BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
10:30 a.m. Sunday 6 December 2020
Second Sunday of Advent

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements

Greeting*:   A voice cries out:
    "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
    Make straight in the desert
    a highway for our God." *{Isaiah 40:3)*

Selected Carols

Opening Prayer*:
    Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets
     to preach repentance
     and prepare the way for our salvation.
    Give us grace to heed their warnings
     and forsake our sins,
    that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ,
     our Redeemer;
    who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
     one God, now and forever.   Amen.
        (The Book of Common Prayer, U.S.A., 20th cent., alt.)

Opening Hymn: 203   "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Lighting of the Advent Candles^: SECOND SUNDAY: Mark 1:4
    We light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way.
    May the Word sent from God through the prophets
     lead us to the way of salvation.
    O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Response: 2090 *(Verse 2 only)* "Light the Advent Candle"
   "Light the Advent candle, two/think of humble shepherds who

(2)

Filled with wonder at the sight/of the child of Christmas night.
Candle, candle, burning bright/shining in the cold winter night;
Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: 393   "Spirit of the Living God"

First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalter: *(Insert: Alternate leader and people)* Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Second Lesson: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

*Hymn of Preparation: 626 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

*Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:1-8

Sermon: *"A softer voice"*

Affirmation of Faith: "The Apostles' Creed, Traditional Version"
                                                    (Page 880)
Joys, Concerns, Prayers

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION (Page 12ff)

All are welcome.

SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn: 209 "Blest Be the God of Israel"

Blessing: 217   (*Verse 3 only)* "Away in a Manger"

Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude
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