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***Central Woodward Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)***

3955 West Big Beaver Road Troy, Michigan 48084

***November 29, 2020***  
**First Sunday of Advent**

**The Church Gathers**

Prelude

Welcome

Pastor Bob

Opening Hymn: O Come, O Come Emmanuel 119 (vs. 1, 4)

1 O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

*Refrain:* 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. (Refrain)

**The Candle of Hope**

**Reader One:** Isaiah the Prophet cried out to God: "Tear open the heavens that separate us and come down, make the mountains quake and the nations tremble because you are here. Make your name known to all who are against you."

**Reader Two:** Isaiah continued: "You came before and did awesome deeds that we did not expect; you made our world shake at the sight of you. In all the history of the world, no ears have heard and no eyes have seen any God other than you."

**Reader One:** Then the Prophet Isaiah called God's people to do what was right and to allow God to re-fashion them in the manner of clay in the Potter- God's hands.

**Reader Two:** Today we light the first candle of advent and kindle it with hope. God, we long for you to come into our world, to break through and create a world of compassion, justice and peace. "We wait. And, Hope Lives!" (based on Isaiah 64:1-9)

(Reader Two lights one candle, as Reader One prays.)

**Reader One - Prayer:** *God of Hope, steadfast potter of creation, break through all that keeps us from you and reform us in your image. Make us strong to join you in your holy work, as friends of strangers and victims, companions of those whom others shun, and as the hope of those whose hearts are broken. As we wait through the advent season*

*for the child Jesus, let your star of hope visit us with your fire for justice, love, and peace. Amen*

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE: "When God is a Child"

132 (v. 1)

1 Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright.

*Refrain:* 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.

### **Sharing in God's Word**

Scripture

Isaiah 64:1-9

Pastor Bob

Sermon

Lord, Have Mercy

Pastor Bob

Hymn of Invitation

Change My Heart, O God

CP86

Change my heart, O God. Make it ever true. Change my heart, O God. May I be like you. You are the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray. (2x)

\*Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Bob

### **Giving and Receiving Gifts**

Hymn of Preparation

Blessed be the God of Israel

135 (vs. 1, 3)

1. Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free, who visits and redeems us, and grants us liberty. The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release; God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.

3. On all by death imprisoned the sun begins to rise, the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes, to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace; O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

Call to Stewardship

Pastor Rick

*Stewardship is an important part of Christian life; our financial offerings not only support the ministry of the church but serve as an expression of faith and trust in the God who provides. For in-person worship, please place your offerings in the baskets at the back of the church upon exiting. For those worshiping online, you may mail in your offerings or use our Givelify app, which you can find on the website.*

Call to Communion and Words of Institution

Pastor Rick

Prayer

Elder

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

**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 forever. Amen.**

Sharing of Bread and Cup:

*For in-person worship, you may use your own elements or the pre-packaged elements of bread and juice. If worshiping online, we invite you to participate using elements from home.*

Prayer after Communion

**O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

### **Going Forth in Ministry**

\*Closing Hymn: Joy to the World 143 (vs. 1)  
Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

\*Benediction Pastor Rick

Postlude

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**Patrick Kuhl**, Minister of Music  
**Rev. Rick Modglin-Green**, Associate Minister  
**Susan Menko**, Minister of Spiritual Formation  
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**We are an open and affirming congregation.**

<b><u>This Week at Central Woodward</u></b> For more calendar details, check centralwoodward.org/calendar.			<b><u>Prayer Requests</u></b> <b>Health, Healing &amp; Support:</b> Nancy Fisher, Dan Potter, Karin Diepholz, Susan Menko, Barbra Arnold, Christian Church Michigan Region  <b><i>CWCC provides a confidential prayer chain. Contact Marge at margeham@att.net or 586-799- 7360 for more information.</i></b>
Sun Nov 29	10:30a	Worship Service (Both in-person and online)	
Wed Dec 2	1:30p	Bible Study via Zoom	
Sun Dec 6	10:30a	Worship Service (Both in-person and online)	
Sun Dec 13	10:30a	Worship Service (Both in-person and online)	

### **Sunday Worship Schedule**

<b>Sunday, December 6</b> <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> Sermon: The Glory of God Is Revealed Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-11	<b>Sunday, December 13</b> <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> Sermon: For a Love of Justice Scripture: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

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