

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Woodland
Bulletin, December 6, 2020
Zoom Worship

Musical Prelude—Jay Surdell

Greeting—Larry Love

Song—“*When God Is a Child*” *Chalice Hymnal #132 (Verse #2)*

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth.
When God is a child there’s joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.”

Our shared life together, aka, announcements—

“Here are some things our church is doing this week in the effort to make God’s shalom, God’s peace real in this part of God’s beloved world.”

Call to Worship—Larry Love

Opening Song—“*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*” *Chalice Hymnal #119*
(Verses #1, 2, & 4)

1. 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!
2. O come, thou Day-spring come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death’s dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!
4. O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife and quarrels cease,
fill the whole world with heaven’s peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Words: 'O' Antiphons, Latin, 9th cent.; verses 1, 3–6 para. in *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Cologne, 1710; tr. by John M. Neale;

verses 2, 7 tr. fr. *The Hymnal* 1940, alt.

Music: Chant, Mode I; Processionale, French, 15th cent.; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, Public Domain.

Opening Prayer—Unison—Pastor Larry

Good and gracious God in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and for the shalom, the peace he brings, and give us the strength to grow in love that we might always be instruments of your peace. In every way Christ comes among us, may he find us rejoicing in your presence and welcoming the light of his truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the one called Prince of Peace. Amen.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be;
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Advent Candle Lighting—Heather Craig

Song of Advent—“*One Candle Is Lit*” *Chalice Hymnal* # 128 (Verse #2)

2. Come quickly, shalom, teach us how to prepare
for a gift that compels us with justice to care.
Our spirits are restless till sin and war cease.
One candle is lit for the reign of God's peace.

Words: 1988, 1995 Chalice Press (Admin. by Christian Board of Publication)

Music: Public Domain

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A Story for Children of All Ages—Jeanelyse Doran

Scripture Text—Mark 1:1-8—Melissa Paulucci

Special Music—Greg Hayakawa

“*Ready the Way*” (Words and Music by Bob Hurd)

1. “Ready the way of the Lord!
Ready the way of the Lord!”
A voice cries out in the wilderness:
“Ready the way of the Lord!”

2. “Let ev’ry valley be filled.
Let ev’ry valley be filled.
Let ev’ry mountain be humbled;
let ev’ry valley be filled.”

Refrain

Here is your God, coming with your vindication.
Look and behold the saving power of God.

3. Desert and wasteland will bloom.
Desert and wasteland will bloom.
Glory and splendor will fill the land.
Desert and wasteland will bloom. (to Verse 4)
4. Those who are blind will then see.
Those who are deaf will then hear.
Those who are lame will then leap for joy.
Those who are mute will then sing. (to Refrain)
5. Strengthen the ones who are weak.
Strengthen the ones who are weak.
Say to the frightened: “Have courage.”
Strengthen the ones who are weak. (to Refrain)

Text based on Isaiah 35:1-6; 40:1-5, 9-11; Ezekiel 11:19-20.

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Message—“*The God Who Just Can’t Leave Us Alone*”—Isaiah 40:1-11—Pastor Larry Love

Song of Commitment—“*Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming*” *Chalice Hymnal #136*
(Verses #1, 3, & 4)

1. Christians all, your Lord is coming,
drawing near in holy birth.
Ring the bells and sound the trumpets,
let your music fill the earth.
Dance and move to show God's glory;
kneel and pause to hear God's word.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Rise and let your songs be heard.
3. Christians all, your Lord is coming,
he will rise up from the dead.
Lift the cup, of sin forgiven;
bless the host and eat his bread.
Mend the ways where peace is broken,

give yourselves to true Shalom.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dwell as one in church and home.

4. Christians all, your Lord is coming,
hope for peace is now at hand.,
Let there be no hesitation,
walk in faith where life demands.
Bear the word that God has given;
share the birth that stirs your soul.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ will come and make you whole.

Words: Jim Miller; Music: Joshua Levitt's *Christian Lyre*

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Prayers of the Community...and Lord's Prayer—Pastor Larry Love

Responsive Song, "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

O Lord, hear my prayer; O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise: All my hope comes from God.

The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

Words and Music by Taizé. © 1991 by Les Presses de Taizé (France).

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Call to Stewardship and Prayer—Melissa Paulucci

Doxology

Communion—Call—Larry Love

Words of Institution—Communion—Peace—Prayer

Closing Hymn—“ —“O Little Town of Bethlehem” Chalice Hymnal #144 (Verses #1, 3, & 4)

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;

the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

3. How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the joy of highest heaven.
No ear may hear Christ coming,
But in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still
the dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our God, Emmanuel!

Words: Phillips Brooks; Music: Lewis H. Redner
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Benediction

Postlude and Fellowship

Announcements:

- Today— Welcome Table Worship, 8 a.m. Contact **Beja Springer** for Zoom link.
- Today—Live stream worship at 8:30 a.m.
- Today—Zoom worship, 10 a.m.
- Today—Annual congregational meeting via Zoom after worship at about 11:30 a.m.
- Monday—Monday fellowship in the courtyard, 9:30 a.m.
- Tuesday—Prayer time via Zoom, 11 a.m.
- Wednesday—Children’s story time, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday—Book study of **Brian McLaren’s *The Galapagos Islands***, 7 p.m. (Chs 2, 3)
- Next Sunday—Live stream worship via Facebook and website, 8:30 a.m.
- Next Sunday—Zoom worship, 10 a.m.
- You can also watch our worship services anytime on the church’s Facebook page or on our church’s website—christianchurchofwoodland.com.
- We are preparing for WEMM Christmas baskets for hungry families here in Woodland. We are again responsible for 600+ cans of fruit. Lon Springer will once again purchase for us. If you would like to make a donation to the baskets, please give the money directly to Lon.
- The Advent Devotionals are available here at the church. Entitled “*Imagining a New World,*” the devotional is written by our **General Minister and President, Terri Hord Owens.**
- **Christmas Special Offering** will be collected on December 13th & 20th. There are no special envelopes, so please write “***Christmas Special Offering***” on your envelopes. The Christmas Offering supports the work of our regional ministries.
- Also available are several copies of the November/December issue of the Upper Room devotionals. (The January/February issue is also here.) Contact Pastor Larry for a copy.
- Zoom instructions and etiquette—Click on the highlighted Zoom link in the email Jeanelyse sent...Download the Zoom app if it asks you to (it is safe)...Please make sure you click the mute button on the bottom left of the zoom screen. It looks like a microphone. If you are not muted, everything you say can be heard by everyone else. You can unmute temporarily by pressing the space bar on your computer or by clicking on the microphone icon.
- If you would like to join in the sharing of communion, please have some bread, crackers or cookies and some juice, water or milk within reach.
- If you have announcements or prayer requests, please contact Larry (530-666-2069 or pastorlarrywcc@sbcglobal.net). You can also write announcements or prayer requests in the “Chat” box at the bottom of the Zoom screen.
- Larry’s work hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday.
- Greg Hayakawa’s work hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact # 530-304-5153
- Though church life is dramatically changed, our ministry continues in new and exciting ways. Please continue to support the life and ministry of the Christian Church of Woodland. You can mail your offering to 509 College Street, Woodland, 95695...or you can give electronically through our website.

Prayer Requests

- Prayers as the COVID-19 pandemic surges nation-wide...including Yolo County (158 cases on November 18th and 114 new cases on 25th). Doctors nurses and other hospital workers...and all essential workers. The unemployed...and struggling businesses. People in danger of losing their housing.
- Prayers of **Tiffani Jahn's brother, Todd Mackey**, who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- Prayers for **Gloria Dewey's sons, Rod, Randy and Rick Robertson**, and their families, at the death of their father, **John Robertson** last Wednesday. Also prayers for **John's wife, Judy**.
- **Mark Dunn, Megan Shull's uncle** hospitalized with COVID-19
- **Lea Hull** recovering from COVID-19.
- **Dale, Esther, Robyn Stiles** at the death of **Dale's sister, Nancy Shaw**.
- **Tiffani Jahn and family** at the death of **Tiffani's mother, Marcy**.
- **Beth Erickson's mother, Dorothy**, enduring added restrictions at her senior housing facility in North Bend, Oregon.
- **Leigh Dieckmann** who is having new health concerns.
- **Shirley Schroeder** recovering from a broken leg/hip.
- Prayers for **Jim and Mary Johnson** as Jim is dealing with tongue cancer. **Jim is the cousin of Susie Hardman's brother-in-law**.
- **Polly Swilley, Linda Tuman's cousin** who recently had her arm and shoulder removed.
- **Bill and Jan Powell's friends, Eric and Sean**, both dealing with cancer.
- Prayers for the healing of our country in this difficult post-election time.
- Our county's convalescent hospitals as they deal with COVID-19 outbreaks.
- Students and teachers, parents and grandparents dealing with online school.
- Our country's ongoing struggle with racism.
- Ongoing prayers for: the **Parker family, Shull family, Jeanelyse Doran, Joyce Henning, Roy Holmes, Deanna Hinkle, Leigh Dieckmann, Shirley Wilson, Donald Dunn, Ana Mangandi, Katharine (Patty Overfield's mother), Edith (Pam Prater's mother), Becky Holland, Flo Tinsley, Jenny Bietel**

2020 Christmas Offering
REJOICE
A special day offering of
Disciples Mission Fund

Christmas Special Offering will be collected on December 13th & 20th.

There are no special envelopes, so please write
"Christmas Special Offering" on your envelopes. Thank you!

Our gifts support the work of regional ministries this Christmas.

Our regional ministry works to:

- Connect congregations to each other
- Foster faith development
- Gather Disciples in camps, conferences, and assemblies
- Nurture the development of a new generation of pastors
- Assist churches in calling new ministers
- Interpret the global mission of the Church
- Represent the Church in ecumenical gatherings
- Counsel and pray with those who are troubled of spirit
- Lead the Church to address racism
- Inspire leaders to experiment and create
- Witness to the power of God to make things new

The *Christmas Special Day Offering* supports all of these and many other ministries of our region.