

December 16 to 22

Women's Work

**A voice is crying out: Clear the LORD's way in the desert! Make a level highway in the wilderness for our God! Here is the LORD God, coming with strength, with a triumphant arm.**  
(Isaiah 40:3+10 CEB)

### Listen up!

In all the stress and busy-ness of Advent, a voice is calling: "Clear the Lord's way". Can we still perceive this voice amid the hubbub and clamour of everyday life? Do we register the call despite the constant background of noise from the radio, the television or our own player in our ears?

Clear the path! Make room! Make way! He is coming in the midst of our everyday chaos, the mountains of washing, all the preparations and shopping that we still want to get done. Clear the way. Well, this definitely doesn't refer to busy preparations to receive a beloved guest. Nor does it mean popping out to give the road a quick sweep. No, we should prepare our hearts and minds for the Coming of the Lord. Preferably in a quiet place, in peace and serenity. Taking

a pause, having a think, being quite alone and with myself, hearing, listening.

Now God comes. He comes with strength. No-one can stop him. Come! Many songs in our hymnal reflect our longing. Come! - and not just in Advent.

Whether in peace and quiet or at the heart of our busy everyday lives, in joy and sorrow, crazy ideas or joyful events: God comes. He reigns. He wants to fill our minds with good, forward-looking thoughts. The Lord God is coming with strength.

*Christina Posdlich*

Contact: christina.posdlich@emk.de  
Translation: Jacqueline Rohmann

### Let's be guided

We can be guided in our prayers by the words of some of our hymns, such as No. 330 "Come in our proud world" in the German Methodist Hymnal, written by Hans Lehndorff:  
Come in our proud world, / Lord, court us with your love. / Overcome power and money, / don't let the peoples go to waste. / Turn hatred and enmity / to the path of peace.  
Come in our rich country, ... in our loud city, ... in our fortified home, ... in our dark heart ...

### I pray

- for men and women facing particular burdens in their lives.
- for living together successfully in families and churches.
- for acceptance and tolerance among people.
- for feasible ways of taking decisions at the extraordinary General Conference next February.
- for the unity of our global church.
- for justice in peace in the smaller and larger context.

### Women's Work

Women's Work in the Methodist Church wants to encourage women to shape their lives out of the fullness of God. Among others, by stimulating personal faith and spiritual life in our churches, helping women to find their identity as people loved by God, helping them to positively shape their interpersonal relationships.

### Contact:

EmK Women's Work  
Giebelstraße 16  
70499 Stuttgart

Phone: 0711 8600670  
E-Mail: geschaeftsstelle@emk-frauen.de  
Web: www.emk-frauen.de