



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

DECEMBER 14, 2025

PRELUDE “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (Franklin D. Ashdown)

CHORAL INTROIT “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

PRELUDE “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came” (Paul Manz)

OPENING PRAYER

People: God, you revel in reversing human hierarchies.
Inspire us to sing with teenage Mary
of tyrants toppled; and the last made first.
Ignite our hearts
until we truly understand what this means.
Embolden us to risk everything for the chance
to serve as midwives to your new creation,
so that, with Mary, our spirits will rejoice
in God our Savior—Jesus Christ her son—
and magnify Christ’s love in all we do. Amen.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Wang family

One: Let us pray together:

**People: Lord, we prepare the way for your coming.
Inspire us with joy in these advent days,
as we await the appearance of Emmanuel, God with us.
Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN

“Joyful Joyful”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Magnificent God,
it is easy to rejoice at
the wilderness bursting into bloom
and the hungry being filled with good things.
It's more difficult to declare,
as Mary did,
for the proud to be scattered
or the haughty to be brought down.

We know that sometimes, we are the proud.
Sometimes, we are the haughty.
Sometimes we are the ones
ignoring and harming those you would lift up.
Forgive us, humble us, and refocus us,
that, with Spirit's guidance,
we may follow your way of life and truth.
In Jesus' name. Amen.

*RESPONSE

“Gloria in Excelsis Deo”

*PASSING THE PEACE

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

“Go Where I Send Thee” (André Thomas)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, our joy and strength,
by the power of your Spirit
prepare the way in our hearts
for the coming of your Word,
so that we may see the glorious signs
of your promise fulfilled;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 16:16-28 (Pew Bible pg. 996)

MESSAGE

God with Us: “Joy Now and Yet to Come”

*SONG OF RESPONSE

“Goodness of God”

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Go Tell it on the Mountain” (arr. Gwyneth Walker)

PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

*CLOSING HYMN

“God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” (Franklin D. Ashdown)