

CAPE COD COVENANT CHURCH

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 22, 2019

10:30AM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF PREPARATION

*Prepare the Way, O Zion!*

128

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE

May this Advent season, and its mighty message of love be with you all!

**And also with you!**

The prophet Isaiah declares;

*Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine...because you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you. Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel, which means "God is with us".*

**During this season of Advent we celebrate the promise that Christ who came to us at Bethlehem, will indeed come to us again in glory and power. Though we live in a world of darkness, we are people of the light.**

**For the light shines in the darkness. This is love.**

Like those before us, we lift up our voices, singing in expectant prayer:

*(piano introduction)*

**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.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things, far and nigh  
To us the path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**O come, Desire of nations, bind all people in one heart and mind  
Bid now our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

ADVENT PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**Lord Jesus, send now Your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who are anxious over many things look forward to the hope of Your presence coming among us. We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear Your voice of peace during these days of preparation. We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of Your kingdom. We whose hearts are heavy seek the love that You alone bring. We are Your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the long-awaited coming light. To You we say, "Come Lord Jesus! Come!" Amen.**

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

\*Doxology

48

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise him all creatures here below;**

**Praise him above ye heavn'ly host;**

**Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

THE CHRISTMAS STORY AS TOLD BY OUR CHILDREN

Sam Govoni, director

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay  
Be near me, Lord Jesus! I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care and fit us for heaven to live with thee there**

\*BENEDICTION

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

135

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free  
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our hope 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.  
Amen**

- For hearing enhancement devices or information on our T-Loop Hearing System, please visit our morning ushers.
- **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE USHERS.**
- Children are invited to visit our YOUNG READERS LENDING LIBRARY (shaped like a lighthouse and located next to the elevator in the narthex) to borrow an age-appropriate bible to read during the service
- Nursery care is available downstairs in our infant/toddler nursery



*Welcome! We are thrilled that you have chosen to join with us this morning as we worship our amazing God of grace and love. We hope that you will discover this to be a place where you can BELONG, BELIEVE and BECOME.*

*If you are here with us for the first time, please be sure to visit our church website, [www.capecodcovenantchurch.com](http://www.capecodcovenantchurch.com) for more information about our congregation, and our many ministry opportunities.*

Pastor:	Rev. Johnny Agurkis
Pastor Emeritus:	Rev. Thomas Nelson
Administrator:	Joan Thompson
Accompanist:	Sara Pattie
Custodian:	Bob Wilson



The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.  
For a child has been born – for us!  
The gift of a son – for us!

-from Isaiah 9 (The Message)