

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

Let us take this time to quiet our hearts and minds and prepare for worship.

* Please stand if able Plain text = Leader **Bold text = People**

PRELUDE *Mary Did You Know?* Mark Lowry and Buddy Green
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, piano Arr. Don Wyrzten

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. Dr. Laura S. Sugg
Christ, Be Our Light!



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.



Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered to - day.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Walt Pettit, Wyatt Johnson from the choir
“Prepare the way of the Lord.”

A choir sings in the silence, “Come, Emmanuel.”
Every valley shall be filled. Every heart shall be made whole,
For peace is stronger than turmoil, and love is louder than hate.

As we light our second Advent candle,
we pray for the holy peace of God.

Come now, O Child of Mary.
Come now, O Prince of peace.

* HYMN *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* No. 1

CALL TO PRAYER & PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Elder
Our spirits are like new grass: *Ps. 90:5–6*

at the dawn they spring up fresh, but by sunset they dry up and wither...

Let us confess our frailty before our merciful God.

We seek to serve you, O Lord, with glad and generous hearts.

Forgive us when our hearts are hardened
and move us to trust the depth of your promise.

We seek to live as baptized people, repenting, and sharing your grace.

Forgive us when we fall into selfish ways,
and move us to know the goodness of your call.

Have mercy on us, O God.

By your grace, cleanse us.

By your providence, help us to learn from our mistakes.

By your Holy Spirit, equip us to love and honor you.

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE Laura Sugg

Amen. Every valley is lifted up; every mountain made low.
Now the glory of the Lord is revealed,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD

PSALM READING Psalm 126 Pg. 584

Heaven and earth will pass away,
but the word of the Lord stands forever.

Deacon
Isaiah 40:8, Mark 13:31

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* Richard Shepherd
Wyatt Johnson, conducting poem: G. Weissel

GOSPEL READING Luke 3:1-6 Pg. 56

TIME FOR CHILDREN *(As the children come forward, please join in singing.)*

***This, this is where children belong, part of our family, part of our song.
Be with us, pray with us, help us grow strong, this is where children belong.***

SERMON *Preparing for Peace* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) Elder
The Apostles’ Creed (traditional) Front of Hymnal Pg. 14

* HYMN *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* No. 9

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER Front of Hymnal Pg. 16
(Pray, “Forgive us our sins...”)

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *What Child Is This?* Greensleeves, traditional English melody
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, piano Arr. James Mansfield

* PRESENTATION OF OFFERING Tune: No. 23

***Let the nations shout and sing: glory to their Savior bring;
All below and all above sing your praise with joyous love.
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo. Glo—ria in excelsis Deo.***

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Laura Sugg

* HYMN *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?* No. 11

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: *He Came Down* STF 2085
He came down that we may have PEACE (sing this line 3 times)
hallelujah forevermore.

POSTLUDE *Adeste Fidelis* John Francis Wade
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, piano Arr. Don Wyrzten

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Anne Baker` Deacon Reader: Lori Golightly
Greeter: Jeff Stimson Sound Engineer: Sean Mestdagh
Ushers: Betsy Smith & Jeff Stimson Visitor Desk: Ariane Meyer
Flowers: Janette Powers, John & Roxanne Foster
Time With Children & Youth: Roxanne Foster

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Director of Christian Education, Children & Youth: *Linda Valo*

Organist, Hand Bell Choir Director: *Julie Pulliam, M.A.*

Choir Director: *Katie Sakanai, M.M. Ed.*

Treasurer: *Eileen Gardner, C.P.A.* • Assistant Treasurer: *Betsy Smith*

Administrative Assistant: *Jenny Garner*



Peace

WPC Mission Statement

*To worship God through faith and action,
to nurture the spirit of Jesus Christ in each of us,
to be an extended family to all,
and to serve the community
through programs, education and prayer.*

***Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018***