



# Cheltenham United Methodist Church

THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART

Sunday, November 29, 2020

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m.



*The Church of the Nativity by Pastor Rachel B. Livingston*

Cheltenham United Methodist Church  
11111 Crain Highway, Cheltenham, MD 20623  
Rev. Rachel Livingston, Pastor

**Worship with us Online via Zoom**

**Join URL: <https://bit.ly/CUMCSundayServices>**

**Calling in and listening in on your telephone**

**Dial +1 (301) 715-8592**

**Enter meeting ID: 861 6676 4909#**

**Password: 001873**

**Via Facebook**

**[www.facebook.com/CheltenhamUMC](https://www.facebook.com/CheltenhamUMC)**

**Sunday, November 29, 2020**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

**GATHERING**

WELCOME

CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

AN ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE

From Bishop Latrelle Easterling And the Cabinet of the Baltimore-Washington Conference

THE LIGHTING OF THE HOPE CANDLE

**All: Renew within our hearts and in our world, Your Spirit of hope.**

+HYMN

“Hope for the World”

UMH 178 (Vs. 1, 2, and 3)

*Words: Georgia Harkness, 1954*

*Music: V. Earle Copes, 1963*

*Tune: VICAR*

*Piano: Rev. Edgardo Rivera*

*Vocals: John Gauthier*

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Hope of the world,  
thou Christ of Great compassion,  
speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent.  
Save us, thy people, from consuming passion,  
who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.

Hope of the world,  
God's gift from highest heaven,  
bringing to hungry souls the bread of life,  
still let the spirit unto us be given,  
to heal earth's wounds and end all bitter strife.

Hope of the world,  
afoot on dusty highways,  
showing to wandering souls the path of light,  
walk thou beside us lest the tempting byways  
lure us away from thee to endless night.

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

PRAYER

RESPONSIVE READING FROM PSALM 80

O Shepherd, hear and lead Thy flock, as lambs we crave Thy care; What strength on earth approaches Thine, What mercies can compare?

**Restore to us a saving faith, the radiance of Thy face To lighten and reveal the gift of Thy redeeming grace.**

Our selfish prayers deserve Thy wrath, our pride, a sudden burst; We have but stones to serve as bread, and tears to quell our thirst.

**Restore to us a saving faith, the radiance of Thy face To lighten and revel the gift of Thy redeeming grace.**

Thy lineage, like a vine, once spread and flourished in the land; But now the vineyard fails, the fruit lies withered in the sand.

**Restore to us a saving faith, the radiance of Thy face To lighten and revel the gift of Thy redeeming grace.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

+HYMN

“Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory”

UMH 717

(Vs. 1, 2, and 4)

*Words: Sts. 1-4, Julia Ward Howe, 1861; st. 5, anon*

*Music: US campmeeting tune, 19<sup>th</sup> cent.*

*Tune: BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC*

*Piano: Rev. Edgardo Rivera*

*Vocals: John Gauthier*

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Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;  
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
he hath loose the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword;  
his truth is marching on.

*Refrain*

*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*

*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*

*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*

*His truth is marching on.*

I have seen him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps;  
they have builded him an altar in the evening dews and damps;  
I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps;  
his day is marching on

*Refrain*

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me;  
as he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,  
while God is marching on.

*Refrain*

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

### INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

God in the Spirit reveal in Jesus Christ, calls us by grace

**To be renewed in the image of our Creator, that we may be one in divine love for the world**

Today is the day God cares for the integrity of creation, wills the healing and wholeness of all life, weeps at the plunder of earth's goodness

**And so shall we**

Today is the day God embraces all hues of humanity, delights in diversity and difference, favors solidarity transforming strangers into friends

**And so shall we**

Today is the day God cries with the mass of starving people, despises growing disparity between rich and poor, demands justice for workers in the marketplace.

**And so shall we**

Today is the day God deplores violence in our homes and streets, rebukes the world's warring madness, humbles the powerful and lifts up the lowly.

**And so shall we**

Today is the day God calls for nations and peoples to live in peace, celebrates where justice and mercy embrace, exults when the wolf grazes with the lamb.

**And so shall we**

Today is the day God brings good news to the poor, proclaims release to the captive, gives sight to the blind, and set the oppressed free.

**And so shall we**

## GOING FORTH

+HYMN

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

UMH 196

*Words: Charles Wesley, 1744*

*Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1830; harm. from The English Hymnal, 1906*

*Tune: HYFRYDOL*

*Piano: Rev. Edgardo Rivera*

*Vocals: John Gauthier*

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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 every nation,

joy of every 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.

#### PRAYER

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and all that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God who is in heaven: The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the people of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With bread we need today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory and the power that is love, now and forever. May it be so. Amen.**

#### PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

+OFFERTORY “Blessed Assurance”

UMH 171

Arranged by Marilynn Ham  
Performed by Dana Scott

For all the rich blessings with which you continually shower our lives

**We give you thanks**

For all the gifts given to the world through Your church

**We overflow with gratitude**

Use all that we are, all that we have, and all that we ever hope to receive

**For your continued glory and praise throughout the earth. Amen**

+HYMN “My Hope Is Built”

UMH 368

*Words: Edward Mote, 1834*

*Music: William B. Bradbury, 1863*

*Tune: THE SOLID ROCK*

*Piano: Rev. Edgardo Rivera*

*Vocals: John Gauthier*

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My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
but holy lean on Jesus' name

#### *Refrain*

*On Christ the solid rock I stand,  
all other ground is sinking sand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils its lovely face,  
I rest on his unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale,  
my anchor holds within the veil.

*Refrain*

His oath, his covenant, his blood  
support me in the whelming flood.  
When all around my soul gives way,  
he then is all my hope and stay.

*Refrain*

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
O may I then in him be found!  
Dressed in his righteousness alone,  
faultless to stand before the throne!

*Refrain*

+BENEDICTION

Now may you continue to live in the hope that is in Christ

**We embrace this hope**

Go now and share this same hope in Christ with all you meet in Source of Love, The Presence of Love, the Power of Love, now and forever more.

**Amen, Amen, and Amen.**

+RECESSIONAL

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## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

**Isaiah 64:1-9 NRSV** • <sup>1</sup> O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— <sup>2</sup> as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! <sup>3</sup> When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. <sup>4</sup> From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup> You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. <sup>6</sup> We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. <sup>7</sup> There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. <sup>8</sup> Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. <sup>9</sup> Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

**1 Corinthians 1:3-9 NRSV** • <sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my<sup>[a]</sup> God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— <sup>6</sup> just as the testimony of<sup>[b]</sup> Christ has been strengthened among you— <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Mark 13:24-37 NRSV** • <sup>24</sup> “But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,<sup>25</sup> and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup> Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup> Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. <sup>28</sup> “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he<sup>[a]</sup> is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.<sup>32</sup> “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup> Beware, keep alert;<sup>[b]</sup> for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup> It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup> Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup> or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup> And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”