



Advent – Christmas – Epiphany 2022-23

Restoration is Near

*Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born
#252 Voices Together*

Advent and Christmas are active seasons. God is active, being born in human likeness. There is action in the stories surrounding Jesus' birth: angel visits, travel, pilgrimage, and escape. We long for, seek, and watch for restoration to take place among us. We join in the restoration process with all creation.

Restoration lends itself to many images: an old building once again hosting life, our bodies when we heal, our communities managing conflict well and promoting justice. Restoration can happen in relationships between people, and between us and God. Restoration is a process, happening over time, weaving together God's action and our action. Join in worship with the theme: Restoration is Near.

The children's story features a shepherd's memories and point of view, continuing from one Sunday to the next. Join in Advent pre-worship singing 9:35-9:45 am.

November 27 – ADVENT 1 Watch: The day is almost here

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44
Where is our community longing for restoration?

December 4 – ADVENT 2 Prepare the way of the Lord

Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13;
Matthew 3:1-12 What do you need to clean or discard as you prepare for this different kind of leader?

December 11 – ADVENT 3 Tell what you hear and see

Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11
What stories do you have to share to encourage our community of faith?

December 18 – ADVENT 4 Do not be afraid

BMC Jr Sunday School shares in worship service

BMC Band in worship service

Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7;
Matthew 1:18-25

Where do you see echoes of Mary and Joseph's courage?

December 21 – The Longest Night

Psalm 28:7-8; Luke 1:41-45

Creator of Holy Peace, as the days of December continue to shorten we yearn for the light of Christ. May our hearts be open to the glory that is to be revealed as the Christ light permeates the dimmed parts of our souls, heavy with loneliness and sadness. Reveal to us your Advent love. Amen.

December 24 – Christmas Eve 7:00 pm

Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 96; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:1-20

BMC Choir, Lessons, Carols, and Children's Story.

Imagine joy to world, all the earth joining in praise of God!

December 25 – Shout for joy: Your God reigns

Christmas Day Worship Service Pre-Recorded Online

Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:14; John 1:1-14

How is God's Spirit empowering you to bring about restoration?

January 1 – God comes to us in all our distress

Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23

Christ has brought restoration and the world still cries out to be restored. Where do you see this around you and within you?

January 8, 2023 – Epiphany

The wisdom of God is made known

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12;

Matthew 2:1-12

Where do you see God's restoration taking place?