

3. And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
 whose forms are bending low,
 who toil along the climbing way
 with painful steps and slow,
 look now! for glad and golden hours
 come swiftly on the wing.
 O rest beside the weary road,
 and hear the angels sing!

4. For lo! the days are hastening on,
 by prophet seen of old,
 when with the ever-circling years
 shall come the time foretold
 when peace shall over all the earth
 its ancient splendors fling,
 and the whole world send back the song
 which now the angels sing.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Insert

the Ingra Family

HYMN

“Light the Advent Candle” (stanzas 1-4)

TFWS # 2090

**1 Light the Advent candle one Now the waiting has begun
 We have started on our way Time to think of Christmas day.**

**Chorus: Candle, candle burning bright Shining in the cold winter night
 Candle, candle burning bright Fill our hearts with Christmas light.**

**2 Light the Advent candle two Think of humble shepherds who
 Filled with wonder at the sight Of the child on Christmas night.
 Chorus**

**3 Light the Advent candle three Think of heavenly harmony Angels
 Singing "Peace on Earth" At the Blessed Saviour's birth.
 Chorus**

**4 Light the Advent candle four Think of Joy forever more Christ child in a
 Stable born Gift of love that Christmas morn.
 Chorus**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)

**Gracious and merciful God, we confess that as we approach Christmas, we find
 ourselves caught in the web of festivities, travel, gifts, and glitter. We allow**

ourselves to be continually drawn to the hype of the holiday and to the demands of our culture, leaving little or no time for You. Forgive us. Help us to make changes in our lives and our focus, so that this time of celebration may have the deepest sense of joy and purpose. May your Spirit live in and through us this Christmas season, that we might be messengers of your grace and instruments of your peace in this broken and struggling world. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG

“Thou Art Worthy”
 Thou art worthy,
 Thou art worthy,
 Thou art worthy, O Lord,
 To receive glory,
 Glory and honor,
 Glory and honor and power
 For Thou hast created,
 hast all things created,
 Thou hast created all things;
 And for Thy pleasure
 they are created -
 Thou art worthy, O Lord.

TFWS # 2041

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-38

Reader

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27 to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." 29 But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. 30 The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. 33 He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." 34 Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" 35 The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. 36 And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. 37 For

nothing will be impossible with God." 38 Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM **"The First Noel/Silent Night, Holy Night"** **Jackie Han**

MESSAGE **"How Can This Be?"** **Pastor Park**

RECEIVING THE MORNING'S OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY #94**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***DEDICATION**

PRAYER

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 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. Amen.**

*** CLOSING HYMN** **"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"** **UMH # 240**

**1. Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King!"**

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored;
 Christ, the everlasting Lord;
 late in time behold him come,
 offspring of a virgin's womb.
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
 hail th' incarnate Deity,
 pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
 Jesus, our Emmanuel.
 Hark! the herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the new-born King!"

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
 Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all he brings,
 risen with healing in his wings.
 Mild he lays his glory by,
 born that we no more may die,
 born to raise us from the earth,
 born to give us second birth.
 Hark! the herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the new born King!"

* BENEDICTION

Pastor Park

POSTLUDE

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Jackie Kim

*Stand as able

Advent Candle Lighting

2nd Sunday of Advent - December 10 - The Elphinstone Family

3rd Sunday of Advent- December 17 - The Matthew Family

4th Sunday of Advent - December 24 - The Ingra Family

Christmas Eve - December 24th - The D'Emilio Family

Today's coffee hour is hosted by Louise Woodcox with refreshments also shared by Myrtle Connell.

Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus.

Cookies are available in the Guyn Room this Sunday and the following Sunday for a small donation.

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be at 8:00 pm. See the bulletin insert.