

*Sunday, December 22, 2024*  
*Fourth Sunday of Advent*  
*10:00 AM*

Often called the visitation, the encounter between Mary and Elizabeth is full of joy, recognition, gratitude, and blessing. But as the women encounter each other, so do Jesus and John the Baptist. God becomes a body in Jesus, and that body will be offered up for the sake of the world. This body, recognized already by John in the womb, will eventually undergo the suffering and shame of death on a cross. Without losing sight of that big picture, today we enter into the up-close picture of Mary and Elizabeth's encounter and share in the joy and gratitude they have in common with all who recognize Christ in their neighbor.



**Welcome to Worship!**

**As we prepare for worship, we invite you to a time of silence and focus.**



**WELCOME TO WORSHIP:** It is our joy to welcome you to worship today, in-person and from wherever you may be viewing. We give thanks for whatever brought you, and pray that you may experience the love of God surrounding you and upholding you as we gather together to give thanks to God through Word and Sacrament.

**ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES** are available to use in the Sanctuary for worship. They are located in the Sound Booth; ask the Sound Booth operator if you would like to use one.

**WORSHIP IS LIVESTREAMED** in the Faith and Family Center (located near the entrance doors to the large parking lot). Anyone is welcome to worship in that space.

**WE WELCOME CHILDREN IN WORSHIP!** Like Jesus who welcomed children to his ministry, Saint Andrew's welcomes children to our worship services.

Re-usable activity bags (for readers and non-readers) with books, stickers, crayons, paper, and a snack are available from the usher/hospitality team; please return the bags following worship.

- "Younger Disciples Tips" are in the bulletin with ideas to engage children in worship.
- "A Time for Younger Disciples" during worship invites all God's children to listen to a message.

**Health Practices** in place to help reduce the spread of viruses and illness:

- Mask wearing is optional. Anyone who wishes to mask is welcome to do so.
- Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building.

**For other activities, events, meetings check our website: <https://SALC.church>**

**VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING IN PROGRESS**

**Saint Andrews livestreams and records its worship services to YouTube.**

**Video and Audio recording is currently in progress. It is possible that video footage and/or audio conversations of worshippers in the Saint Andrew's Sanctuary may appear on the YouTube livestream/recording.**

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

“The Song of Mary”  
Will Simpson, Organ

Johann Pachelbel

## BELL INTROIT

## WELCOME

Pastor Lara

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Worship leaders will say text in light print.  
Congregation will say/respond with bold text.*

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Tune: ELW 276 “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

Verse 4: Love

**Candles glowing, promise showing love that makes the world anew.  
Shines in glory, tells the story – Christ’s own love will see us through.  
With the outcast and unwelcome, Christ is steadfast, brings us all home.  
Christ’s own love will see us through! Christ’s own love will see us through!**

The fourth Advent candle is lit as the hymn is sung.

We reach out to you in love, O God.

**You are present in healing ash after wildfires, in awakened cities after uprisings, in caring communities during crises, in muddy ground after storm and flood. From reservation and shelter, from sanctuary and parking lot, from hospital and home – where love gathers us, Advent finds a place to exist. Open our hearts to approach others with compassion and understanding, recognizing the inherent dignity and worth of every individual. We reach out to you in love, O God, for your love is present in all places. Amen.**

## HYMN

## People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

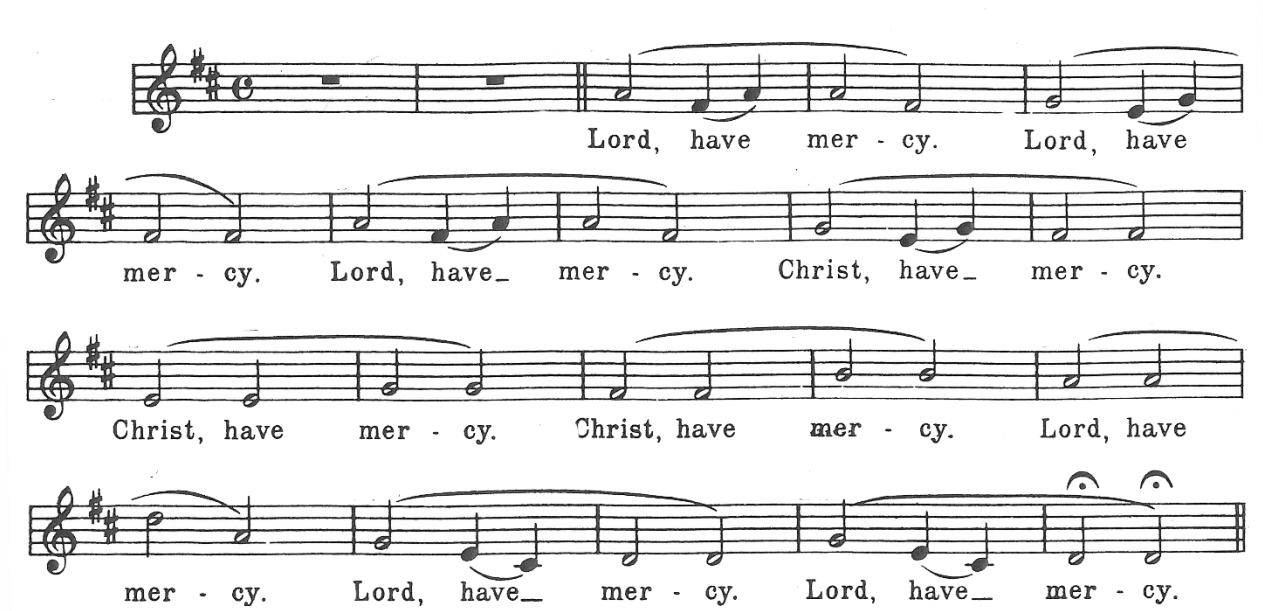
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation,  
arriving soon. Amen

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

## KYRIE



*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy,  
**we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.**  
**We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

God of might,  
**we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We have turned away from our neighbors.**  
**We have trusted false promises.**

God in our midst,  
**we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We plead: come to us.**  
**Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

A righteous branch springs forth in Christ the Lord, our Savior.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God  
through ✠ Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

**Amen.**

### **GREETING**

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together. Loving God,  
**you invite us to receive the promise of your salvation, mercy, and grace. Empower  
us to bear witness to this promise as we share your love with the world, through  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen**

*Please be seated.*

### **A TIME FOR YOUNGER DISCIPLES**

Pastor Lara

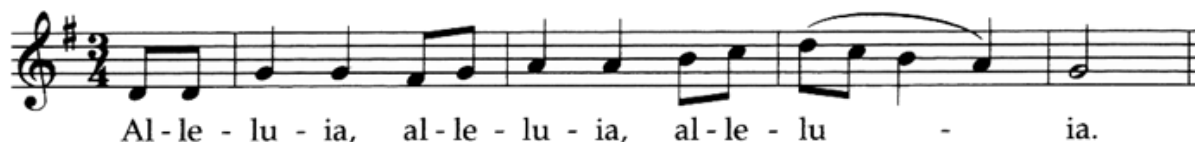
*The Gospel story can be found in your Spark Bible on pg. 202*

## **WORD**

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Sing two times.*



## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **Luke 1:39-55**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said,

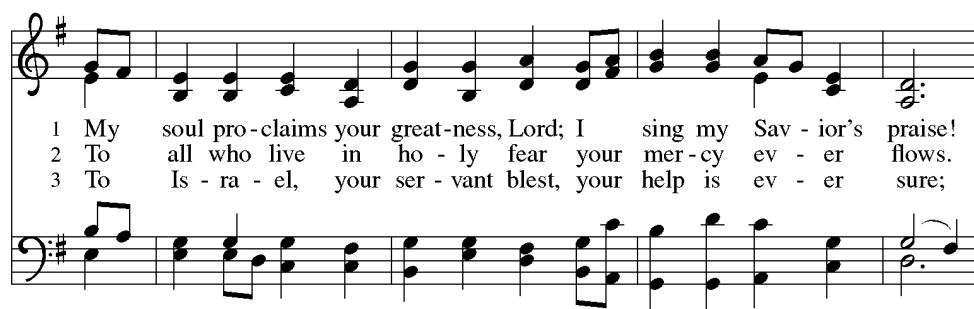
"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.  
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;  
he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.  
He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

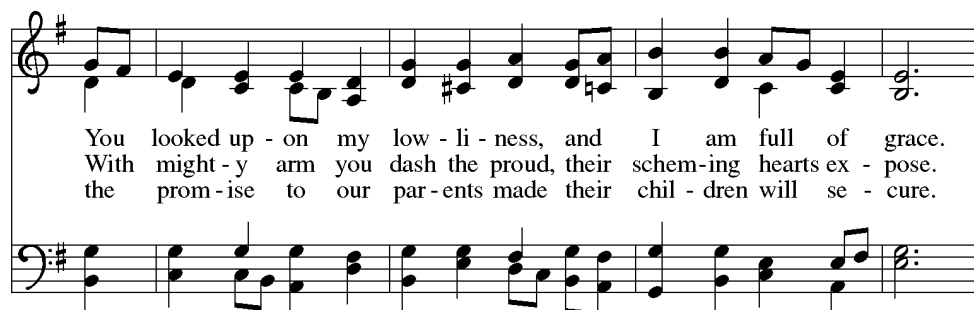
The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

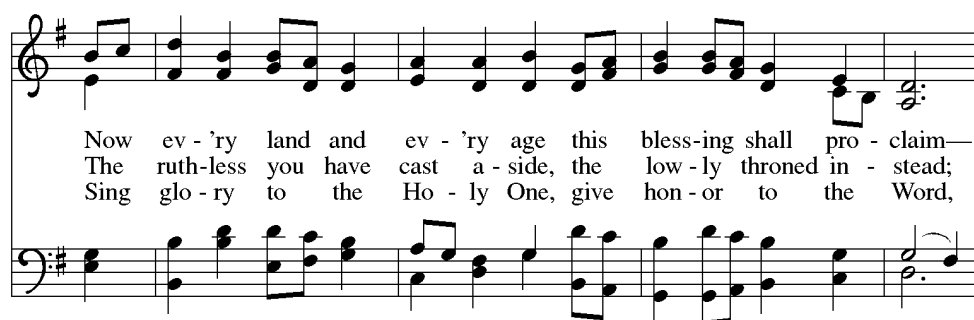
# My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness



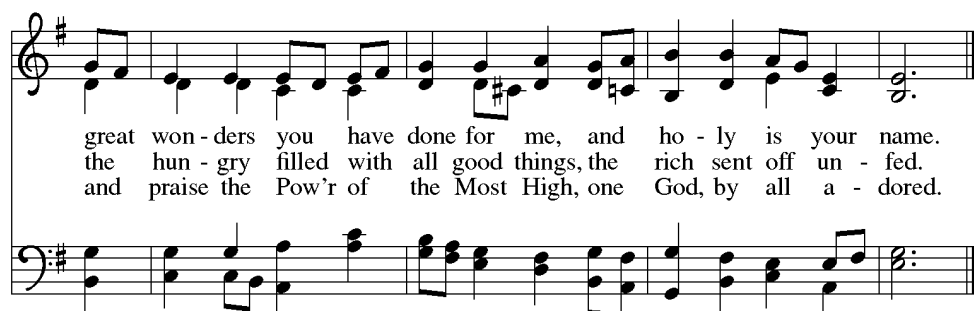
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!  
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.  
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.  
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex - pose.  
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless-ing shall pro - claim—  
 The ruth-less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;  
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.  
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.  
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

*You may be seated.*

**SERMON**

Pastor Lara

*Please stand as you are able.*



## HYMN

## Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



*Refrain*  
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

### **Apostles' Creed**

*Trusting in God's baptismal promises,  
we affirm our faith using the words of the 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 power of 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and  
he will come 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.**

*\* here, "catholic" means the wholeness of the church in all times and places.*

*Younger Disciples Tip ~ Prayers/Offering: Invite children to write down who they want to pray for this week and one way they can serve their family/community.*

## **THE PRAYERS**

*After each petition, the leader will say. Lord, in your mercy;  
Your response is, **hear our prayer.***

## **THE PEACE**

**The peace of Christ be with you always.  
And also with you.**

*Please greet people around you as you are comfortable.*

*Please be seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Lara

**OFFERING** Our ushers will be passing offering plates. We welcome your gifts to support the mission and ministry of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church. There are envelopes in the pews, or you can give online using the QR code.



## OFFERTORY MUSIC

### **“Angels’ Carol”**

John Rutter

*Sopranos and Altos of the Chancel Choir*

*Have you heard the sound of the angel voices  
ringing out so sweetly, ringing out so clear?  
Have you seen the star shining out so brightly  
as a sign from God that Christ the Lord is here?*

*Have you heard the news that they bring from heaven  
to the humble shepherds who have waited long?  
Gloria in excelsis deo! Gloria in excelsis deo!  
Hear the angels sing their joyful song.*

*He is come in peace in the winter's stillness,  
like a gentle snowfall in the gentle night.  
He is come in joy, like the sun at morning,  
filling all the world with radiance and with light.*

*He is come in love as the child of Mary.  
In a simple stable we have seen his birth.  
Gloria in excelsis deo! Gloria in excelsis deo!  
Hear the angels singing 'peace on earth'.*

*He will bring new light to a world in darkness,  
like a bright star shining in the skies above.  
He will bring new hope to the waiting nations,  
when he comes to reign in purity and love.*

*Let the earth rejoice at the savior's coming.  
Let the heavens answer with a joyful morn:  
gloria in excelsis deo! Gloria in excelsis deo!  
Hear the angels singing, 'Christ is born'  
hear the angels singing, 'Christ is born'*

## OFFERTORY VERSE



Praise God from whom all blessings flow, in ev-ery gen-er - a - tion. Praise



God, all crea-tures here be-low, who gives to us sal - va - tion. Praise



God a - bove, ye heaven-ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. Let



all cre-a - tion praise the Lord with love and ad - or - a - tion.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

We pray together. Creator God,  
you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us.  
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that  
we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## MEAL

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## SANCTUS

# Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

*Sanctus*

*The St. James Christmas Service*

Gently [in One]

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord,  
God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are  
full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he, is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, blessed and broke it and shared it with his friends, saying, "Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After they had eaten, Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and shared it with his friends, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood which is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

We pray together the prayer Jesus taught us:

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

*Please be seated. We wait silently as the participants who are worshiping online are communed.*

### LAMB OF GOD

Gently [In One]

O Lamb of God, O Ho - ly  
Child, who takes the sin of the world a - way; Have  
mer - cy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the  
son of Ma - ry. This, this is your bo - dy  
giv'n, Your pre - cious blood, the gift of heav'n.  
Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the  
son of Ma - ry.

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Communion is received continuously at two stations.

Please follow the directions of the ushers and use the hand sanitizer provided.

Bread is placed in the hands. Red wine and White grape juice are offered by individual cup.

Please ask if you would like a gluten-free option.

If you wish to be communed in your seat, please let one of the ushers/hospitality team know.

## COMMUNION HYMN

### Of the Father's Love Begotten

1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -  
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,  
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with  
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his  
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly

gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets  
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him  
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing

he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that  
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -  
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -  
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be  
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -

have deem - er, and that fu - ture years shall see,  
first re - vealed his sa - cred face,  
pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord  
si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring  
min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry

ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
A - men.



*Please stand as you are able.*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray together. Generous God,  
**we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation, for coming among us,  
and for leading us into peace. Go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.  
Amen.**

## **SENDING**

*Younger Disciples Tip ~ Blessing: Mark the sign of the cross on your child's forehead as a reminder of this sending blessing*

### **BLESSING**

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light,  
God, our hope for the journey, ✠ bless and keep you now and forever.  
**Amen.**



# SENDING HYMN

## Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

## SENDING

*All children and youth are invited to come forward to participate in the sending.*

Go in peace. Prepare for Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

“Carol of the Bells”

Ukrainian Carol

*Will Simpson, Organ; Vanessa Wilkie, Bells*

Thank you to all who are assisting with worship today:

Pastor Lara Forbes, *Presiding and Preaching*

Dr. Will Simpson, *Director of Music*

Aaron Davis, *Lector*

Jean Wahlstrom, *Assisting Minister*

Elaine Koga, *Accompanist*

Philip Gustafson, *Acolyte*

Mark Davis and Art Gurtel, *Ushers*

Jay Baxter and JoAn Eklof, *Altar Guild*

Johannes Grad, *Audio*

David Mills, *Livestream video*

Mark Davis, *Coffee host*

**Volunteers are always welcome! Contact Sherry ([sherry@salc.church](mailto:sherry@salc.church)) to serve as a greeter or coffee host!**



### Worship Texts for Christmas Eve:

Isaiah 9:2-7

Luke 2: 1-20

Text for December 29:

John 1:1-18

### LITURGY and MUSIC:

Unless otherwise noted, liturgy, liturgical music, and hymns are from Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) and All Creation Sings (ACS), and Scripture readings are from New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV. ) Liturgy and NRSV text from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress; streamed/reprinted with permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SASoo6660. All rights reserved. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under OneLicense.net #A-718073. All rights reserved. Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under CCLI #2042297 and #CSPL048062. All rights reserved

### Calendar for the Week

#### **Sunday, December 22:**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

9:00 AM Discipleship Forum  
10:00 AM Worship (in person in the  
Sanctuary and livestreamed)

#### **Monday, December 23:**

***Office Hours: 9AM – 12:00***

#### **Tuesday, December 24:**

***Christmas Eve – Office is closed***

6:45 PM Special Music begins  
7:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship

#### **Wednesday, December 25:**

***Merry Christmas! Office is closed***

#### **Thursday, December 26:**

Office is open 9 AM – 1 PM.

#### **Friday, December 27:**

*Office is closed*

#### **Sunday, December 29:**

*First Sunday of Christmas*

9:00 AM Coffee and Conversation  
10:00 AM Worship (in person in the  
Sanctuary and livestreamed)

**The Reverend Lara Forbes**, Lead Pastor  
pastor@SALC.church

**The Reverend Timothy T. Weber**,  
Shared-Time Pastor  
timwebertt@yahoo.com

**Dr. Will Simpson**,  
Director of Music Ministries  
will@SALC.church

**Doug Johnson**,  
Director of Youth and Family Ministries  
doug@SALC.church

**Sherry Grindeland**, Fellowship Coordinator  
sherry@SALC.church

**Kurt Lutterman**, Facilities Manager  
kurt@SALC.church

**Mary Mills**, Office Administrator  
mary@SALC.church

**Kathy Fisher**, Communications Director  
kathy@SALC.church

**Vanessa Wilkie**, Handbell Choir Director

**Elaine Koga**, Choir Accompanist

**Soren Lester**, Facilities Set-up

**Ann Thorpe**, Sunday Church School  
Coordinator

**Joan Tweten**, Kitchen Team

**We welcome your support  
of our mission and ministry.  
Use the QR Code to give to  
SALC.**



**We are a Reconciling in Christ  
congregation**



2650 148<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
Bellevue, WA 98007-6452  
425-746-2529 <https://SALC.church>  
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram  
*SALC and SALCfamilies*