

The comforting face of God

Focus: When we are most vulnerable, God comes to us through a voice offering comfort and direction. We reflect God's face as we heed the voice that unites righteousness and peace

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE AS CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY

Early Singing WB318 Joy to the world
 WB175 O Savior, rend the heavens
 WB172 O come, O come, Immanuel

Lighting of Advent Candles

Call to Worship

Leader: Fill your lungs with air, and lift up your voice with strength.

People: Good news is coming! God's love is being revealed.

Leader: Get up on a high mountain so you can see the big picture. Step out into the open plain so you can see all around.

People: The Lord comes, strong as one who levels hills and raises valleys, gentle as a shepherd who gathers the lambs.

Leader: Here is good news for all creation!

All: Love and faithfulness are embracing. Justice and peace are kissing each other. God's presence is among us today!

Opening Prayer

Gathering Song G250 Advent Gathering

Prayer of Confession

Song of Praise WB176 Comfort, comfort, O my people

HEARING GOD

Scripture reading Isaiah 40:1-11, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Children's Time

Scripture reading 2 Peter 3:8-15, Mark 1:1-8

Message The comforting face of God – Anne Munley

Response Song G252 My soul in stillness waits

MINISTERING TO ONE ANOTHER IN CHRIST-LIKE COMPASSION

Sharing and Prayers of the Congregation

Comforting God, we bring to you our concerns
Speak tenderly to us; speak to the fading and withered places;
Speak comfort to broken bodies, minds, and relationships.
We long to see valleys lifted up and mountains made low
So we may walk on straight paths,
Confident in your forgiveness,
And ready to hear your words of love and peace.

Comforting God, we bring to you our joys
We revel in the joy of your embrace.
When we see good things spring up from the ground, we say,
"Here is our God!"
When we hear voices of comfort and wisdom, we say,
"Here is our God!"
We live in thankfulness, knowing that you walk with us.

Ministry focus MCC Relief Kits

Offering

SENT OUT BY GOD IN CHRIST-LED COURAGE

Song of Sending WB178 Come, thou long-expected Jesus

Benediction

