



CLASSIC SERVICE

NOVEMBER 27, 2022 • 8:30 AM • FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Welcome! We're excited you're here. In our service, we gather before Almighty God to offer Him our worship and praise. We come together to be strengthened through the study of God's Word and empowered to live as His witnesses.

Families, if you brought your children with you today, we want you to know that the spiritual well-being of your child is very important to us. Many families wish to teach and encourage their younger child(ren) to be in church and get what they can out of it. If you feel that you need to take your child out for whatever reason; there is a cry room near the back of the sanctuary and a restroom with a baby changing station is located by the elevator (to the left as you exit the sanctuary). **Guests**, we welcome you. If you will, please help us to get to know you by filling out the Guest side of the Welcome Card found in the pews/ chair backs and place it in the offering plates.

As We Gather *And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. (Genesis 12:2)* In this first service in our Be Born in Us Today series for Advent, we recall that God promised Abraham that an offspring from his line would bring blessing to all. That offspring was Jesus. And he is born in us today.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING/ WELCOME

Advent Promise: Hope, Skit Guys

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

L In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING HYMN

341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the
 2 A righ - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot
 3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where Christ the
 King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing
 is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -
 rul - er is con - fessed! O peace - ful hearts and hap - py
 near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -
 ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of
 homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes! The cloud - less
 va - tion He doth bring; There - fore re - joice and glad - ly sing.
 all our woe He brings; There - fore the earth is glad and sings.
 sun of joy is He Who comes to set His peo - ple free.
 To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.
 To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.
 To God the Spir - it raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.

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OPENING SENTENCES

- L We light the first candle on the Advent wreath as we rejoice in the blessings that have come to us through the birth of Jesus Christ. God told Abraham that through one of his descendants "all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (*Gen. 12:3*).
- C Holy Child of Bethlehem, You were born among us to live and die and rise in fulfillment of God's promise.**
- L The promised descendant of Abraham, Jesus, is a blessing for all people who trust in him for salvation. "So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith" (*Gal. 3:7-8*).
- C Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. Through faith in Your name, we have the blessings of forgiveness and salvation!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(Silence for personal confession and prayer)

- L Let us confess our sins to God and ask His forgiveness.
- C Lord God, we are blessed with Your love and salvation, but we do not always live as Your people. We turn away from Your Word and ways to follow our own selfish desires. We listen to the temptations of the world around us. We do not share with others the blessings we have received. Have mercy on us and forgive us.**
- L God has had mercy on us. He sent His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the blessing for the nations, to atone for the sins of the world. As a fellow servant of Christ, I remind you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen. "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered" (Rom. 4:7).**

GREETING

HYMN OF PREPARATION

341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

- 5 Redeemer, come and open wide; My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
O enter with Thy grace divine; Thy face of mercy on me shine.
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on, Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame, We offer to Thy name.

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SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

- L The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.**
- L Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and be saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.**

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Genesis 12:1-9
(The call of Abraham.)*

12 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." ⁴ So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵ And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land

OLD TESTAMENT READING *(cont.)*

of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶ Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷ Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸ From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. ⁹ And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years, Are met in thee tonight.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary, And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep, Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together, Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king; And peace to all the earth!
- 3 How silently, how silently; The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts, The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming; But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still; The dear Christ enters in.
- 4 O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels, The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!

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EPISTLE

Romans 4:1-8

(Abraham Justified by Faith.)

4 What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." ⁴ Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵ And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶ just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: ⁷ "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; ⁸ blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

VERSE

Luke 1:46-47, 54-55

L Alleluia. And Mary said,

Women: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."

Men: "He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,

C As He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever." Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-56
(The Magnificat.)

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁹ In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰ and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴² and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." ⁴⁶ And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; ⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; ⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever." ⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

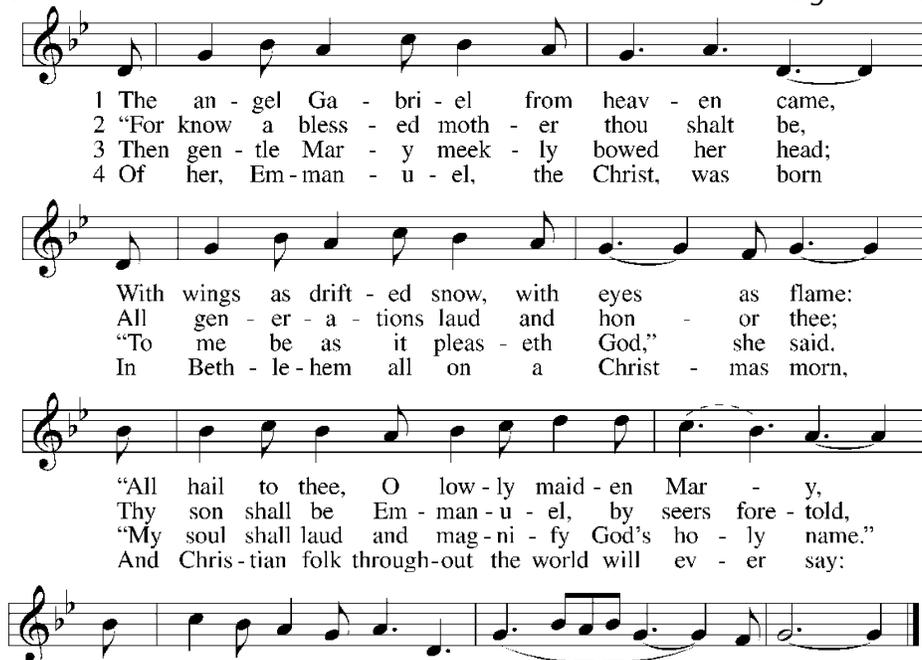
L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Be Seated – Children are dismissed for Children's Church (CC).

MESSAGE HYMN

356 *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:

Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!

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MESSAGE

Please Stand

CREED

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING *(Thanks for your ongoing stewardship and support of God's mission here! Children return from CC.)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Prayer response after each petition...)*

L Holy Child of Bethlehem,

C Be born in us today.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

BENEDICTION

Luke 1:46-48; Numbers 6:24-26

L "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

**C For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name."**

L "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

350 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

1 Come, Thou precious Ransom, come, Only hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world! Open are to Thee all portals.
Come, Thy beauty let us see; Anxiously we wait for Thee.

2 Enter now my waiting heart, Glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart, Though I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine; When Thou art my guest divine!

3 My hosannas and my palms, Graciously receive, I pray Thee;
Evermore, as best I can, Savior, I will homage pay Thee,
And in faith I will embrace, Lord, Thy merit through Thy grace.

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DISMISSAL

O Lord Jesus, be born in us today... bringing blessing

A HUGE "Thank you" to those that served to make worship happen (virtual and in-person) today...

Pastor	Rev. Jason Hoerth	Reader	Todd Thorbahn
Message	Chris Graves, DCE	Organist	Carol Trumbo
Children's Message	Hailey Tanczer	Acolyte	Izzy Varney
Elder	Paul Tomes		

Acknowledgments

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