



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

DECEMBER 7, 2025

PRELUDE "Peace" from Royal Fireworks Music (G.F. Handel)

INTROIT "While We Are Waiting, Come"

PRELUDE "Lo, How a Rose is Blooming" (Burkhardt)

OPENING PRAYER

People: God of the barren places,
whose Spirit rouses stagnant hearts to life,
come baptize us in fire that clears away
the debris of despair and apathy.
Set our spirits ablaze with impossible dreams
of oppressors giving up their power for peace
and children at play where war once reigned,
that, in dreaming, we might come to believe
a better world is possible, and begin
to ready the way for your coming. Amen.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

White family

Lord, we prepare the way for your coming.
Bring us peace in these advent days,
as we await the appearance of Emmanuel, God with us.
Amen.

***OPENING HYMNS** "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" (#156 vs. 1,5)
"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" (#153 vs. 1-2)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all creation,
your vision of peace is beyond our knowing.
We have been hurt
and we have seen destruction,
so we turn around and hurt others,
destroying what you have called good.
Forgive us, and fill us with your knowledge,
so, with the Holy Spirit's guidance,
we may help bring forth your peaceful reign.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

*RESPONSE

"Gloria in Excelsis Deo"

*PASSING THE PEACE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, our hope and peace,
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

Isaiah 11:1-10 (Pew Bible pg. 641)

HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" (#190 vs. 1-2)

MESSAGE

God with Us: "Peace Like a River"

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

"When Peace Like a River" (#428 vs. 1,4)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

On Screens

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Emmanuel" (Laura Story)

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION MUSIC

"Advent Hymn"
"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God our hope, we give you thanks
that you have given us this foretaste
of the justice, righteousness, and peace
of your promised new creation.
Strengthen us with this heavenly food
as we seek to serve your holy realm.
Lead us to live in joyful expectation
of the coming again in glory
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Let There Be Peace on Earth" (#614)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Meditation on Hyfrydol" (Pardini)