

THE LIVING ROOM
COMMUNITY CHURCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2021

HOPE IS ON THE WAY (PART 1 PREPARE THE WAY)

Matt Seadore

(Isaiah 40:1-5; John 1:19-23; John 1:23-34; Matthew 5:4;
Matthew 11:28-30; John 16:31-33; Mark 10:13-16;
Romans 6:8-10; Mark 11:15-17; Jeremiah 7:2-11)

Isaiah 40:1-5

*“Comfort, comfort my people,
says your God.
² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and proclaim to her
that her hard service has been
completed,
that her sin has been paid for,
that she has received from the Lord’s
hand
double for all her sins.
³ A voice of one calling:
‘In the wilderness prepare
the way for the Lord;
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.
⁴ Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become
level,
the rugged places a plain.
⁵ And the glory of the Lord will be
revealed,
and all people will see it together.
For the mouth of the Lord has
spoken.”*

John 1:19-23

*“¹⁹ Now this was John’s testimony
when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem
sent priests and Levites to ask him
who he was. ²⁰ He did not fail to
confess, but confessed freely, ‘I am
not the Messiah.’
²¹ They asked him, ‘Then who are you?
Are you Elijah?’
He said, ‘I am not.’
‘Are you the Prophet?’
He answered, ‘No.’
²² Finally they said, ‘Who are you? Give
us an answer to take back to those
who sent us. What do you say about
yourself?’
²³ John replied in the words of Isaiah
the prophet, ‘I am the voice of one
calling in the wilderness, “Make
straight the way for the Lord.”’”*

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Two key themes:

1. Advent is about hopeful anticipation
2. Advent is about humility and introspection

Jesus speaks _____ to his people.

Jesus _____ and _____ with tenderness.

Jesus took care of the _____ of _____.

Jesus came to reveal the _____ for all people.

Four questions to sit with today

1. Are you a person who brings comfort?
2. Are you a person who speaks with tenderness to those whom society regularly overlooks?
3. Are you a person who is a winsome witness pointing to the work of Jesus in your own life?
4. Do you live in a way that offers hospitality and welcome to all people?