



**MILWAUKEE MENNONITE CHURCH**  
**A Congregation of Mennonite Church USA**

**December 4, 2022**

**Second**  
*Sunday of Advent*

**Focus:**

*In a world where power holds sway, Jesus will judge differently. We are called to prepare the way for this new kind of ruler. This calls for repentance and truth-telling.*

**Context Question:**

*What do you need to clean or discard as you prepare for this different kind of king?*

**Announcements/Prelude/Welcome**

**Song VT 227** *Here I am to worship*

**Call to Worship**

Leader: A branch shall come forth from the stump of Jesse; its root shall bear fruit.

**People:** May we be ready, O Lord, ready to be fruit bearers of your harvest, bringing forth the fruit of dwelling, longing, unity, and peace.

Leader: Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us.

**People:** Renew our spirit, stand as a banner before us, bright as morning glory.

Leader: Prepare the way for new life that emerges in and through you, life that ripples out to your people, into all nations.

**All:** *In you there is glorious rest.*

**Song: VT 219** *Prepare Ye the way of the Lord*

**Candle-lighting liturgy**

Leader: John the Baptist proclaimed, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

**People:** Prepare the way of the Lord, make God's paths straight.

Leader: As we prepare, we light this candle as a sign of peace.

**People:** Bring your restoration to your people, we pray.

**Scripture:** Psalm 72:1-7 and Matthew 3:1-12

**Reflection:** Rachel and Peter ES

**Song VT 216** *Lo, how a rose e'er blooming*

**Responding**

**Prayers of the people**

**Closing Song VT 275** *O Beautiful Star (Vs 1,2)*

**Benediction**

**Postlude:**

**Next Week -December 11, 2022**

**Tech:** TBD

**Greeter:** Mandy

**Worship:** Lori

**Reflection:** Amy

**An Ecological Lord's Prayer**

Our nurturing God, present in the entire cosmos,  
Blessed are your names: Life and Love.

May your way of love and your desire for life  
be available to all creatures: all lands, all waters,  
and skies. Provide for us all that we need for life,  
through healthy soil and water, abundant gardens,  
food forests, and regenerative agriculture.

Forgive us when we exploit the earth, over-fish the  
seas, pollute the skies, and generally overstep  
healthy boundaries with our neighbours.

Move us into living a way of peace that heals  
the heart of all creation and repairs the fabric of life.

Lead us away from greedy ways: lives of  
consumerism and excess, and deliver us from  
apathy and inaction. For we want to be faithful to  
your vision of a life of kinship, reconciliation, and  
love. Today and each new day, amen.

- Wendy Janzen