
Lift your hands in sweet surrender  
To His name.  
Oh, give Him all your tears and sadness,  
Give Him all your years of pain,  
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.

Jesus, oh Jesus,  
Come and fill Your lambs.  
Jesus, oh Jesus,  
Come and fill Your lambs.  
Come and fill Your lambs.

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### **Advent Devotion – Dick and Libby Nelson**

READING: Isaiah 9:1-3

Candle Lighting

PRAYER

### **Gathering Song: LBW 26 Prepare the Royal Highway**

Prepare the royal highway;  
the King of kings is near!  
Let ev'ry hill and valley  
a level road appear!  
Then greet the King of glory,  
foretold in sacred story:  
Hosanna to the Lord,  
for he fulfills God's Word!

God's people, see him coming:  
your own eternal king!  
Palm branches strew before him!  
Spread garments! Shout and sing!  
God's promise will not fail you!  
No more shall doubt assail you!  
Hosanna to the Lord,  
for he fulfills God's Word!

Then fling the gate wide open  
to greet your promised king!  
Your king, yet ev'ry nation  
its tribute too may bring.  
All lands will bow before him;  
their voices join your singing:  
Hosanna to the Lord,  
for he fulfills God's Word!

His is no earthly kingdom;  
it comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and freedom  
and justice, truth, and love.  
So let your praise be sounding  
for kindness so abounding:  
Hosanna to the Lord,  
for he fulfills God's Word!

*Tune: Swedish Folk Tune; Text: Frans Mikael Franzen  
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### **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. In spite of 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 in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### **Greeting**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

Kyrie – With One Voice, Setting 4; page 12

A: In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace of the whole world, the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen**

Hymn of Praise - This is the Feast, With One Voice, Setting 4; page 15

**C: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches, wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor, glory and might to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia. Alleluia. For the Lamb, the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Amen**

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, Lord God,

**C: to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Lessons

**Isaiah 40:1-11**

Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.

2 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.

3 A voice cries out:  
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our  
God.

4 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.

5 Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

6 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.

7 The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.

8 The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand forever.

9 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!"

10 See, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.

11 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.

## 2 Peter 3:8-15a

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

<sup>11</sup> Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup> waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup> But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

<sup>14</sup> Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15</sup> and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Gospel Acclamation, With One Voice, Setting 4; page 17

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

P: The Gospel according to...**Mark 1:1-8**

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

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.”

*After the reading*

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

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

Message: “**The Beginning of the Gospel**”

Message Hymn: **LBW 30 Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus**

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 ev’ry nation,  
Joy of ev’ry longing heart.

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.

*Text: Charles Wesley; Tune: W. Walker*

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Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

## Praise Song: Draw Me Close to You

Draw me close to You  
Never let me go,  
I lay it all down again,  
To hear You say  
That I'm Your friend.

You are my desire,  
No one else will do,  
'Cause nothing else  
Could take Your place.  
To feel the warmth  
Of Your embrace  
Help me find the way,  
Bring me back to You.

You're all I want,  
You're all I've ever needed.  
You're all I want,  
Help me know You are near.

Draw me close to You  
Never let me go,  
I lay it all down again,

To hear You say  
That I'm Your friend.

You are my desire,  
No one else will do,  
'Cause nothing else  
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Bring me back to You.

You're all I want,  
You're all I've ever needed.  
You're all I want,  
Help me know You are near.

You're all I want,  
You're all I've ever needed.  
You're all I want,  
Help me know You are near.  
Help me know You are near.  
Help me know you are here.

*By Kelly Carpenter*

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## Passing the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## Offertory – With One Voice, Setting 4, Page 21

**C: Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord, fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed, we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

## Prayers of the Church

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A: ...Lord, in your mercy

**C: Hear our prayer.**

*Prayers are concluded with*

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

## Words of Institution

## Lord's Prayer

**C: Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored. May your kingdom come. May what you want to happen be done on earth as it is done in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, just as we also have forgiven those who sin against us. Keep us from falling into sin when we are tempted. Save us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen**

Post Communion Canticle: With One Voice, Setting 4; page 26

**C: Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of all people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Glory to the Father and to the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen, amen, amen.**

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen**

Closing Song: **Everlasting God**

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord  
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord  
Our God You reign forever  
Our Hope our strong Deliv'rer

You are the everlasting God  
The everlasting God  
You do not faint  
You won't grow weary  
You're the defender of the weak  
You comfort those in need  
You lift us up on wings like eagles

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord  
We will wait upon the Lord  
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
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Sending

A: Go in peace.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

A: Prepare the way of the Lord.

**C: Yes, Lord, we will!**