

WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC

Noël

Henri Mulet

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CENTERING SILENCE

The Rev. Dr. James Butler

* ADVENT INTROIT

*O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

* OPENING SENTENCES

Not in a place of power, but in little Bethlehem of Judea did our Lord appear.

As Christmas comes, may our eyes be open to see God among us.

Not in fame or wealth, but in humble circumstances did our Lord appear.

As Christmas comes, may we look for holy things in ordinary places.

Friends in Christ, let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

Amen.

* HYMN 140

“Once in Royal David's City”

IRBY

* ACCLAMATION

Beloved in Christ: God is with us!

We are not alone!

PRAYER OF ADORATION

CALL TO CONFESSION AND SILENT REFLECTION

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Holy God, when we seek security and safety through people and possessions,

Help us to remember Jesus, the Christ Child.

When we pass by those considered lowly and unimportant in this world,

Help us to remember Jesus, the Christ Child.

When we pledge our allegiance to anyone or anything but you.

Help us to remember Jesus, the Christ Child.

Holy God, as Christmas comes and a New Year dawns,

Help us to remember Jesus, the Christ Child, our way, our truth, and our life. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WE PRAY AND LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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.

INVITATION TO OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Noël Provençal

Pierre-Joseph Candeille

* DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

FIRST LESSON

Micah 5:2-5a

(Pew Bible, O.T. p. 865)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AT THE ADVENT WREATH

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:4-7

(Pew Bible, N.T. p. 58)

* HYMN 121

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

ST. LOUIS

MESSAGE

“Make Room”

A Christmas Play written by Aliyah Kennedy
and presented by our children and youth

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

*** HYMN 147**

“The First Nowell”

FIRST NOWELL

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** DEPARTING MUSIC**

Bransle de L’Official

Arr. Noel Rawsthorne

The people are welcome to depart or remain seated while the Departing Music is played.

Our Mission

To extend the gracious welcome of God in Jesus Christ through worship,
service and spiritual growth in a supportive community of faith.

Staff

The Rev. Dr. James Butler, Pastor
Aliyah Kennedy, Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry
Dr. Kaori Hongo, Minister of Music
The Revs. Dr. Steve and Dr. Cinda Gorman, Parish Associates
Sara Gresh, Secretary and Financial Secretary
Kimberly Hook, Childcare Provider and Evening Receptionist
Carolyn Fordosi, Housekeeper
Scott Schreibman, Maintenance Custodian
Margaret Limkemann, Minister of Music Emerita



SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

10 a.m.
