



# Combined Worship Service The Third Sunday of Advent

**December 14, 2025**

*The Service for the Lord's Day*

## WE GATHER

PRELUDE Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

arr. Rita West Gernon

Contemporary Ensemble

## WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

\*ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING Linda Filipovits, Laura Huffard, Joanne Kelhart, Judy Smullen

In a world full of fear, where do you see glimmers of joy?

**We see glimmers of joy in birthday candles and homemade cards. We see joy in the laughter of children and the delight of grandparents. We see joy in meals around the table and in the singing of Christmas songs.**

You are right. Even in a fearful world, joy is all around us. Today we light the candle of joy as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, joy is here. Joy is real. We only have to look for it.

**Thanks be to God for that good news! Amen.**

## \*SUNG RESPONSE

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (from *God to Glory*) – verse 3

TIF IN VELDELE

### Verse 3

Light three candles to watch for Messiah:

let the light banish darkness.

Lift your heads and lift high the gateway

for the King of glory.

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

## \*GATHERING HYMN

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came (see back page)

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE

## WE CONFESS

\*Please stand as you are able

\*EMBODIED CONFESSION

SUNG RESPONSE

Come, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Nathan Jess

**Verse 1**

Come Lord Jesus quickly come  
Come and heal I pray  
In the shelter of Your love  
Let me see Your face

**Chorus**

Ever faithful always good  
Lover of my soul  
Come unto the children lost  
Make Your people whole

*WE LISTEN*

CHOIR ANTHEM I Wonder as I Wander

Doug Andrews

Chancel Choir

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, how Jesus the Savior did come for to die  
for poor ordinary people like you and like I; I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall with wise men and farmers and shepherd  
and all. But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, and the promise of ages it did  
then recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing, a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,  
or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing, he surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, how Jesus the Savior did come for to die  
for poor ordinary people like you and like I; I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Hebrew Scripture: Jeremiah 1:4-10

JoAnne Turcotte

Gospel: Luke 1:26-39

Leader: The word of the Lord;

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Karen Kinney

“Saying Yes in the Face of Fear”

*WE RESPOND*

POST-SERMON ENGAGEMENT

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Ann Gisch, Bob Gisch, Norah Hooper, Mike Kimmel

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from the *Confessions of 1967*)

**We have seen the valley. We have seen a sky without stars. We have seen the longest night, and *still* we believe. We believe in a with-us God. We believe in the hope of tomorrow. We believe that good news is louder than fear. We believe this good news is for all people. So even when our knees shake, even when our voice trembles, even when fear is all around us, we will hold onto that good news. We will reach for each other. We will look for God in our midst. We will sing songs of joy. We will proclaim: *Unto us, love is born*. We have seen the longest night, and we have seen unimaginable love. So *still*, we believe. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

\*SENDING HYMN

O Come, Take Heart (see insert – from *A Sanctified Arts*)

VENI EMMANUEL

\*BENEDICTION

**In a fearful world, may you look for God's spirit. May you reach for each other's hands. May you choose courage whenever you can. And in all things, may you remember that good news is louder than fear. In the name of the one who calls, the one who sends, and the one who journeys with—go in peace and be not afraid. Amen.**

POSTLUDE Mary Did You Know?

arr. Dan Galbraith

Contemporary Ensemble

Flowers given by Kari Young in memory of Barry Young

*You're welcome to stay and enjoy the Postlude or to depart while the music is played.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!*

# Gabriel's Message

ADVENT

(also known as The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came)

Words: Traditional Basque Carol; Paraphrased by Sabine Baring Gould, (1834-1924).  
Music: 'Gabriel's Message' Traditional Basque Carol. Setting: Edgar Pettman, 1922.  
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♩ = 200

1. The an - - gel Ga - - bri - - el from hea - - ven came,  
2. "For know a bless - ed Mo - - ther thou shalt be,  
3. Then gen - - tle Ma - - ry meek - ly bowed her head,  
4. Of her, Em - man - - u - - el, the Christ was born

his wings as drift - - ed snow, his eyes as flame;  
all gen - - er - - a - - tions laud and ho - - - nor thee,  
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,  
in Beth - le - - hem, all on a Christ - - - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly mai - den, Ma - - - ry,  
thy Son shall be Em - - ma - nu - - el, by seers fore - - told,  
"my soul shall laud and mag - ni - - fy His ho - - ly Name."  
and Christ - ian folk through - out the world will ev - - er say

most high - ly fa - vored la - - dy," Glo - - - ri - a!

# O Come, Take Heart

VENI EMMANUEL 8.8.8.8 with refrain

Words by Anna Strickland, 2025

Plainsong adapted by Thomas Helmore, 1854



O come, O come though tim - id and un - sure And trust that God de - clares your worth  
O come, O come though you feel un - pre - pared When cour - age fails you, do it scared  
O come and join God's kin - dom work And be God's hands and feet on earth



Re - mem - ber when you're feel - ing small That ev - ery child of God is called  
Don't let the fear of ma - king mis - takes Im - pede you from the path you're called to take  
You're called ex - act - ly as you are To love the world with ev - ery bro - ken part



Take heart! Take heart! The One who calls to you Will give you strength and see you through

