

RESPOND TO THE GOSPEL

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.19*
Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus.
His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God.
He was the fulfillment of God’s promise to Israel,
the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity.
He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church
to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, including Concerns and Celebrations
“...O God of Love, **draw us together in peace.**”

OFFERING *Good Christians Friends, Rejoice* arr., Emily Lund

***DOXOLOGY 607** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***HYMN 113** “Angels We Have Heard on High” GLORIA

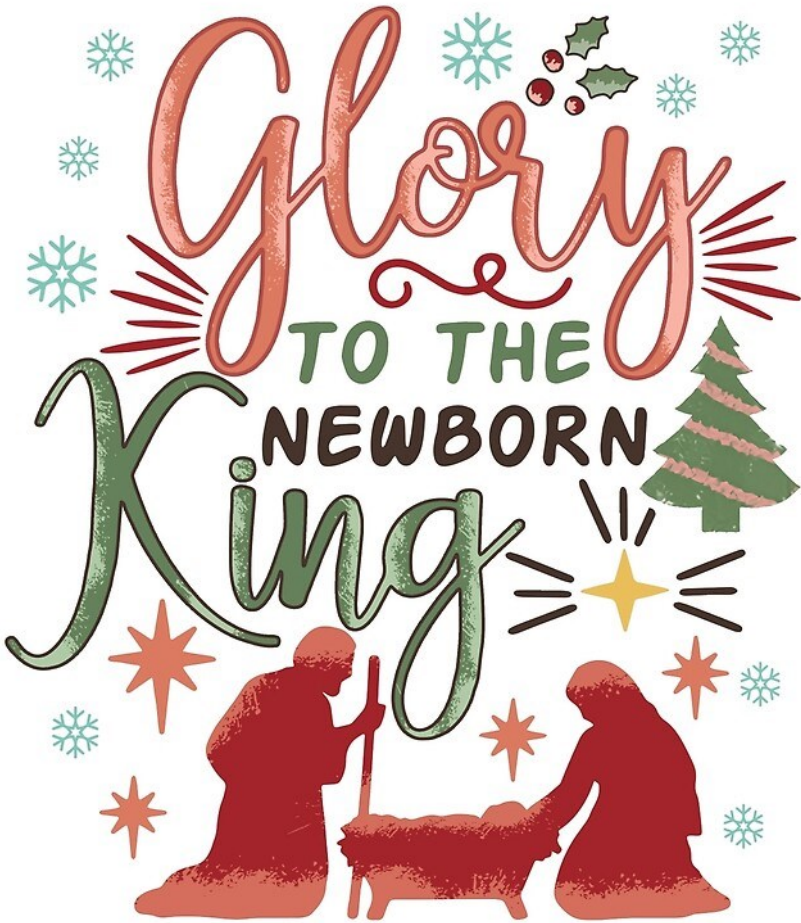
***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING HYMN 384** “Soon and Very Soon” Andrae Crouch
Verse 1: **Soon and very soon, we are gonna see the King** (3x)
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we are gonna see the King!
Verse 2: **No more cryin' there, we are gonna see the King** (3x)
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we are gonna see the King! (repeat Verse 1)

***POSTLUDE** *And the Glory of the Lord* G. F. Handel

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MUSIC DIRECTOR: Aaron Carter-Enyi

* denotes standing as able.
LITURGIST: Luanne Rigsby



December 31, 2023
11:00am

COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: White First Sunday of Christmas 11:00am Worship

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PREPARATION *Coventry Carol* arr. Mark Kellner

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY *The First Noel* arr., Mary McDonald

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord!

Praise God from the heavens.

Young men and women alike,
old and young together!

**Let us praise the name of the Lord,
whose name alone is exalted
above earth and heaven. Alleluia!**

*HYMN 133 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ADESTE FIDELES

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not lived as your faithful children.

We have kept silent in the midst of prejudice and hatred.

We have been idle in the face of violence and injustice.

**We have not been a light to the nations,
and our lives have not revealed your glory.**

**Forgive us, Lord. Repair the ugliness of our sin
and restore in us your beautiful grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*RESPONSE HYMN 583 "Glory to God" GLORIA
**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALM READING Psalm 148

GOSPEL READING Luke 2: 41-52

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD (see insert) Rev. Dana Waters

*HYMN 119 "Hark! The Herald the Angels Sing" MENDELSSOHN