

GATHERING MUSIC

"Noel" by Alexandre Guilmant 1837-1911

WELCOME

CONFESSION

Expansive God, **We know that the church is Your house, and Your house has room for everyone. Yet, too often, instead of setting the table for our neighbors, we block the door. Instead of welcoming all, we judge others by our own standards. Instead of sharing our second coat, we hide it in the attic, holding on to fear instead of letting go with love. Remind us that Your home is a home for all, that truth requires hard work, that truth requires uncomfortable justice. Helps us to be bold enough to see it and brave enough to live it. With hope we pray, amen.**

Family of faith, God sent prophets like John the Baptist to us because this work is not easy. Helping create a world where all might have a home, and all might be loved, and all might know peace, is an audacious goal. Fortunately for us, when we mess up—when we lose our way or forget our call—we are met with grace. God could not love us any more or any less than God already does. So rest in this good news: **We are at home with God—forgiven, claimed, and loved. The door is always open for us. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

KYRIE

ELW setting eight

Refrain

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

Verse: For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

ADVENT VERSE

"Make Of My Heart A Stable"

by Amanda Udis-Kessler

Make of our church a stable, a house for the Holy, a warm and sturdy place for joy to live and grow.

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

God, whose love is like the sun warming me from the inside, if You are my home, then Your word is the street light guiding me there. **So I want you to know I am walking Your way, we are walking Your way, and we are looking for a light. And our feet are dirty—we've lost our way a time or two. And our bags are heavy—we're carrying an array of grief and fear on our backs. But we're on our way. We're looking for Your light. We're listening for Your word. When You see us coming, when You feel our hearts move, we hope You'll run down the driveway and catch us. Leave the light on. We are on our way home. Gratefully we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Michelle Lata

READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

PREACHING TEXT: Luke 3:1-18

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Wende West

OFFERING

Through your donations we are able to support the ministries of GLC including heating the building. We give 10 percent of all offerings away to support our community locally, nationally and internationally. There are many ways you can give—place your offering in the plate at the back, put a check in the mail, text: 630-528-2407 with a dollar amount or give online.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Is Your Heart Prepared For A King” by Robert Lau

Sanctuary Choir

OFFERING PRAYER

Your church is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is.

It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them, even if they don't look like pews.

It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will be a place of forgiveness and grace, if I forgive and receive forgiveness. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, here and online, if I invite and bring them. It will be a church where people grow in faith and serve you, if I am open to such growth and service. Therefore, with your help Lord, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things you want your church to be. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS After each petition: Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

PEACE

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

ELW setting eight

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMN

“On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry”

ELW, #249

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent
that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther
for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

As you leave *this* service, *your* service begins: Comfort the homesick. Open your doors to others. Seek sanctuary. Be brave enough to go home by another way. And remember that here in God’s house, all are welcomed—so come back soon. In the name of our Foundation—God, Spirit, and Son—go in peace. **Amen.**

HYMN

“Prepare The Royal Highway”

ELW, #264



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2 God’s peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav’n a - bove.



Let ev - ’ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - ’ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God’s prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God’s word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SENDING MUSIC

“Noel” by Louis Claude Daquin 1694-1772

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