

Monte Vista Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
3501 Campus Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87106

Live-streamed to our VistaStream YouTube channel
(<https://www.montevista.org/vistastream>)

Third Sunday of Advent

What Do You Fear? Insisting on Hope This Advent
Even in Our Fear, We Are Called Forward

December 14, 2025
10:30am MT

Order of Worship

Welcome Pastor Dave

Prelude *Los Pastores a Belén* (Trad. Spanish folk song, 1612) Música del Aire
Los Peces en el Río (Trad. Spanish folk song)

*Candle Lighting Gregg Rothrock's Care Group

Leader: In a world full of fear, where do you see glimmers of joy?

All: We see glimmers of joy in birthday candles and homemade cards. We see joy in the laughter of children and the delight of grandparents. We see joy in meals around the table and in the singing of Christmas songs.

Leader: You are right. Even in a fearful world, joy is all around us. Today we light the candle of joy as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, joy is here. Joy is real. We only have to look for it.

Light candle

All: Thanks be to God for that good news! Amen.

*Opening Hymn *O Come, Take Heart* (vv 1, 3)

*Opening Prayer Ken O'Rourke

Holy One, the story of this season is not a new one. We've heard this tale before. We've seen the nativities, watched the plays, sung the songs, witnessed the children act it out. The story of this season is not a new one, and yet we long to hear it as if it is. So spark our spirits awake. Call forth awareness, attention, and reverence in us. Allow us to hear this ancient tale with brand new ears. With hope we pray, amen.

First Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-39

Ken

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her. In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country.

One: A word from God for the people of God.

Many: Thanks be to God.

(Please share your prayer concerns & joys with us at office@montevista.org.)

Prayer Hymn

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

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Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Pastor Dave

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Holy One, our Mother and Father, let your name be revered. Let your kin-dom come, let your will be done on earth as it is in the heavens. Give us today the bread we need for today. And forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

Special Music

A Joyful Song

Vista Voices

by Mary Lynn Lightfoot

Second Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Pastor Dave

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy,' for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord." Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you

over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

One: A word from God for the people of God.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Even in Our Fear, We Are Called Forward* Pastor Dave

Special Music *Ding Dong Merrily on High* Bells Quartet
arr. by Benjamin Roundtree

Sharing in Communion and Stewardship

Invitation to the Table Gerri Warner

(Your tithes & offerings can be given via online donations on [our website](#),
on the [Givelify app](#), or by mailing your check to the church office. Thank you.)

*Communion Hymn *We’ve Seen God’s Face*

Words of Institution Pastor Dave

Prayers for the Bread and Cup Gerri

Receiving Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving Pastor Dave

Invitation to the Community of MVCC Pastor Dave

*Closing Hymn *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* 5

*Announcements Pastor Dave

*Benediction Pastor Dave

Postlude *El Burrito Sabanero* Música del Aire
Venezuelan folk song by Hugo Blanco

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Música del Aire: José Apodaca, Cynthia Wooley, Pilar Juarrieta, Scott Mathis, Barbara Rivers,  
and Linda Askew

Bells Quartet: Lauri Rigler, Laurel Deming, Travis Rourk, Lois Cook

Ken O’Rourke, Worship Leader

Paulette McClellan, Organist/Pianist

Wally Miller, Sound

Rev. Dave McVey, Interim Minister, Preaching & Presiding



The Third Sunday of Advent | What do you fear?  
**EVEN IN OUR FEAR, WE ARE CALLED FORWARD**

# O Come, Take Heart

VENI EMMANUEL 8.8.8.8 with refrain

Words by Anna Strickland, 2025

Plainsong adapted by Thomas Helmore, 1854

O come, O come though tim - id and un - sure And trust that God de - clares your worth  
O come, O come though you feel un - pre - pared When cour - age fails you, do it scared  
O come and join God's kin - dom work And be God's hands and feet on earth

8

Re - mem - ber when you're feel - ing small That ev - ery child of God is called  
Don't let the fear of ma - king mis - takes Im - pede you from the path you're called to take  
You're called ex - act - ly as you are To love the world with ev - ery bro - ken part

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Take heart! Take heart! The One who calls to you Will give you strength and see you through

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## Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

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1. Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem  
2. I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have

hath sprung, of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing by  
in mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the

faith - ful proph - ets sung; it came a flow'r-et bright,  
vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right

a - mid the cold of win - ter when half spent was the night.  
she bore to us a Sav - ior when half spent was the night.



Epiphany | What do you fear?  
FEAR DOESN'T STOP US

# We've Seen God's Face

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY 8.7.8.7.8.7.7

Words by Anna Strickland, 2025

Traditional Polish carol

Like the ma - gi from the east we tra - vel in - to the un - known  
If we find our path has led us to King Her - od's den of fear  
We will trust that star to guide us to the place where we were called  
When new threats de - rail our jour - ney from the path we planned to take

5  
Step by step - we make the jour - ney, called - by God - to seek the - throne  
Still we'll keep our fo - cus fixed on chas - ing down - that star so clear  
Find - ing God em - bod - ied in the humb - lest dwell - ing place of all  
We won't let fear - par - a - lyze - us, no we won't stay locked in place

10  
O - ver moun - tains, through the des - erts Seek - ing Christ we fol - low e - ver  
Though the ty - rants rage and threat - en Noth - ing weak - ens our pro - fess - ion  
As King Her - od sends his sol - diers Time stands still while we be - hold him  
Stay - ing nim - ble, we'll move for - ward Keep - ing safe by cross - ing bor - ders

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## We've Seen God's Face

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The musical score is written for a piano and voice. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

'Til at last we reach the place Where we hope to see God's face  
It is God's voice we have heard Fear will not have the last word  
Here's where we were called to be God's in - car - nate love to see  
Move a - round the fear with grace For we know we've seen God's face

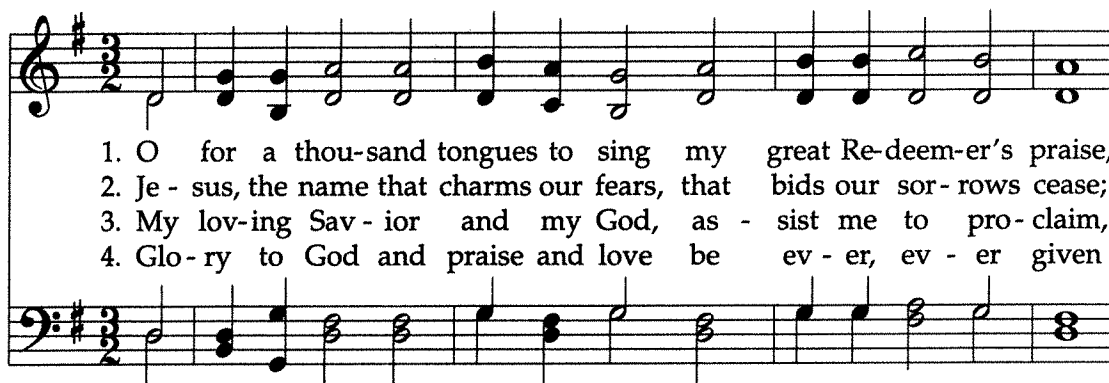
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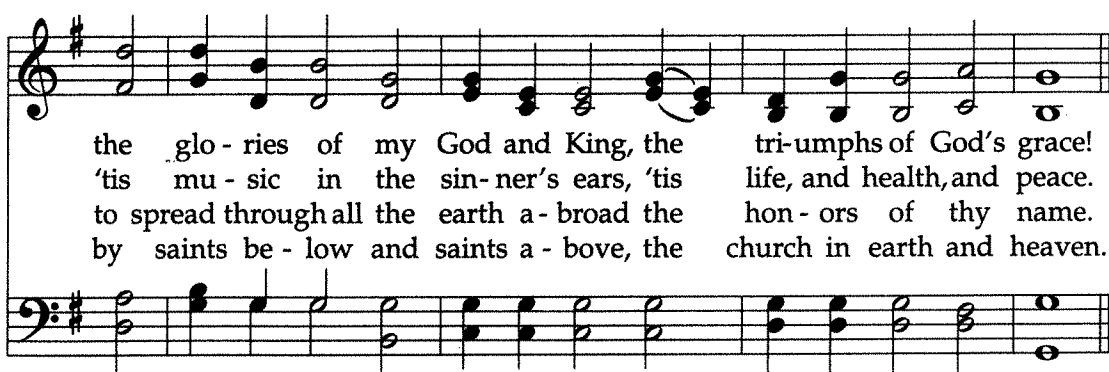
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# O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

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1. O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,  
2. Je - sus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease;  
3. My lov-ing Sav - ior and my God, as - sist me to pro-claim,  
4. Glo-ry to God and praise and love be ev - er, ev - er given



the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of God's grace!  
'tis mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.  
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy name.  
by saints be - low and saints a - bove, the church in earth and heaven.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.  
MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

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