

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 7, 2025
11:00 AM

As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH Rev. Timothy T. Boggess

PRELUDE *Coventry Carol* arr. Noel Piercy
(The Handbell Choir)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Jaclyn, Brent, Catalina & Sienna Campbell

***HYMN 106** *Prepare the Way, O Zion* BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

Prepare the way, O Zion,
your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley
a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory,
foretold in sacred story.

Refrain:
O blest is Christ who came
in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion;
he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom,
and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding,
for grace and joy abounding. (Refrain)

Fling wide your gates, O Zion;
your Savior's rule embrace,
and tidings of salvation
proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow rejoicing,
their adoration voicing. (Refrain)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy God,
you call us to prepare the way of the Lord,
yet we confess that we often prefer our well-worn paths
to the straight and level roads you desire.
You summon us to repentance,
but we come with hearts too cluttered,
too hurried, or too proud to bear good fruit. Forgive us.
Renew our spirits and revive our hearts,
that we may be ready to welcome the one who is coming,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

(a moment for silent reflection)

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

***SONG OF JOY 113** (refrain) *Angels We Have Heard on High* GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CONFIRMATION & WELCOME - AVA CHAPMAN Eric Robinson

God is doing a new thing! Do you not perceive it?
Today, fresh wind blows through our worship space as we honor Ava,
who has found her spiritual home among us.
You bring a light that is uniquely yours.
In the waters of baptism, you claimed this faith,
and in your time among us, we have seen that faith grow.
We do not ask you to be like us. We ask you to be who God created you to be.
We celebrate the gifts you bring to our church
and the deeper understanding you have sought during this time of Confirmation.
Teach us what you see that we might miss.
Lead us where the Spirit is guiding you. We are ready to grow together.
The path of discipleship is long, but it is joyful when traveled together.
We affirm you with gladness!
May your faith continue to be a fire that warms this community,
and may our love be a foundation for your life.
We are blessed that you are here.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes* Hal Hopson
(The Chancel Choir)

Thou shalt know Him when he comes
not by any din of drums,
nor his manners nor his airs,
nor by anything he wears.

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
not by his crown or his gown,
But his coming known shall be
by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.

Thou shalt know him when he comes.

Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 3:1-12

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Evil and Underpants* Rev. Boggess
Advent Series: Learning to See in the Dark

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

PARTAKING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *Shepherd's Pipe* Gilbert Martin

***DOXOLOGY** *What Child Is This* GREENSLEEVES

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 82** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Rev. Boggess

The postlude concludes our worship today. It's the custom of this congregation to sit and enter into this moment with gratitude and celebration.

POSTLUDE *Angels We Have Heard on High* arr. Anna Laura Page
(The Handbell Choir)

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