SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 8, 2024
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 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* arr. Duane Funderburk
(Marcus Ratzenboeck, Isaac Mingus, and Steven Phillips)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Annette Landes and Frank Frey

***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**

Refining God,
you have sent us prophets and we have not listened.
We have not always made way for your reign
in our lives, our church, and our society.
Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(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.

MOMENT FOR DISCIPLESHIP - INVEST IN CHILDREN Susan Sanderson

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *Of the Father's Love Begotten* arr. John Cornish
(The Chancel Choir with Marcus Ratzenboeck, violin)

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,
evermore and evermore!

O, that birth forever blessed
when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race,
and the babe, the world's Redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven, adore him.
Angel hosts, his praises sing.
Powers, dominions, bow before him,
and extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent;
every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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SCRIPTURE READING Luke 3:1-6

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *The Word of God Came* Rev. Boggess

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Pat Higgins

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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *What Child Is This* arr. Steven Phillips
(Isaac Mingus, cello)

***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**

from *A Declaration of Faith* (1977)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Pat Higgins

God has not waited to be discovered.
The Lord has taken the initiative
and addressed his Word to humankind in many ways.
Through the Word of God the world was created.
The Word became flesh in Jesus Christ.
Through the Word of God the New Creation is being formed.

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. *(continued next page)*

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 *Hornpipe* from *Water Music Suite* G.F. Handel
(Marcus Ratzenboeck, violin)

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