

## ***2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent***

**HYMN:** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verse 3)  
*Two purple candles are lit during the singing.*

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All: **Who made heaven and earth.**

**OPENING PRAYER:** Almighty and merciful God,  
Help us to root out sin in ourselves  
and prepare to receive you into our hearts at Christmas.  
Help us to root out evil in the world  
to prepare the way for your coming.  
**Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE:** Isaiah 40:3-5

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries out:

In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!

Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!

Every valley shall be filled in,

every mountain and hill shall be made low;

the rugged land shall be made a plain,

the rough country, a broad valley.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all people shall see it together;

for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

INTERCESSIONS:

Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again. Let us pray that we may be always ready to welcome him. Our response is “Come, Lord Jesus.”

That the Advent season may open our hearts to God's love and mercy, we pray to the Lord.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

That the light of Christ may penetrate the darkness of sin, we pray to the Lord.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

That those who are sick or lonely may know peace, we pray to the Lord.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

That this wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for the coming of Christ, we pray to the Lord.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

*(Other petitions may be offered here.)*

With longing for the coming of God's kingdom, let us offer our prayer to the Father:

All: **Our Father . . .**

Leader: May the light of Christ lead us to the joy of his kingdom, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

HYMN: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (verse 4)