FIRST CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
NORTH ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS  

9:30 AM. December 20, 2020

“When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.” Isaiah 64:3

CALL TO WORSHIP: You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Come, let us worship God.

LIGHTING FOUR ADVENT CANDLES

INVOCATION: Covenant God, you heard your people yearning for a Savior. Thank you for sending your Son so long ago. We now rehearse your promise that Christ will come again, that death and suffering will end and every tear will be wiped away. Come, Lord Jesus, come. As you fulfilled Israel’s hopes long ago, so we long for all these promises to be fulfilled, even as we remember the prayer you taught us when you said, “Our Father….”

ACT OF PRAISE: Psalm 89:1-18
1 I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;  
   with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.
2 I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;  
   your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.
3 You said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David:
4 ‘I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations.’”
5 Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.
6 For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD?  
   Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD,
7 a God feared in the council of the holy ones, great and awesome above all that are around him?
8 O LORD God of hosts, who is as mighty as you, O LORD? Your faithfulness surrounds you.
9 You rule the raging of the sea; when its waves rise, you still them.
10 You crushed Rahab like a carcass; you scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.
11 The heavens are yours, the earth also is yours;  
   the world and all that is in it—you have founded them.
12 The north and the south[c]—you created them; Tabor and Hermon joyously praise your name.
13 You have a mighty arm, strong is your hand, high your right hand.
14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;  
   steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.
15 Happy are the people who know the festal shout,  
   who walk, O LORD, in the light of your countenance;
16 they exult in your name all day long, and extol[d] your righteousness.
17 For you are the glory of their strength; by your favor our horn is exalted.
18 For our shield belongs to the LORD, our king to the Holy One of Israel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Isaiah 64:1-8
1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
   2 [a] as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. 
5 You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.[b]
6 We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
7 There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered[c] us into the hand of our iniquity.
8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

MESSAGE: Something’s About to Happen

CLOSING PRAYER: God the Father, who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son, give you grace to prepare for eternal life. God the Son, who comes to us as Redeemer and Judge, reveal to you the path from darkness to light. God the Holy Spirit, by whose working the virgin Mary conceived the Christ, help you bear the fruits of holiness. Amen.