

The
**Church of the
Covenant**

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 6, 2020

Service of Worship
for the Lord's Day

Gathering

The Cragin Peal

Carillon Prelude

Fantasia I

Staf Nees

Eddy Marien Yale University

Greeting & Announcements

Revelation 22:20

Rev. Bill Hudson

Jesus says: I am coming soon.

Μαράναθά (maranatha – Lord come)

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Prelude

Prelude on "Veni Emmanuel"

Jonathan Moyer, organ

Edward C. Bairstow

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Marley and Ivy Goodman
Chris and Marilyn Langmack
(Cindy Langmack, video)

The Lord will give you a sign.

**Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel.**

Isaiah 7:14

Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

Kyrie (Responsorial)

from *Missa Emmanuel*

Covenant Chancel Choir

Richard Proulx

Lord, have mercy. (choir then congregation)

Christ, have mercy. (choir then congregation)

Lord, have mercy. (choir then congregation)



WELCOME

Convinced of God's grace, the Church of the Covenant seeks to be a welcoming spiritual home, live God's inclusive love, express Christ's compassion, and do justice in the world.

NOTE:

The roots of *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* go back to the 8th Century. The O Antiphons are traditionally used in daily prayer in the 7 days before Christmas Eve.

GATHER

We gather to worship God on the Lord’s Day (Sunday) because the Gospels testify that Jesus rose from the dead early on the first day of the week.

Scripture

Isaiah 11:2

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of *wisdom* and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

Reflection

חֹכְמָה - khok·maw

Wisdom

Prayer

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High, you order all things with strength and gentleness:
Come now and teach us the way to salvation.

*O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
who orderest all things mightily:
to us the path of knowledge show;
and teach us in her ways to go.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.*

MUSIC NOTES

Chancel Choir soloists featured in Mendelssohn’s *I Waited for the Lord*, include Anna O’Connell and Gwendolyn DeLaney.

Scripture

Isaiah 25:8-9

He will swallow up death forever. Then the **Lord** GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the **LORD** has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the **LORD** for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Reflection

אֲדֹנָי - ’ad·o·noy

Lord

Prayer

O Adonai, Ruler of the house of Israel, you appeared in the burning bush to Moses and gave him the law on Sinai:
Come with outstretched arm to save us.

*O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai’s height
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.*

OUR LAY WORSHIP

LEADER is Dennis Matz.

Dennis joined the Covenant in 1992, along with his wife Nancy. Their three grown children, Paul, Lucy and Annie – grew up in the church. Dennis was chair of the Communications Committee started by Rev. Jim Dowd, has served two terms as an Elder, is currently a Trustee and the Communications Manager. Dennis owns Matz Design, enjoys reading and spending time with his family.

Scripture

Isaiah 11:1

A shoot shall come out of the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his *roots*.

Reflection

שֶׁרֶשׁ - sheh·resh

Root of Jesse

Prayer

O Root of Jesse, rising as a sign for all the peoples, before you earthly rulers will keep silent, and nations give you honor:
Come quickly to deliver us.

*O come, O come, thou Root of Jesse,
free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save
and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.*

Scripture

Revelation 3:7

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of the holy one, the true one, who has the *key of David*, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens.

Reflection

κλείς Δαυίδ – kleis Daid

Key of David

Prayer

O Key of David, Scepter over the house of Israel, you open and no one can close, you close and no one can open:
Come to set the prisoners free.

*O come, thou Key of David,
come, and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.*

TODAY

10:00 Carillon Concert
McGaffin Carillon

10:30 ZOOM Coffee Chat
[Click HERE to join via Zoom](#)

12:00 Children's Sunday
Zoom Meeting
[Click HERE to join via Zoom](#)

**DUE TO THE
UPDATED COVID-19
RISK LEVEL FOR
CUYAHOGA COUNTY,
PLEASE CALL THE
OFFICE TO SCHEDULE
AN APPOINTMENT.**

216-421-0482

ENCOUNTER

We receive the good news of God's love, mercy, and justice revealed to us through the Bible.

RESPOND

Having heard God's word proclaimed, we offer music, prayers, and a portion of the financial resources we have received. Thank you for your generous response to God's gracious love!

Scripture

Job 38:12

Have you commanded the morning since your days began,
and caused the *dayspring* (dawn) to know its place?

Reflection

שֶׁחַר – shakh·ar

Dayspring

Prayer

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light,
Sun of justice:
Come, shine on those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death.

*O come, thou Dayspring,
come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.*

Scripture

Haggai 2:7

I will shake all nations, and the *desire of all nations* shall come:
And I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.

Reflection

הֶמְדָּה – khem·daw

Desire of Nations

Prayer

O Ruler of the nations, Monarch for whom the people long,
you are the Cornerstone uniting all humanity:
Come, save us all, whom you formed out of clay.

*O come, Desire of nations,
bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.*

CONTACT

LEADERSHIP

Rev. Bill Hudson,
Transitional Pastor,
Head of Staff
whudson@covenantweb.org

Faithformation@
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Finance@covenantweb.org

Service@covenantweb.org

Personnel@covenantweb.org

Deacons@covenantweb.org

Trustees@covenantweb.org

Building@covenantweb.org

Music@covenantweb.org

MINISTERS

All the members of the church

Rev. Bill Hudson,
Transitional Pastor,
Head of Staff

George Leggiero, MA
Carillonneur

Matthew Garrett, PhD,
Music Director

Jonathan Moyer, DMA
Organist, Assoc. Music Dir.

Michael Peters, PhD,
Assoc. Music Director

Kaori Hongo, DMA
Coordinator of Children &
Youth Ministry, Handbell &
Children's Choir Director

Ken Wendt, DMA,
Audio Visual Services Mgr.

Jennifer Conner, DMA,
Music Librarian

Scripture

Isaiah 7:13-15

Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David!
Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God
also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the
young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name
him *Immanuel*. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he
knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

Reflection עִמָּנוּ אֵל – im·maw·noo·ale – Immanuel God with Us

Prayer

O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver,
the Expected of the nations and their Savior:
O come and save us, O Lord our God.

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.*

Invitation to Offering

Click here to visit the church's online giving page

Offertory

I Waited for the Lord from Hymn of Praise

Covenant Chancel Choir

Felix Mendelssohn

I waited for the Lord, He inclined unto me.
He heard my complaint.
O blessed are they that hope and trust in the Lord.

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**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. Amen**

****or Creator**

Invitation to the Table

SESSION

Deni Horstman,
Clerk of Session,
clerk@covenantweb.org

CLASS OF 2021: Barb Clint,
Theodis Fipps, Dale Goode,
Chris Langmack,
Cindy Szafranec

CLASS OF 2022: Heidi Braun,
Kathy Farkas,
Matthew Garrett,
Sybil Marsh, Cathy Miller

CLASS OF 2023: Mary Anne
Bromelmeier, Jenny Conner,
Anne Wombwell deConingh
Susan Dahm, Rod Keen,
Erica Stubbs

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2021: Lucy Matz,
Ryan Szafranec,
Janet Takeyama,
Erin Tomko, Kate Williams

CLASS OF 2022: Ronnie
Bromelmeier, John Marsh,
Nancy Matz, Sue Prince,
Liz Shriver, Nick Tomko

CLASS OF 2023: Tom Denbow,
Joan Drushel, Julie Mailey,
Nicole Murray,
Norma Shuskey,
Paul Williams

TRUSTEES

CLASS OF 2021: Patty Fowler,
Nancy Smekal

CLASS OF 2022: Dennis Matz
Ann Williams

CLASS OF 2023: Jim Prince
Harriet Wadsworth

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

Martha Goble, President
Keith Kallay, Treasurer
Jim Mate, Secretary

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus (Responsorial)
from *Missa Emmanuel*

Covenant Chancel Choir
Richard Proulx

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and God of might.

(cantor then congregation)

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. (choir then congregation)

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. (choir then congregation)

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...

...Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here...

*...Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,
now and forever.*

The Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever,

SEND

Having been nurtured and nourished through worship, we are sent from this place to glorify God in the service of our daily lives.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Virtual Communion will take place today. As part of the service, communion will be celebrated and we invite you to participate. Preparing for communion means for you to place bread of your choice on a plate and have a partially filled cup of unfermented or fermented juice for each of you. A short liturgy includes the words of institution at which time Rev. Hudson will invite you to partake of the bread followed by drinking of the cup. A short musical interlude is played to give you time to partake of the elements and to reflect on the Lord's Supper

Congregational Amen
All are invited to sing.

AMEN VENI EMMANUEL



Breaking of the Bread

Prayer After Communion

Benediction

Revelation 22:20

Jesus says: I am coming soon. Μαράναθά (maranatha – Lord come)
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Postlude

Fantasia on “Veni Emmanuel”

Jonathan Moyer, organ
Alex Rowley

Carillon Postlude

“Carillon” from “Saul”

G. F. Handel
Wylie Crawford University of Chicago

Please Note:

The church building is temporarily closed once again due to the Updated COVID-19 Risk Level for Cuyahoga County. Most of the staff will be working from home starting on 11/30. Willie Howard will be in the office Tuesday–Friday and can be reached by phone at 216-280-5296. The custodial staff will be in the building Monday – Friday from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. Please contact the office for more information.

COVID – 19 SAFETY PROCEDURES

We Are Following the Guidelines of the State of Ohio.

1. Masks **MUST** be worn while you are in the church building.
2. Wash your hands frequently.
3. Practice Social Distancing – keep six feet apart while in the church building.

We Keep in our Prayers: Jim Bishop, Thelma Everhart, David Keltner, Pat Owen-Keltner, Greg Madison, Reathel McWhorter, Susan Moyer (Jonathan's mother), Gene Papp, Carolyn Perry, George Peters (Michael's father), Mildred Russin, Arthur Tiroly, Kim Voss, Julia Wadsworth, Jim Watson, Gabriel (Jenny Conner's grand-nephew) and ALL teachers, students and parents. We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, or homebound; patients, family, and staff in our surrounding hospitals.

Our Prayers are with Nick Tomko and family on the death of his grandfather.

Covenant Sunday Coffee Chat, 10:30 am by ZOOM

The Ministry of Faith Formation hosts a virtual coffee fellowship time each week, [CLICK HERE](#) to join us!

Children's Sunday Zoom Meeting

On the *First Sunday of Advent*, (11/29), we had seven kids in our Sunday Zoom Meet. Mrs. Williams lead us in creating beautiful snowflakes!! We hope to include these creations in our 2020 Christmas Pageant!! We jumped right into our discussions for the pageant!! It will be very different with our Interactive Bulletin format, but the kids were excited about the different possibilities. Please keep the kids and their families in your prayers during this holiday season.
Kaori Hong

2020 Giving Trees Information

In past years, the Deacons have planned multiple events to connect Covenant members to the neighborhood surrounding our church. We as Deacons want to continue the spirit of these past events while following the Ohio Stay Safe Guidelines. One of these groups is the Cleveland School of the Arts. We have been in contact with Renee Dibiasio, and Christmas Giving Tree for Cleveland School of the Arts is still on for this year! Click the PDF link below, and let Erin Tomko know which items you've chosen (ebak23@gmail.com or (440) 552-9795). You may also send Erin money via mail or electronically via Venmo @Erin-Tomko. The last four digits of her phone number, if needed for Venmo, are 9795.

[CSA Giving Tree List](#)

Another of these groups is the Ernest J. Bohn Center of the Benjamin Rose Institute On Aging. The Deacons are also happy to say that the Christmas Giving Tree for this senior community is still on for this year! There are 37 seniors in our neighborhood who have selected gift cards, some of whom may otherwise go without any Christmas present. if you would like to participate in this Deacons sponsored program, first please pick a person in the PDF below and then purchase a \$25 gift card at either Dave's Market or Walmart. Let Nancy Matz know which name you've chosen (nmatz@att.net or (216) 621-6366).

You could put your gift card into a signed Christmas card and send by December 10th to either Dennis Matz at the church office or Nancy Matz at 340 Claymore Blvd, Richmond Hts., OH 44143.

[Ernest Bohn Center Giving Tree List](#)

Daily Advent Reading Videos

Dear Friends, please join us as we read the Bible through the season of Advent together. Jenny Conner has created a beautiful Advent Calendar with special Bible readings to go with every day. If you are able, please print this out and color each day as you read the passage. Kaori Hongo will be reading each passage and will post it on the Church Facebook page. They will also be posted on the front page of the church's website!

Many blessings for this very important season.

Advent Reading Calendar

Upcoming Book Discussion

The Ministry of Faith Formation will be sponsoring three Adult Education Forums, starting in January, discussing Isabel Wilkerson's book, *Caste*. Hugh Burtner will be the leader. Members are encouraged to get on library lending lists now. You might also consider supporting a local bookseller by making a purchase online. Loganberry Bookstore in Shaker Heights and Appletree Books in Cedar/Fairmount can help you with orders by phone or online, and books will ship to your home. Contact faithformation@covenantweb.org if you need help getting a copy.

Covenant Choirs A-LIVE Christmas & Advent

Are you looking for a singing outlet during the Advent & Christmas seasons? Join Covenant Chancel Choir for live, virtual rehearsals and fellowship Thursday evenings, from 7:30-8:30 pm, through December 17. Contact the music department for additional information or for the Zoom link to participate: music@covenantweb.org.

This Week at Covenant (December 6–December 12)

Sunday: Carillon Concert, McGaffin Carillon, 10 am;

Covenant Sunday Coffee Chat, [Click HERE to join by Zoom](#), 10:30 am;

Children's Sunday Zoom Meeting, [Click HERE to join via Zoom](#), 12:00 pm.

Monday: No scheduled activities.

Tuesday: Staff Meeting, by Zoom, 9 am;

Introductory Class for Handbell and Tone Chimes, "Les Cigales" (French for The Cicadas),
by Zoom, 11 am.

Wednesday: No scheduled activities.

Thursday: Chancel Choir Virtual Rehearsal, by Zoom, 7:30 pm.

Friday: No scheduled activities.

Saturday: No scheduled activities

Reminder:

The church food pantry is open **ONCE** for the month of December.
The date is Friday, December 18th.

Ways to Help Feed The Hungry

The Ministry of Service and Hunger Action Network have put together a document outlining ways you can help feed the hungry in our community.

It's located [on the Giving page of our website](#), so you can access it any time, or refer others to it.

Online Donations

Our website's Giving page is up and running. You can now make donations and pledges from your phone or computer. Check it out at: <http://www.covenantweb.org/giving/>

iPads & Tablets Needed!

The church is looking for gently used iPads or tablets to donate to shut-in members that would like to enjoy our Virtual Service. If you can help, contact Dennis Matz at dmatz@covenantweb.org

UPCaM – UNITED PROTESTANT CAMPUS MINISTRY

Campus Ministry Spotlight: Thanksgiving Meals for Graduate Students

On Wednesday, November 25, 60 meals were provided to CWRU graduate students by Church of the Covenant and CWRU's Office of Graduate Student Life (GSL). These students were identified by Assoc. Director of GSL Jenn Brown. Thanks to Barb Clint's leadership and recommendation, delicious to-go meals were catered by the newly reopened Falafel Cafe. Falafel Cafe owner, Mae Elassal was extremely thankful for Covenant's support and patronage; since reopening this March business has been challenged by the pandemic. Mae welcomes everyone to Falafel Cafe, and last Wednesday, she invited Shelley Nelson-Bridger to assist in the meal distribution and visit students who enjoyed this gift of distanced dining.

Here's a word of thanks shared by one student, Kai W.: *Thank you both, the Church of the Covenant and the Case Office of Graduate Student Life so much for organizing this Thanksgiving dinner for students. I just wanted to let you know that I and all my fellow students appreciate this kind gesture during these crazy and uncertain times. I hope you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving- whether loved ones are near or far. God bless!*

Rev. Shelley Nelson-Bridger
Executive Director/Campus Minister

United Protestant Campus Ministries of Cleveland

The Church of the Covenant
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