

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

Prayers of the People

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Mary, Did You Know?* Mark Lowery, Buddy Greene

*DOXOLOGY 606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN 136 (GTG) "Go Tell It on the Mountain" GO TELL IT

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Carol of the Bells* Ukranian Christmas Carol

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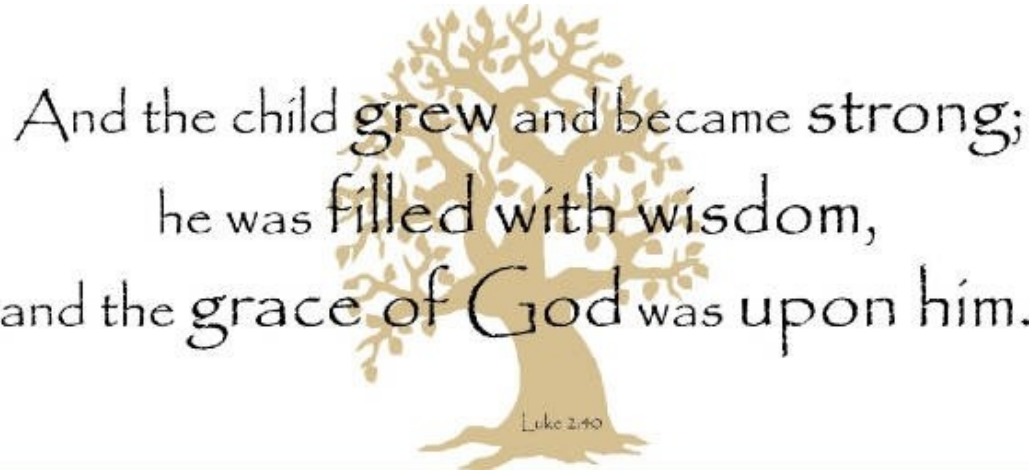
* denotes standing as able.

PIANIST: Kim McClain

LITURGIST: Sandy Whitney

PRELUDE/POSTLUDE- Courtney Baker - Violin I; Timothy Baker - Violin II, Scott Baker, piano

SOLOIST: Lane Marie O'Kelley



*First Sunday of Christmas
December 26, 2021*

Church Staff

Dana Waters, Transitional Pastor/Head of Staff	<i>Travis Williams, Neighborhood Ministries</i>
Kim McClain, Piano Accompanist/TMD	<i>Karen Wetherington, Office Manager</i>
David Boardman, Handbell Choir Director	<i>Judy Capie, Bookkeeper</i>
Pam Knox & Betsy Burmeister, Pianist	<i>Robyn Malone, Receipts</i>
Asher Hill, Technical Director	<i>Andrew Zimdars, Landscape Care</i>
Arin Lozefski, Assistant Video/Audio Tech	<i>Frank Allen, Plant Care (inside)</i>

Covenant at Worship

Liturgical Color: White First Sunday of Christmas 10:00am Worship

GATHER IN GOD’S PRESENCE

PRELUDE *Bring A Torch* Jeanette Isabella
arr., David Ritter

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY *NOEL* Matt Redman,
Chris Tomlin, Buddy Greene

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Here on the heels of Christmas,
We speak of love.
We speak of joy.
We speak of candlelight and fireside.
We speak of dreams being fulfilled.
We speak of “glorias” and angel choruses.
We speak the words, “Do not be afraid.”
Here on the heels of Christmas, we are called to speak, for the world needs a light.
A light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.
Let us worship and listen. Then, let us speak. Amen!

*HYMN 121 “O Little Town of Bethlehem” ST. LOUIS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of today and tomorrow, we know that your fingerprints are all over this world. And we know that those who dream cannot keep silent. So today we pray, Give us eyes to see you. Give us courage to trust you. And give us lips to speak of you in our midst. Gratefully we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*HYMN 581 (GTG) “Gloria Patri” GREATOREX

LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING Luke 2: 22-40

REFLECTING ON GOD’S WORD (See insert)

*HYMN 145 “What Child Is This” GREENSLEEVES

RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in telling the story—
the story of a loving and merciful God who will not let God’s people go; the story of a baby who grew up and changed the world; the story of our faith.
We believe in speaking up—
for our neighbors, for the oppressed, for the overlooked and marginalized.
We believe in speaking out—
against violence, greed, abuse, fear, scarcity, and hatred.
We believe in the good news of the gospel.
We believe that this good news is too good to keep to ourselves. We believe that those who dream cannot keep silent.
Speak to us, Holy God.
Speak through us, Holy God. May it be so. Amen.