**December 5, 2021**

Prelude Sarabande—Handel Rachel Hopple

Bringing in the Light of Christ

Welcome & Announcements

The Lord be with you!  
 **And also with you!**Let us turn our hearts to God in worship.

Call to worship

If life was a home, then we would pray—

**may love be the foundation.**

**May God be the cornerstone.**

**May the Spirit be the windows—ushering light in.**

**And may hope be the walls—holding us together.**

In this hour of worship, let us work toward building that home together.

**We may not know the path ahead, but God is here, even now.**

**Let us give thanks for a foundation of love.**

**Let us worship Holy God.**

CALL TO WORSHIP IN SONG (*Blest Be the God of Israel:   
 Song of Zechariah* no. 109)   
  
THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: Tim & Rachel Hopple

SUNG REPSONSE *(Tune: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, no. 347)   
 (© by John Kupar)*

As we light the candle of peace,

We await the Christ yet to come.

Seeking peace within and around us,

To a world with fear overgrown.

Christ come to us, upon our earth do dwell,

May we carry hope close to home.

hymn of THE DAY (*Comfort, Comfort Now My People,* no. 87)

Call TO RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, when John was born, Zechariah leaned down and   
whispered words of love into his ear. We know that you do the same for us, day in and day out, yet we fail to hear it. We forget that in the beginning we were made good.**

**We doubt that we could possibly be enough.**

**We hustle for our self-worth and wear ourselves out aiming for perfection.**

**We deflect words of praise.**

**We hide behind shiny first impressions.**

**Forgive us. Trusting our worth is the hardest job. Open our ears as you open our hearts, so that we might rest on the foundation of goodness you have laid for us. Gratefully we pray, amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA *(“Gloria” from “Angels We Have Heard on High”)*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

A TIME TO WORSHIP WITH CHILDREN  
 SPECIAL MUSIC *“Come, Peace of God” arr. Butler*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE LESSONS OF THE DAY: LUKE 1:57-80

THE MESSAGE “Praise and Prophecy: All That We Need is You”

RESPONDING WITH OUR MUSIC (*Christ Be Our Light,* no. 314,   
 vs 1, 2, 4)

RESPONDING TO GOD WITH OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

**Handbell Offertory** “Advent Promise” arr. Page  
 **Advent Response** *(“In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”* no. 654) **Prayer of Dedication**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
 Lord of Mercy, **Bring Us Peace!** *or*

Peace of the World, **Shine down on us!**

ADVENT BENEDICTION

Taking the Light of Christ into the World

Sending HYMN *(Christ Be Our Light* no. 314)

Postlude Festive Postlude—Anonymous Rachel Hopple

**Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!**