

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, December 7, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday of Advent
Communion Sunday

Welcome and Greeting - Pastor Mark

Prelude: "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" (arr. Richard Walters) - Michael/DeeAnn

Opening Sentences - Tom

Hymn 84: "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People" - DeeAnn et al.

Opening Prayer - Tom

Lighting of the Advent Candles: The Candle of Peace - Pastor Margery and Michael

Anthem: "Some Children See Him" (Wilha Hutson and Alfred Burt) - Barb/DeeAnn/Marsha/Choir

Giving and Receiving of Our Gifts - Pastor Mark

Doxology (Hymn 563) - DeeAnn et al.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (using debts and debtors) - Pastor Mark

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:1-12 - Rachel

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Sermon: "CONFUSING IMAGES" - Pastor Mark

Observance of Holy Communion - Pastor Mark, Pastor Margery, Pastor Rachel

Hymn 86: "Like a Child" - DeeAnn et al.

Benediction - Pastor Mark

Benediction Response 294 (v. 5): "God Binds Us With a Mighty Cord" - DeeAnn et al.

For God maintains no border lines, to limit each one's place, but cherishes a grand design, transcending nation, race. All life comes from this holy source, one God through time and space; one Author, who alone brings forth lives drawn in lines of grace.

Greet One Another - All

Participants: Rev. Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Barb Fuller, Rev. Margery Briggs, Michael Judd,
Tom Cornell, Rachel Gehres, Chancel Choir, Marsha Hacker

THE TRIUNE GOD

84


Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People

Isaiah 40:1-8

Johann Olearius, 1611-1684

Genevan Psalter, 1551


Trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.



1. Com - fort, com - fort, ye my peo - ple, Speak ye peace, thus
 2. Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth In the des - ert
 3. Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, Make the rough - er



saith our God; Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness,
 far and near, Bid - ding all men to re - pent - ance
 plac - es plain; Let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



Mourn - ing 'neath their sor - row's load. Speak ye to Je -
 Since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
 As be - fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem Of the peace that waits for them;
 cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 of the Lord Now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

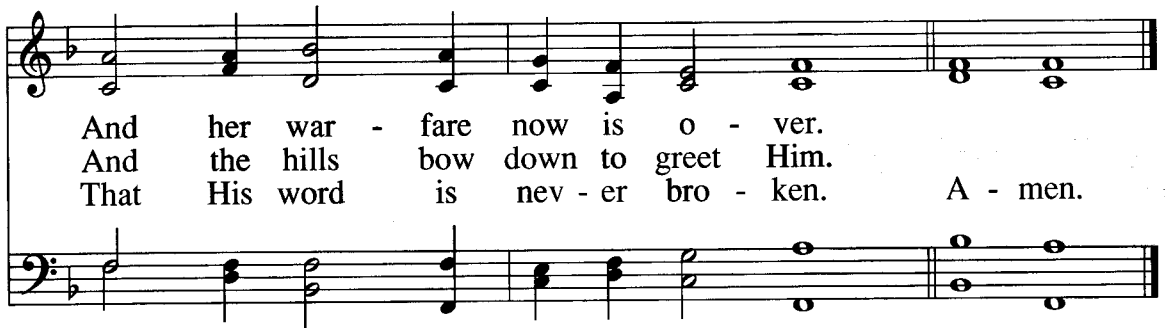
GENEVA 42
 8.7.8.7.7.8.8

Second verse: "Bidding *people* to repentance"

THE TRIUNE GOD



Tell her that her sins I cov - er,
Let the val - leys rise to meet Him
And all flesh shall see the to - ken



And her war - fare now is o - ver.
And the hills bow down to greet Him.
That His word is nev - er bro - ken. A - men.

O God of power and might, Creator of light and of darkness, of the earth and the stars, speak anew to Your people gathered to worship You and sing Your praise. Like Israel of old we wait in darkness, anticipating the Light who will dawn upon us and lift us from shadowy gloom into the glowing splendor of Your presence. So, we ask You, speak to us a word of comfort, a word of hope, a word that will keep our anticipation alive as we wait for the Coming One who brings Your creative Word into our very flesh and makes us one with You. Enable us, in turn, to be bringers of comfort to those who long and wait for You, preparing the way of Your kingdom, already present and yet to come. All this we ask in the name of him whom prophets foretold, the Word who speaks comfort and hope, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rev. Steven A. Peay, Ph.D.

like a child

86

Daniel C. Damon, 1955-

Daniel C. Damon, 1955-

Unison Gm C Am Dm

1. like a child love would send to re - veal and to mend, like a
 2. like a child we will meet, rag - ged clothes, dirt - y feet, like a
 3. like a child born to pray and to show us the way, like a

Gm C F D7

child and a friend, Je - sus comes like a
 child on the street, Je - sus comes like a
 child here to stay, Je - sus comes like a

Gm7 C Am Dm7

child we may find claim - ing heart soul and mind, like a
 child we once knew com - ing back in - to view, like a
 child we re - ceive all that love can con - ceive, like a

Gm7 C11 F

child strong and kind, Je - sus comes
 child born a - new, Je - sus comes
 child we be - lieve Je - sus comes

LIKE A CHILD
3.3.3.3.3.3 D