

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS (for drop-in visits are):*

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)

She is available by cellphone anytime (682-227-4263).

### *SESSION CHRISTMAS DINNER MEETING*

Session will meet at the home of Mary Lou Griffith this afternoon at 5:30 p.m. for a brief meeting and dinner.

### *ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING*

Our Congregational meeting, which was canceled last Sunday due to pastor sickness, has been rescheduled to next Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> immediately after service. We will elect new officers.

#### HOW WE ARE DOING

General Contributions 12/4/2022 Giving:	\$ <u>0.00</u>	(No service)	Monthly Budget: \$ <u>12,500.00</u>
Total Month Giving:	\$ <u>0.00</u>		Yearly Budget: \$ <u>150,000.00</u>
Total Year Giving:	\$ <u>106,389.07</u>		

### **PRAYER CONCERNS:**

Lena Aust, Bruce Galinat, Bill Jimerson, Alex Marovich, Billy Rollings, Mary Rutland, Louise Sewell.



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:30 A.M.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

Rodney Martin, Pianist

### SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Birthday of a King”

Choir  
Accompanist, Rodney Martin

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the holy name of the highest God.

**All: The Lord is our strength and our salvation.**

One: Proclaim the mercy of the One who comes as one of us.

**All: The Lord is our strength and our salvation.**

One: Trust and do not be afraid.

**All: The Lord is our strength and our salvation.**

One: With joy you will draw water from the wells of peace.

**All: The Lord is our strength and our salvation. Hallelujah! Amen.**

### PRAYER OF ADORATION

\*OPENING HYMN “Angels, From the Realms of Glory” (Red hymnal) vv 1, 2, 3 No. 131

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT 2 WREATH

*Alex Marovich & Donna Hopkins*

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT 3 WREATH

*Steve & Susan Henderson*

### ADVENT HYMN

“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

*(See Insert)*

*Congregation sings lines 1 & 3. Choir sings lines 2 & 4 (sing verses 1-3)*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Creator God, with a sky full of stars and a world full of flowers, there should be no end to our joy. And yet, instead of being filled with joy, we let it slip away like loose change. Instead of singing like Mary, or dancing like David, we pass by remarkable beauty and love most days, unfazed. Forgive us. Teach us the ways of children, who laugh and dance and sing as if joy is the very thing that keeps them alive. Gratefully we pray, amen. Amen.**

*(Let all continue in silent prayer, followed by singing)*

***Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us***

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**Alleluia. Amen.**

# THE WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Sing We Now of Christmas”

Choir  
Accompanist, Rodney Martin

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:46-55

SERMON

“Mary Joins God’s Dream”

*Rev. Sharon Gearing*

## RESPONSE

\*HYMN

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” (Red hymnal) vv 1, 2, 4

No. 141

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Great Creator, we are in awe of you. We will never know how you managed to dream up Mountains and valleys, Freckles, dimples, and curly hair, a cool morning mist, the change of seasons, or the magic of music. Your greatness is beyond our reckoning. And because we are in awe of you, we believe we must follow Mary’s lead and allow our souls to sing. We believe that the appropriate reaction to your goodness is complete gratitude, which looks like love for our neighbor, justice for the poor, food for the hungry, and joy that overflows. And even though we do not always believe in ourselves, we believe that our song is pleasing to you. We believe. Help our unbelief. In Christ’s name we pray, amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*DOXOLOGY

**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.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (debts/debtors)

\*CLOSING HYMN

“What Child Is This (Red hymnal)

No. 137

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**You go nowhere by accident. Wherever you go, God is sending you.  
Wherever you are, God has put you there. He has a purpose in your being there.  
Christ who dwells within you has something He wants to do through you where you are.  
Believe this and go in His love to “glorify God, make disciples of Jesus Christ, and meet human need”.**

\*POSTLUDE

Rodney Martin, Pianist

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\*Those who are able may stand

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