

December 3, 2023  
Second Sunday of Advent

**Our Spirit Waits**

**Our Just Peace**

Isaiah 40:1-11 | December 3, 2023



High Street United Methodist Church  
219 S. High Street • Muncie, IN 47305 •  
765-747-8500 • [www.munciehighstreet.com](http://www.munciehighstreet.com) •  
[info@munciehighstreet.com](mailto:info@munciehighstreet.com)

## WE GATHER

### Announcements

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

### Storer Memorial Carillon

### Prelude

*Christmas Trombones*, arr. James Christensen and Mark McDunn

Trombone Quartet

### \*Processional Hymn

*Blessed Be the God of Israel*

Hymn #209

### \*Call to Worship/Lighting of Advent Candles

Beth Nahre & Jonah Stults

Reader: These candles are a sign of the coming light of Christ, who is called the Son of the Most High,

**All: and of whose kingdom there will be no end.**

Reader: 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."

Reader: 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.

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

Reader: 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.

**All: Amen.**

### Choral Response to Lighting Advent Candle

*Come Quickly, Lord Jesus* (verse 2), by Mark Schweizer

Used with permission by St. James Music Press, license No. #22888

### \*Welcome & Greeting

### \*Passing of the Peace

## WE PROCLAIM

### Children's Moment

Children are invited forward for a lesson with Pastor Teri. After the children's moment, the children are invited to return to their families to participate in Communion.

### Anthem

*All Earth Is Waiting*, by Dent Davidson

Trombone Quartet

Used with permission by St. James Music Press, License No. #22888

### Prayer for Illumination

Paul Zedekar

### Scripture Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11 (NRSV)

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. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 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. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' 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. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. 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!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. 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.

\*\*\*

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

Our Spirit Waits: Our Just Peace

## WE RESPOND

### Call to the Giving Life

### Offertory Anthem

*Comfort Ye, My People, "Messiah"*, by G.F. Handel

Spencer Domer, tenor, Sally Kang, piano

\*Indicates congregation to stand in body or spirit

**\*Doxology**

To tune of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" – Hymn #211

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**\*Offertory Prayer of Thanksgiving****Prayer Concerns & Community Life**

Prayer concerns & celebrations may be submitted to [info@munciehighstreet.com](mailto:info@munciehighstreet.com), they will be prayed for by the prayer team & staff.

**Choral Call to Prayer****Call to Confession****Prayer of Confession**

**All:** God of shepherding love, we need your guidance this day. You proclaim that faithful love and truth have met, but we cannot see it. You rejoice that righteousness and peace have kissed, but we can scarcely believe it. Forgive our jaded hearts, and correct our wandering ways. Breathe your grace into our lives, and give us the confidence to shout for all the world to hear: "Here is our God!" Amen.

**Brief time of Silence****Words of Assurance**

Leader: "Comfort, O comfort my people," says our God. We have served our term. Our penalty is paid. Rejoice in this good news.

**All:** The glory of the Lord is revealed. Thanks be to God. Amen.

**Great Thanksgiving**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All:** And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**All:** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. ... as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**All:** Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, ... all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

**All:** Amen.

**Lord's Prayer**

Hymn #895

**Sharing of Bread & Cup****Communion****Prayer after Communion**

**All:** Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**WE ARE SENT FORTH****\*Closing Hymn***Savior of the Nations, Come* (verse 1, 2, 4)

Hymn #214

**\*Dismissal with Blessing****Postlude***Panis Angelicus*, by Cesar Franck, arr. Rodney S. Miller

Trombone Quartet

Trombone Quartet:

David Gilliam

Linda Pohly

Robert Jones

Frank Williams

Worship Leaders:

Rev. Teri Crouse, Lead Pastor

Pastor Mackenzie Phillips, Associate Pastor

Dr. Andrew Crow, Director of Music

Dr. Ann Hicks, Director of Handbells

Dr. Sally Kang, Organist

Joy Bricker, Children's &amp; Family Ministries Director

Kyle Orr, Youth Ministries Director

Josiah Bricker and Leo Furlong, Acolytes

### Church Announcements

**Announcements** – Announcements may be submitted only at [bit.ly/announcementsmunciehighstreet](https://bit.ly/announcementsmunciehighstreet). They are to be submitted by noon on the Wednesday before Sunday service.

**Blue Christmas Service** – A special service of music, scripture, candles, prayer, and anointing for those who feel lost and those experiencing loss, will be held on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary.

**Poinsettia Donations** – Contribute in appreciation of, in honor of, or memory of a loved one until December 10<sup>th</sup>. suggested donation amount of \$15.00.

**Caroling & Cocoa** – Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00pm we will meet at the church to go out caroling with some of our members and then back for cocoa. This will be a fun time for everyone. Please let Joy know if you plan to attend.

**Angel Tree Tag Distribution** – Today through December 10<sup>th</sup> pick up your tag in the Garden Court

**Hat and Mitten Wreath** – Today through December 31<sup>st</sup> bring in hats and mittens, both children and adults, to help individuals stay warm.

**Alternate Gift to Food Pantry** – Today through December 17<sup>th</sup> in the Garden Court make a special contribution to the food pantry in honor of a loved one. See a mission team member to make your contribution and receive your tag.

**Sock Collection** – The collection will continue through December 31<sup>st</sup>; bins are in the Narthex and outside the office for your donations of any size socks.

**Many ways to respond to God's love through giving** –

--In-person, by placing offering in plates as ushers come through

--Text 765/222-5007

--Online: [bit.ly/givinghighstreet](https://bit.ly/givinghighstreet) (or scan the QR code below)

--Set up an automatic bank withdrawal through Diana (Church office)

--Drop off in person during church office hours.

### Youth & Children's Announcements

**Children's Worship Bags** – Worship Bags are available at each Sanctuary entrance. Find Ms. Joy for assistance.

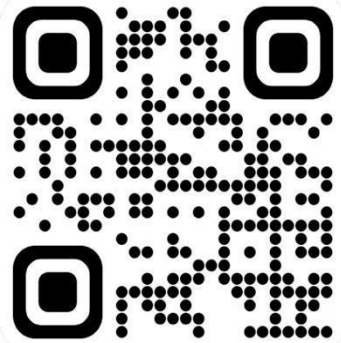
**Tween Christmas Party** – The party will be held tonight at 5:00pm in (G6) The Den.

**Youth Group** – Please join us for youth group tonight, 6:00-7:30pm.

**Youth Christmas Party** – Join us on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-7:30 pm for our Youth Group Christmas Party! We'll have food, fellowship, and festive Christmas-themed games. Feel free to invite your friends!

### SNAPSHOT for Giving/Missions

Last's week Church Giving // Budgeted:	\$6,301.00 // \$8,462.00
Giving Total for 2023 // Budgeted	\$410,537.41 // \$440,000.00
November Giving Total // Budgeted:	\$31,625.42 // \$36,666.67
Monthly Mission Giving (Pantry)	\$895.05
Attendance for November 26, 2023	
In-person worship	142
Social Media views online:	122
Grand Total for Worship	264



Scan QR code to give.

### Sunday Schedule

Coffee Bar	8:30am – 11:30am
Bethany Class (Adult Sunday School)	8:45am
Children's Sunday School	9:00am
Youth & College Sunday School	9:00am
Traditional Worship Service	10:00am
It's All About Jesus (Adult Sunday School)	11:15am
Youth Group	6:00pm

### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Peas	Mashed Potatoes
Applesauce	Spaghetti Sauce
Jelly	Tomatoes (diced)
Rice (1# bag)	Vegetables (canned)
Soup (canned)	Soap (bar)
Baking Mix	Mac & Cheese (boxed)
Spaghetti	

