



December 6, 2020

Prelude *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arr. Bill Clarke
Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland J.S. Bach

Bill Clarke

Welcome

Associate Pastor of Youth and Young Adults, Danielle Merseles

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Light the Joy Candle throughout Seattle and the World

Melissa & Zach Hertel

We come before you, God, in joy
and in need of your Spirit of joy
that breaks over us
like sunshine through the trees
when we crest a wooded trail
Even as the routines
that got us out into your beautiful world
now keep us home
Even as holidays highlight
the missed company of friends, we come
We come because with our small pleasures on hold
we see that the immense gifts
of lake and mountain, fields and trails remain
And so, we come believing
that God's joy is as unconditional as God's love
as independent of circumstance as God's own Spirit
Holy Spirit, help our unbelief
We come, Spirit, remembering and seeking
joy fragrant as flowers and evergreen as pine
thrill in your Presence like a deftly kicked goal
like riding a wave or carving up the mountain
the quiet joy of a bright snowy night
We are God's people
We light this candle
as a sign of God's joy
who comes to us as dappled sunlight
and makes a home among us
O come, Immanuel

Hymn *My Soul In Stillness Waits* #89
For You, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits
Truly my hope is in You

Amy & Cate Eyler

O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory
Your radiance shines in all who look to You
Come light the hearts of all in dark and shadow (*Chorus*)
O Spring of Joy, rain down upon our Spirits
Our thirsty hearts are yearning for Your word
Come, make us whole, be comfort to our hearts (*Chorus*)

Silent Listening

Scripture Isaiah 40:1-11

Worship Leader, Peter Houston-Hencken

¹ 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.

Hymn *Prepare the Way O Zion* #106
Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near
Let every hill and valley a level way appear
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story

Amy & Cate Eyler

O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name

He brings God's rule, O Zion; He comes from heaven above
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding *(Chorus)*

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace
And tidings of salvation proclaim in every place
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing *(Chorus)*

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness

Peter Houston-Hencken

Our Response to God's Great Love [*\(click here if you would like to give your offering online\)*](#)

Children's Message

Elsie McFarland

Song *The Trees of the Field* #80

Amy & Cate Eyler

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you
There'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field will clap, clap their hands
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands
The trees of the field will clap their hands
The trees of the field will clap their hands
While you go out with joy

Sermon *Speak, Call, Cry & Shout*

Jeff Van Duzer

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Danielle Merseles and Director of Children's Ministries, Bianca Quezada

Our Prayers to God

Danielle Merseles

Hymn *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* #88

Amy & Cate Eyler

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
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 *(Chorus)*
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 *(Chorus)*

Benediction

Jeff Van Duzer

Closing Song *Go Now in Peace*

Amy & Cate Eyler

Go now in peace, go now in peace; may the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere you may go *(Repeat)*

TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Preaching today is Jeff Van Duzer. Jeff is a long-time member who has been preaching regularly at Bethany for over thirty-five years. He is currently tentatively stepping into "retirement." Margie and he have two adult sons, two daughters-in-law and one delightful infant granddaughter.

Leading worship is Peter Houston-Hencken. Peter is originally from Las Vegas, NV and has attended Bethany for a couple of years. He primarily volunteers with the youth group where he has helped lead lessons as well as benefited from learning from the students themselves. Peter currently works at Amazon but spends his free time video editing and watching movies with his girlfriend. Bethany has been incredibly welcoming, and he is grateful for all the spiritual growth and relationships it has helped foster in his life.

Ministers: You, who are touched by God's grace, being healed by God's love.