

# Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy 2020

BY DEREK WEBER, ADAPTED

WEEK TWO

**ADVENT WREATH:** Isaiah 40:1-5

Nancy Ferguson  
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*"Comfort, comfort My people," says your God.*

<sup>2</sup> *"Speak [<sup>a</sup>]kindly to Jerusalem;*

*And call out to her, that her warfare has ended, That her<sup>l</sup>guilt has been removed,  
That she has received of the LORD's hand Double for all her sins."*

<sup>3</sup> *The voice of one calling out,*

*"Clear the way for the LORD in the wilderness;*

*Make [<sup>d</sup>]straight in the desert a highway for our God.*

<sup>4</sup> *Let every valley be lifted up, And every mountain and hill be made low;  
And let the uneven ground become a plain, And the rugged terrain a broad valley;*

<sup>5</sup> [<sup>e</sup>]*Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed,*

*And all flesh will see it together;*

*For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."*

**Reader One:** Our lists are long, even in this strange mess where we live these days. And we want to do it right, we want to be safe, but we want to be able to enjoy the season. We've got work to do to put right what has gone wrong, to heal what is broken, to mend the relationships, and to prepare for the company that will come.

**Reader Two:** The prophet Isaiah reminded us that there is work to be done. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." When God comes in, then healing is to be found, but we need to make the way; we need to open the door into our lives.

**Reader One:** So, we light these candles as a sign of our faith that the God we worship is not far from us and that we can clear the way for that God to come and dwell with us. We light these candles in faith that company is coming.

**Reader Two:** O Come, O Come Emmanuel. Please join in singing the sung response:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

(Refrain to O Come, O Come, Emmanuel)