



3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 17, 2023 (Worship: **8:30am, 10:00am, 5:00pm**)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! Guests, please sign in at the "Welcome Table" and receive a gift. For young children, a nursery is available - sign in your child and grab a pager. We also love children in worship and Sunday school (8:30am and 10am).

TODAY is the Third Sunday in Advent and we will focus visually and spiritually on the artwork created by Arts and Outreach Minister Michelle Lum and volunteers. There will also be an "interactive" component to our worship. May this time of be a wonderful preparation for the birth of the Savior at Christmas.

PRELUDE: *Still, Still, Still* by James Mansfield Fred Johnson, Organist/Pianist (8:30am/10am)
Micaela Lum, Worship Leader (5pm)

THE WELCOME AND INVOCATION (People read/sing **bold** words.)

GATHERING HYMN: Once in Royal David's City #269 vv. 1-2
**Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.**

**He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall:
with the poor, and meek, and lowly, lived on earth, our Savior holy.**

CALL TO WORSHIP
The Advent of our God brings light to our world.
May the light of Christ show us the way.

The Advent of our God brings light into the darkness of sin.
May the light of Christ show us the way.

The Advent of our God brings hope to places filled with violence.
May the light of Christ show us the way.

The Advent of our God brings peace to those engulfed in sorrow.
May the light of Christ show us the way.

Come Lord Jesus, we welcome Your Spirit into this place.
May the light of Christ show us the way. Amen.

Come Lord Jesus, we welcome Your Spirit into our hearts.
May the light of Christ show us the way. Amen.

THE HYMN: Once in Royal David's City #269 v. 3
**And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above;
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.**

(The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**)
THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

LITANY FOR LIGHTING OF THE THIRD CANDLE
(Following the reading, we sing, O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel #257 vv. 1, 4)

**O come, O come, Em-man-u-el, and ransom captive Is-ra-el,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.**

Refrain **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, O Branch of Jes-se, free your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save, and give them vic-t'ry o'er the grave.** (Refrain.)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (8:30 & 10am)

Pastor David R. Mattson

(Children may leave for Sunday school and return during Holy Communion.)

THE LESSON: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

(Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**)

THE LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

(Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**)

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand.)

Tune: *O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel*

Alleluia, alleluia. O come to us Emmanuel.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 1st chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

THE GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

(The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**)

APOSTLES' CREED

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTHEM (8:30am): *O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide* by Michael Helman

Sanctuary Choir, Music Director Kathy Person

HYMN OF THE DAY: *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*

#282 vv. 1-3

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav'n-ly music floats o'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ev-er o'er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.**

**And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow:
look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!**

MEDITATIONS ON ART

Arts & Outreach Minister Michelle Lum

The Word

Joseph's Lullaby arr. John Wasson

Andy Degan

Let the heights of heav'n adore Him; angel hosts, His praises sing;
pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent, vev-'ry voice in concert ring
ev-er-more and ev-er-more.

Lights of the World

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Fred Johnson

Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be:
honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory
ev-er-more and ev-er-more. Amen.

ADVENT OFFERTORY RESPONSE: (Tune - *The First Noel*)

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

#265

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**)

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:
"All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favored lady." Gloria!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(All who believe Christ is present in this Sacrament are welcome to receive. Non-communing children and others who wish to receive only a blessing may come forward also. For those who prefer, white juice is located in the center of each tray and gluten-free wafers are also available.)

"For know a blessed mother though shalt be,
all generations laud and honor thee;
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
most highly favored lady." Gloria!

HOLY COMMUNION MUSIC:

Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)

Page 191

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.
"My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of the Father's Love Begotten

#295

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be

He is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending He,

of the things that are, that have been,

and that future years shall see, ev-er-more and ev-er-more.

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
in Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
"most highly favored lady." Gloria!

Oh, that birth for-ev-er blessed, When the virgin, full of grace,

By the Holy Ghost con-ceiv-ing, Bore the Savior of our race,

And the babe, the world's redeemer, First revealed His sacred face,

Ev-er-more and ev-er-more.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

THE BLESSING

This is He whom seers in old time Chanted of with one accord,

Whom the voices of the prophets Promised in their faithful word;

Now He shines, the long expected; Let creation praise its Lord

Ev-er-more and ev-er-more.

SENDING HYMN: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

#288

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;

ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

**now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heav-en's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

SENDING WORDS: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: *Yuletide Joyeux* by Craig A. Penfield

Fred Johnson (8:30/10am)
Micaela Lum (5pm)

Arr. © 1955, 1983 E.H. Freeman Ltd., admin. Glenwood Music Corp. Reprinted and podcast presented under One License #72710. Photo by Aaron Burden on Unsplash

GLORIA DEI STAFF: Pastor David R. Mattson (pastordavid@mygloriadei.org); Assistant Minister Dana Becker (danabecker@mygloriadei.org); Administrative Assistant Carol Weinhardt (gloriadei@mygloriadei.org); Preschool Director Shelli Parajeckas (preschool@mygloriadei.org); Minister of Arts & Outreach Michelle Lum (michellelum@mygloriadei.org); Congregational Life Susie Boland (fellowship@mygloriadei.org); Youth Director Paige Gulck (youth@mygloriadei.org); Music Director Kathy Person (music@mygloriadei.org); Organist/Pianist Fred Johnson (organist@mygloriadei.org); 5pm Worship Leader Micaela Lum

THANKS TO OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY!

8:30am: Acolyte: Will Ramsaur; Advent Reader: Elliot Don; Coffee Prep: Lynn & Wes Morgan; Communion: Paige Gulck & Shelli Parajeckas; Lector: Liane Schuller; Ushers: Tim Boyd & Matt Dubow; Welcome Table: Gail Rightmire

10am: Acolyte: Emma Person; Advent Reader: Jackson Brodrick; Coffee Clean-up: Lisa Mers; Communion: Daneen & Dennis Pysz Lector: Jay Pederson; Usher: Susan Behnke & Sharon Miller; Welcome Table: Donna & Jerry Combe

5pm: Communion & Lector: Carol Simpson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are provided by Judy Young in celebration of Aaron & Ethan Ohlean's 18th birthday!

ADVENT SEASON - The four week preparation for Christmas has begun - lighting of the Advent candles, singing carols, and more. Theme: "4 Prophets 4 Christmas." (A study of Isaiah)

CHRISTMAS EVE POINSETTIAS - Help beautify the sanctuary for Christmas Eve. Forms due TODAY. Cost \$10. Forms at the Welcome Table.

GIVING TREE - Thanks to all who have taken a tag from the tree. Return gift cards to the offering box or office ASAP. Gift cards are for children/students in need at Foster All & DHHS.

ADVENT DEVOTION ONLINE with Pastor David: Each day during the Season of Advent, join Pastor David for a "walk" - brief message and prayer. Link is at mygloriadei.org.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) meets the *third Monday of each month at 2pm*, Knudson Hall. Next meeting is December 18. If interested, contact Diane Kelly or contact the office.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Sunday, December 24, 8:30am, 4pm, 5:30pm & 10pm.
Carols, candlelight, special music, & uplifting message.
Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8:30am and 10pm.
Invite a friend to worship with you!

CHRISTMAS EVE INVITATION to share with your family, friends, neighbors at the Welcome Table. Pick one or many invitations up to share with acquaintances to join in worship.

OFFERING ENVELOPES - For those who don't give electronically, you may pick up your 2024 offering envelopes on the patio at the Welcome Table.

BIBLE YEAR STUDY Thursdays, 6:30pm, Pastor David leads a study on the readings and answers questions. (12/17: : 2 Chronicles 17:1 - Ezra 6:22). Never too late to join. All are welcome! (We will now take a break for Christmas and begin again on January 11, 2024.)

OFFERING - Please place check/money in donation boxes in the sanctuary or at the Welcome Table, or give ELECTRONICALLY - Venmo app - @GloriaDei-DanaPoint or ZELLE - gloriadei@mygloriadei.org. Alternatively you can donate via credit card or debit card through Vanco, our secure site: mygloriadei.org/donate. Thank you for supporting Gloria Dei!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY meets the *first Saturday/month, 9am, Knudson Hall*. Next meeting - January 6. For more information, call Peggy Johnson or the office.

MEMBERSHIP at Gloria Dei? We offer two ways to officially join the Gloria Dei family:

1) From a non-Lutheran background, attend the Adult Inquiry Class, January 20, 9am OR 2) Transfer your membership from a Lutheran church. To all joining, there will be a New Member Orientation, Sunday, January 21, 11:15am. New members received in church on Sunday, January 28. Sign-up..

LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE TRIP - A day trip to Los Angelitos (Tijuana, Mexico) on January 27, 2024, 7am - 7pm. Passports are required. Please sign-up at the Welcome Table for more information.

MEN'S BOOK GROUP - Meets the *last Tuesday of the month, 7pm* at members' homes. *They will be meeting on January 30.* For information contact the church office.

"FOOTSTEPS OF SAINT PAUL" (Greece Trip) - As an alternative to the Holy Land, Pastor David will be leading a group to Greece (land/sea), April 9-20, 2024. Flier available at the Welcome Table.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Ministry Celebration/Annual Meeting & Aloha Luncheon (Feb.4); Stephanie Trick & Paolo Alderighi Piano Concert (Feb.12); Ash Wednesday Worship/soup suppers begin (Feb.14); Billy Steele leads morning music (Feb.25); First Communion Classes begin (Feb. 28); Men's Spring Training Retreat (March 1-3); Women's One Day Retreat (March 16); Church Campout (June 7-9)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DECEMBER 17 - 23, 2023

Today: Worship (8:30am, 10am & 5pm); Nursery (8:30am & 10am); Confirmation (11:15am); NA Meeting (6:30pm)

Monday: South Coast Lit. Council (10am); RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) Book Club (2pm); Al Anon (5:30pm)

Tuesday: AA Men (7am); Preschool Christmas Pageant (9am); Art Installation (10am); Al Anon (7pm)

Wednesday: AA Men (7am); Surfside Quilters Guild (9am); Women's Bible Study (10am); Staff Meeting (12:30pm); Piano Tuning (1pm) Mission Hospital Alumni Group (6pm); 12 Step Couples Group (7:30pm)

Thursday: AA Men (7am); AA Women (9:30am); South Coast Lit. Council Games & Fun (1pm); Al Anon Coed (5:30pm); Bell Choir (6:30pm); AA Men (7pm); Sanctuary Choir (7:30pm)

Friday: Bell & Sanctuary Choir Christmas Party (6:30pm)

Saturday: AA Men's (7am); ACA Meeting Meeting (10:30am); ACA Meeting (11:30am); Ukrainian Worship (2pm); NA Meeting (7pm)