

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

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 forever.

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.

*Home is Where  
We Meet*

ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES



**CHELTENHAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Second Sunday in Advent  
December 10, 2017

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## PRELUDE AND CANDLE LIGHTING

**CALL TO WORSHIP & LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**  
(using “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” stanza 5, *The United Methodist Hymnal*, 211)

**All [sung]:** “O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home.

The captives from their prison free, and conquer death’s deep misery.”

**PEOPLE:** God of Love, you created the universe and all that is in it. You created all things and called them good.

Leader: God of Love, you wove into life a beautiful diversity from your infinite palette of creativity. All the creatures that walk or swim, crawl or fly sing praises to you.

**All:** We, God’s people, affirm the creation of all things in love, saying with the psalmist: “God’s salvation is very close to those who honor God so that God’s glory can live in our land. Faithful love and truth have met; righteousness and peace have kissed.” (Psalm 85:9-10, CEB)

Leader: On this second Sunday of Advent, we light this candle to remind us that the God of Creation calls us home to love all that we meet.

**All [sung]:** “Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.”

\*HYMN - “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” #213 UMH

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**JOYS, CONCERNS AND PASTORAL PRAYER**

**SUNG RESPONSE:** “On Eagle’s Wings #143 UMH

## OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY- “Praise God from Whom All Blessings” #95 UMH

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

\*HYMN - “The Gift of Love” #408 UMH

**SERMON** – “Won’t You Please Come Home?”

\*HYMN - “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” #218 UMH

## BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** – “May You Run and Not Be Weary” #2281 TFWS

## PASSING THE PEACE

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Hymns can be found in the TFWS – *The Faith We Sing* and UMH- *United Methodist Hymnal*

\*Please stand as you are able.

*If you are visiting our church service today, we want you to know that we are glad you are here!*

*We invite everyone to join us down stairs after worship for a time of fellowship.*

