



## December 6, 2020 Second Sunday of Advent

### Worship Participants

---

Assisting Minister: Pastor Lamont Koerner  
Preaching Today: Pastor Meredith McGrath  
Organist/Pianist: Brian Voss

“If it sounds too good to believe, it probably is,” is an expression you have doubtless heard many times. Ever just feel like laughing at the promises advertisers and politicians make? If so, then you know exactly how Sara felt when, at nearly 100 years old, some strangers promise that she is going to have a baby! She laughs at the absurdity of it all. It turns out God and Sara have the last laugh together. God announces the arrival of someone new! It seems laughable given her circumstance. Yet, it turns out nothing is too hard for God!

### Prelude

### Welcome/Announcements

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. Your prophets spoke of a day when the desert would blossom and waters would break forth in the wilderness. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Strengthen our hearts as we prepare for the coming of the Lord. May he give water to all who thirst, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever. **Amen.**

**Hymn:** *ELW 257 - O Come, O Come Emmanuel, vs 2*

### Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
whose forgiveness is sure  
and whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

Together let us honestly and humbly confess  
that we have not lived as God desires.

Loving and forgiving God,

**we confess that we are held captive by sin.**

**In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger;**

**we have not loved our neighbor;**

**we have not been Christ to one another.**

**Restore us, O God.**

**Wake us up and turn us from our sin.**

**Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

People of God, hear this glad news:  
by God's endless grace  
your sins are forgiven, and you are free—  
free from all that holds you back  
and free to live in the peaceable realm of God.  
May you be strengthened in God's love,  
☩ comforted by Christ's peace,  
and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Hymn:** *ELW 248 - People Look East, verses 1 & 4*

**Prayer of the Day**

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Reading:** Genesis 18:1-15

**Gospel:** Mark 10:17

**Sermon**

**Generosity Moment**

**Hymn:** *ELW 242- Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn, verses 1 & 3*

**Prayers of the People**

**Communion - Words of Institution**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Table Blessing/Prayer**

**Blessing and Sending**

**Postlude**

For readings, refer to your Bible or use an online Bible source, such as [Bible Gateway](#). [NOTE: The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) is used.]