

**Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church**  
**Order Of Worship | Advent IV**  
**December 20, 2020**

**Liturgist: David Marr | Sermon: Rev. Dennis Louis | Lead Musician: Anne Marr**

**Advent IV Reading: Psalm 80:14-19**

Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine, the stock that your right hand planted, and for the son whom you made strong for yourself. They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your face! But let your hand be on the man of your right hand, the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself! Then we shall not turn back from you; give us life, and we will call upon your name! Restore us, O Lord God of hosts! Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

**Luke 1:26-38**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

**Call To Worship: Psalm 80:1-3**

L: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock.

**ALL: You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.**

L: Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us!

**ALL: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

L: This is the Word of the LORD!

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Heads (stanzas 1-4) | 198**

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits;  
the King of kings is drawing near, the Saviour of the world is here.

2. A helper just he comes to thee, his chariot is humility,  
his kingly crown is holiness, his scepter is pity in distress.

3. O blest the land, the city blest, where Christ the Ruler is confessed!  
O happy hearts and happy homes to whom this King in triumph comes!

4. Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart  
from earthly use for heav'n's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

## **Pastoral Prayer Followed by 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, for ever. Amen.

## **Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon**

L: O sovereign King, the one who called all things into being by the Word of your power, we confess that we have a natural temptation of nurturing a messiah complex.

**ALL: We want to rule in your place because we think too highly of ourselves, our abilities, our plans and our accomplishments. We spend too little time reflecting on your glory, your holiness, your rule and your mighty acts.**

L: We do not want to miss you as you meet us in this place by the penetrating presence of the Holy Spirit. Christ Jesus, we confess that your blood alone provides acceptance with the heavenly Father.

**ALL: Teach us to cheerfully submit to your will and to empathize with all those you have placed in our lives as you work out your Kingdom purposes on earth as it is in heaven.**

L: We repent of our unbelief and our doubt.

**ALL: Even so, Lord Jesus, come quickly to us in this hour of our need.** *(time of silent confession)*

L: Children of God, those who confess Christ as their savior and Lord are forgiven. For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Rejoice and be glad because this is the word of the LORD.

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

## **Song of Preparation: God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen | 211**

1. God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,  
remember Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas day,  
to save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray; *Refrain*

Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

2. From God our Heavenly Father, a blessed angel came;  
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:  
how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name. *Refrain*

3. "Fear not, then", said the angel, "let nothing you affright;  
this day is born a Saviour of a pure virgin bright,  
to free all those who trust in him from Satan's power and might." *Refrain*

4. The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,  
and left their flocks a-feeding, in tempest, storm and wind:  
and went to Bethlehem straightway, the Son of God to find. *Refrain*

## Sermon: “The Savior That Brings Restoration to the World”

### Word: Isaiah 11:1-16

**1** There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. **2** And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. **3** And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, **4** but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. **5** Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. **6** The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. **7** The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. **8** The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder’s den. **9** They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. **10** In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious. **11** In that day the Lord will extend his hand yet a second time to recover the remnant that remains of his people, from Assyria, from Egypt, from Pathros, from Cush, from Elam, from Shinar, from Hamath, and from the coastlands of the sea. **12** He will raise a signal for the nations and will assemble the banished of Israel, and gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. **13** The jealousy of Ephraim shall depart, and those who harass Judah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not be jealous of Judah, and Judah shall not harass Ephraim. **14** But they shall swoop down on the shoulder of the Philistines in the west, and together they shall plunder the people of the east. They shall put out their hand against Edom and Moab, and the Ammonites shall obey them. **15** And the Lord will utterly destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt, and will wave his hand over the River with his scorching breath, and strike it into seven channels, and he will lead people across in sandals. **16** And there will be a highway from Assyria for the remnant that remains of his people, as there was for Israel when they came up from the land of Egypt.

### Questions for Reflection

1. Gen. 3 walks us through the story of how sin entered into the world through man's disobedience. This act of disobedience plunged all of God's creation into corruption and disorder. In what ways will God restore man and the rest of creation?
2. What is being pictured in Isaiah 11:6-9? How is this a picture of restoration?
3. How will Christ restore the people of God according to Isaiah 11:11-12?
4. How have you seen the power of the gospel work in your life to restore aspects of your brokenness and that of others?
5. What areas of your life remain in need of restoration?

### **Song of Approach: There is a Fountain Filled with Blood (stanzas 1, 3) | 253**

1. There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins,  
and sinners plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains:  
lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;  
and sinners plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.

3. E'er since by faith I saw the stream your flowing wounds supply,  
redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die:  
and shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;  
redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

### **Communion**

#### **Sending Hymn: Angels We Have Heard On High | 214**

1. Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. *Refrain*

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song? *Refrain*

3. Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*

#### **Benediction: Ephesians 6:24**

Peace be to the brothers, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible... *so that all the peoples will say...*

**ALL: Amen. Our LORD is faithful. Praise the LORD!**

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