



***We are a Reconciling Congregation!***

***Grow, Play and Serve with a people with  
Hearts for Children and Hands for Service***

**REMINDER:**

We have 4 hearing-enhancing devices that can be used for those that need them. Please ask in the sound booth for help with these.

The parlor is also open to hear the worship service every Sunday; and Room 9 is open for parents and their young children to watch and hear the service.

***A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT***

**December 4, 2022**

**10:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

*Es ist ein Ros' Entsprungen*

Johannes Brahms

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

*Adagio from "Christmas Concerto"*

Arcangelo Corelli

Thomas Yang, Wendy Benner, Bruno Silva, Steven Houser, strings

**WELCOME**

*All children K-5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to go to Sunday school.*

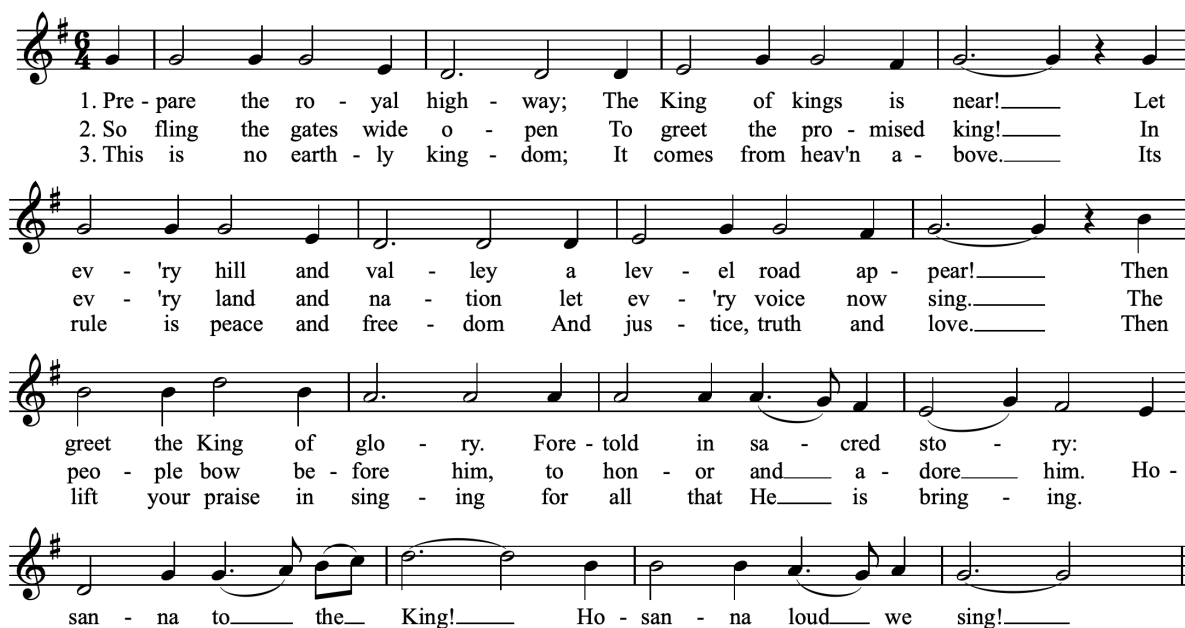
**\*OPENING PRAYER (unison)**

**O Lord, our God and Savior, come among us. In this worship hour, open our minds to understand your purpose for each of us, open our hearts to make a ready response to your voice. Increase our love for you, O God and for one another, we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*HYMN

## Prepare the Royal Highway

Revised text: Anne Dierbeck



1. Pre - pare the ro - yal high - way; The King of kings is near! Let  
2. So fling the gates wide o - pen To greet the pro - mised king! In  
3. This is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove. Its  
ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear! Then  
ev - 'ry land and na - tion let ev - 'ry voice now sing. The  
rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth and love. Then  
greet the King of glo - ry. Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
peo - ple bow be - fore him, to hon - or and a - dore him. Ho -  
lift your praise in sing - ing for all that He is bring - ing.  
san - na to the King! Ho - san - na loud we sing!

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Laura and Dale Sailer

Response:

*Kindle the flame of peace, May it burn bright and true  
Lighting the Way we seek to God, the journey we pursue.*

## A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

### BIDDING PRAYER

Dear Friends in Christ:

This morning we gather to celebrate Advent: the time at the end of time in which we wait in hope for the fullness of what we have seen in the first coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As we wait in this hope let us prepare ourselves by opening the Holy Scriptures to hear the prophets of Israel tell the news of God's coming in the Messiah—the anointed One; and let us hear poets and composers from throughout the ages tell of the fullness of God's coming in the person of Jesus of Nazareth—the crucified and risen One—and his kingdom that shall never end.

As we wait in this hope, let us fill this place with our carols and hymns of praise, rejoicing in the promise that the suffering, pain, and tears that remain will be transformed by God's compassion and pardon. Let us pray for all people divided and enslaved by oppression and hatred. Let us pray for the oppressed and sick, the imprisoned and lonely, that they may be freed from the bonds of discord and brought into the harmony of a world being made new.

As we wait in this hope, let us pray for peace among nations, remembering all who work for peace, that they may be strengthened to stand against all that chains us to the realm of evil and darkness.

And finally let us remember all those who have gone before us and now rest from their labors, that multitude which no one can number, and in whom in Christ Jesus we shall evermore be made one.

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen**

MUSIC *Pavane* Peter Warlock

MUSIC *Of the Father's Love Begotten* 13<sup>th</sup> c.

*Of the Father's love begotten, ere the world began to be.  
He is Alpha and Omega. He the source, the ending He.*

READING *Genesis 1* Sarane Siewerth

*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the waters. And God said, "Let there be light:" and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.*

*And God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:" And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.*

*And God said, "Let us make people in our image, after our likeness." So God created people in his own image, in the image of God; male and female they were created. And God blessed them, and said, "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth." And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.*

*These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.*

MUSIC *Prepare the Way of the Lord* Lloyd Larson  
Kent Smith, soloist

*A voice cries out, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God!"*

MUSIC *Pied-en-l'air* Peter Warlock

READING *Baruch 4* Priscilla Nutt

*Look toward the east, O Jerusalem, and see the joy that is coming to you from God. Look your children are coming, whom you sent away; they are coming, gathered from east and west, at the word of the holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God. Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."*

*Arise O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.*

\*HYMN *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* 196

MUSIC *Breath of Heaven* Amy Grant  
Becky Netherland, soloist

*Breath of heaven, hold me together, be forever near me;  
Breath of heaven, lighten my darkness, pour over me your holiness.*

## MUSIC

*Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*  
*Sleepers, wake! A voice is calling*

J. S. Bach

## READING

## Luke 2

Anne Dierbeck

*In that region there were shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying:*

*"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"*

*When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.*

## MUSIC

*Messiah*  
 Stephanie Yonkers, soloist

G. F. Handel

1. Recitative: *There Were Shepherds Abiding in the Field*
2. Recitative: *And, Lo the Angel of the Lord Came Upon Them*
3. Recitative: *And the Angel Said Unto Them*
4. Recitative: *And Suddenly There Was with the Angel*
5. Chorus: *Glory to God*
6. Pifa: *Pastoral Symphony*
7. Chorus: *Let All the Angels of God Worship Him*

## READING

## Revelation 21 and 22

Mark Netherland

*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations.*

*Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river, is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.*

*And he said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true, for the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place. See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."*

## MUSIC

## See Amid the Winter's Snow

Dan Forrest

*Hail thou ever blessed morn, Hail redemption's happy dawn,  
 Sing through all Jerusalem, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### Prayer of Confession

**God of grace, you send signs of love in people who care. But often we shut those people out. We turn away your love when we need it the most. We deny your hope within us, and we keep ourselves isolated and afraid. Visit us with your salvation, for we await you in need. Amen.**

### The Great Thanksgiving

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,

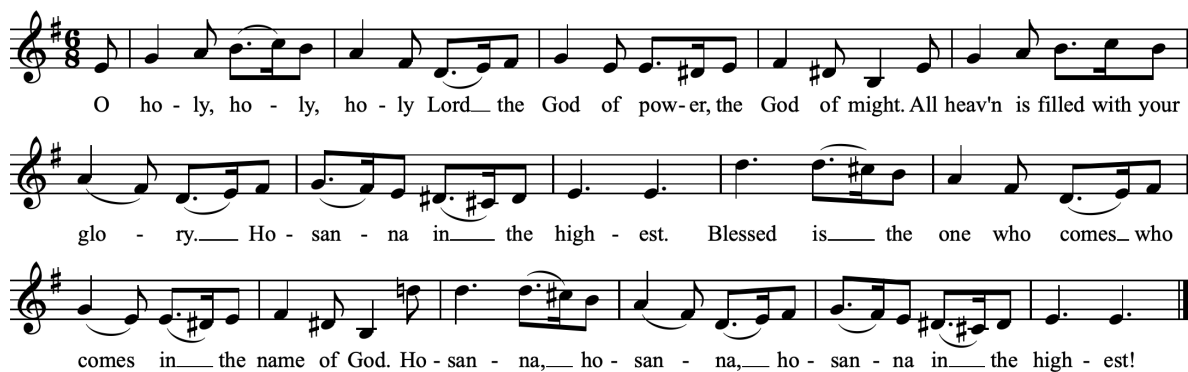
and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day

when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,

when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,

whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations.

You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts

and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation.

You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree.

You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send empty away.

Your own Son came among us as a servant to be Emmanuel, your presence with us.

He humbled himself in obedience to your will and freely accepted death on a cross.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection

you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,

and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,

gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,

gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,

poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
 Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."  
 And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
 we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
 as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
 as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
 and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
 Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
 that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.  
 By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
 one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,  
 until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.  
 Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
 all honor and glory is yours, almighty God now and forever.



The Lord's Prayer (unison)

***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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.***

MUSIC

*Siciliano from "Keyboard Concerto in E"*

J. S. Bach

## SENDING FORTH

### OFFERING OUR THANKS AND OURSELVES

*All loose coins and singles in the offering plates will go to Curt's Café in Evanston.  
 Please return your pledge card to the offering plates in the back.*

\*HYMN

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

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### COMMUNITY LIFE AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

### BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Toccata on "Angels We Have Heard on High"*

Richard Elliott

*\*congregation is invited to stand if it is comfortable to do so*