



Sunday, December 13, 2020

Welcome!

We are thankful that you are worshiping with us today! To learn more about the life of our congregation, join our email list [here](#).

Here are some helpful resources for our younger worshippers:

[This Week's Children's Bulletin](#) | [Worship Worksheet for Kids](#)

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The Third Sunday in Advent: Gaudete (Joy) Sunday

10:30 A.M.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Overture from *Messiah*

G. F. Handel

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*Isaiah 61*)

The spirit of the Lord is upon us
Because the Lord has anointed us;

**He has sent us to bring good news to the oppressed,
To bind up the brokenhearted.**

We will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
Our whole beings will exult in our God
**The Lord has done great things for us
Let us rejoice in the Lord.**

*OPENING PRAYER

Most sovereign and loving God, we come into your presence today seeking the joy of this season. In this time of worship, let our hearts, souls and, minds open to the possibility that you are coming once again to fill us with joy. We give you thanks this day and praise.

*HYMN 99

My Soul Gives Glory to My God

MORNING SONG

1. My soul gives glory to my God; my heart pours out its praise.
God lifted up my lowliness in many marvelous ways

2. My God has done great things for me: yes, holy is God's name.
All people will declare me blessed, and blessings they shall claim.
3. From age to age to all who fear, such mercy love imparts,
Dispensing justice far and near, dismissing selfish hearts.
4. Love casts the mighty from their thrones, promotes the insecure,
Leaves hungry spirits satisfied; the rich seem suddenly poor.
5. Praise God, whose loving covenant supports those in distress,
Remembering past promises with present faithfulness.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Leader: May God be with you in worship there.

Congregation: **May God be with you in worship there.**

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

We come into your presence this morning often critical of the shortcomings of others, but deeply aware of our own. Humbly we ask to be reconciled to you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Restore us, O God of hosts.
Let your face shine on us that we may be saved.
Save us, O Lord from the traps of our own creating
From fear that blocks the way of love,
From worry that blocks the way of joy,
From structural injustices that keep the world bound.
Forgive us, O God.
By your grace, free us to try again.**

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We thank you, God that you have loved us, in spite of our failure to live out what you have made us to be. We thank you, that through Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

GLORIA PATRI

GREATOREX

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (91)

COME EMMANUEL

*Come, come Emmanuel, Come Emmanuel.
Come, come Emmanuel, Come Emmanuel*

THE WORD

The readings are all taken from the lectionary for this Sunday. Music is from Handel's *Messiah*.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE & MUSICAL RESPONSES

Isaiah 61:1-4

Comfort Ye

Dakota DeGraw, tenor

Isaiah 9: 2, 6

The People Who Walked in Darkness

Patrick Ritsch, baritone

John 1:6-8

The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

And the Glory of the Lord

Isaiah 61:8-9

But Who May Abide the Day of His Coming

Patrick Ritsch, baritone

Isaiah 61: 10-11

Rejoice Greatly

Shelby Ratliff, soprano

THE EUCHARIST

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

adapted from the Confession of 1967

**Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus.
He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel,
The beginning of a new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity.
He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant
For the reconciliation of the world.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

“Pifa” (Pastoral Symphony) from *Messiah*

G.F. Handel

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of wondrous grace, we thank you for making room for all of your children at this table. Let it continually remind us of the sacrifice and persistent love you give us all. And may we embody that love and joy to those who sit beside us at this table. We give you thanks. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth, the savior reign! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, and wonders of his love.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely, and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. "May we go out in joy and be led forth in peace; may the mountains and the hills break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field clap their hands. Go with joy to serve the Lord.

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

MUSICIANS

Dennis Jewett, Director of Music

Patrick Ritsch, Organist

Aryanne Brailsford

Dakota DeGraw

Shelby Ratliff

Kerry Showers

Nadia Wilkes

Tyler Simpson, piano

ASSISTING

Stephanie Dube, Director of Youth Ministries & Weekday School

Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education and Mission



Advent Vespers

including the lighting of the Advent wreath

Tonight at 5:00pm

Outdoors at the church and on Facebook Live