

### For Prayer & Contemplation

Why is this? Because God is now on earth, and man in heaven; on every side all things commingle. He has come on earth, while being fully in heaven; and while complete in heaven, he is without diminution on earth. Though he was God, he became man, not denying himself to be God. Though being the unchanging Word, he became flesh that he might dwell among us.

- St. John Chrysostom

### Welcome & Sharing Information

Prelude "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" - arr. Fedak

Lighting the Advent Wreath (Mia Reich & Margaret Ginter)

**All: Come to us, Lord, Be with us this night, as light breaks forth in the darkest hour, as hope, peace, joy, and love are born anew. Transform us with your presence, revealing your glory, that we may leave here singing with choirs of angels, proclaiming the good news of Immanuel: God is with us**

One: Jesus proclaimed to us: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

\*Hymn No. 133 "O Come All Ye Faithful"

### Prayer of Confession

Holy Jesus, you are the King of Kings,  
but you came down to earth humbly.  
Born to lowly Mary,  
you were welcomed by poor shepherds,  
a manger for your throne.

But we lift ourselves up,  
building thrones for ourselves,  
out of what we can own and control.  
We seek our own advancement,  
at the expense of our hearts.

Forgive us, Lord. Remind us again that the last shall be first, and to love is to sacrifice. Draw us into your fold, so that we might again know the freedom and peace of trust in you.

### Moment of Silence

### Words of Assurance

One: Rejoice! The time is here! Love is born anew this night, and God's promise of redemption is fulfilled. Trust in Christ the Lord, who forgives our sins.

**All: Glory to God in the Highest! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

\*Hymn No. 581 "Glory Be to the Father"

**"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 Peace

One: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also, with you.**

Anthem "On Christmas Night" (Sussex Carol) - arr. Manz  
Sanctuary Choir

### Scripture

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: *Isaiah 9: 2-7*  
Old Testament PG 638 Large Print 780-781

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: *Luke 2: 41-52*  
New Testament PG 59, Large Print 72

Sermon "Union" - Rev. Drew Harrison

\*Affirmation of Faith (Westminster Catechism)

One: How did Christ humble himself in his conception and birth?

**All: Christ humbled himself in his conception and birth, in that, being from all eternity the Son of God in the bosom of the Father, he was pleased in the fullness of time to become the Son of man, made of a woman of low estate, and to be born to her, with diverse circumstances of more than ordinary abasement.**

\*Hymn No. 140 "Once In Royal David's City"

### Invitation to Offering

### Offertory

\*Doxology No. 606 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

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

\*Unison Prayer of Dedication

It is humbling, Lord, that you trust us enough to depend on our gifts to build your Kingdom. May we live up to the responsibility you have given us, giving glory to you with all our gifts. Amen

### Invitation to Communion

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also, with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise to God.**

Pastor: It is right and a good and joyful thing... therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

### The Prayers of the People

*Gertrude Monaghan, the family of Margaret Fortney, Mavis Finch, Dan, Cindy, Jason, Tina, Joan Wagner, Nic Albadine, Erin Fitzpatrick, Meg Yanefski, Sara Crispin, Jim Taylor, David, William Loeb, Rachael Lodholz, Aaron Hill, Douglas Hoffman, Jason Bell, Jack Van Ens, Greer and Graham, Marta, The family of Dot Clay, Rev. Bruce Gillette, Bonnie MacGibeny, Harrison Gianfortune, Jane Sheridan, Family of Bill Herzer, Nick, Sandra, John Polhamus, Maureen St. John, Roxanne Somers*

### 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.**

Words of Institution Rev. Drew Harrison

### Prayer after Communion

O God, you have so greatly loved us,  
long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us.  
Give us grace, that in everything we may yield ourselves,  
our wills, and our works, a continual thank offering to you,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### \*Benediction

\*Benediction Hymn No. 122 "Silent Night"

Postlude "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" - arr. Guilmant

\*\*\*\*\* *Please stand as you are able.* \*\*\*\*\*

*Thank you to our Worship Servers*

<b>Advent Wreath</b>	Mia Reich &
<b>Lighters</b>	Margaret Ginter
<b>Liturgist</b>	Renee Sheridan



*Music Notes*

Today's prelude is Alfred Fedak's 1989 setting of "Von Himmel Hoch," Martin Luther's 1535 Christmas Eve hymn written for his children. The postlude is taken from a set of variations by Alexander Guilmant (1837-1911), based on a Polish carol. We thank the Sanctuary Choir for sharing special music with us this evening.

*Worship on Sunday, December 25th will be a casual PJ service. Merry Christmas and God bless you!*

<i>This Week's Calendar</i> December 24-31	
<i>Saturday</i> December 24	<b>Christmas Eve</b> 7 PM Christmas Pageant – Sanctuary 11 PM Candlelight Worship Service Sanctuary/Livestreaming
<i>Sunday</i> December 25	<b>10 AM</b> Casual PJ Worship Service Sanctuary
<i>Monday</i> December 26	Worship Meeting 6pm
<i>Tuesday</i> December 27	Girl Scouts 6:30pm
<i>Wednesday</i> December 28	Sparrow Chorale 6:30pm
<i>Thursday</i> December 29	Sanctuary Choir 8pm
<i>Friday</i> December 30	
<i>Saturday</i> December 31	New Year's Eve
<i>Sunday</i> January 1	Deacons Meeting 8:30am, <b>10 AM</b> Worship Service Sanctuary/Livestreaming

*Birthday Blessings*



<i>This Week's Birthdays</i>	
<b>December 24</b>	David Owens
<b>December 27</b>	Mildred Haines
<b>December 27</b>	Marilyn Rabbai
<b>December 29</b>	Carol Schoepske
<b>January 1</b>	John Donofrio
<b>January 1</b>	Emily Owens

*"God's Open House"*



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*11 PM Worship Service*  
*December 24, 2022*  
*Candlelight Christmas Eve*  
*Rev. Drew Harrison*