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3rd Sunday of Advent, December 15th 2024

Welcome and Announcements

*\*Please stand*

Trinity Chimes

**Prelude** *Christmas Trilogy*

 Arr. Linker/McFadden

 The Christ Church Ringers

 Kathryn Snograss, piano

\*Call to Worship:

One: Come, all who journey with hope and joy, trusting in God’s promises.
**All: God lifts the lowly, fills the hungry, and shines light in the darkness.**
One: Rejoice, for the Lord is faithful across all generations.
**All: With joy in our hearts, we worship the God who is with us.**

**\*Hymn of Praise** 203 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* ELLACOMBE

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son! Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free; to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

2. He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong; to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong; to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light, whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.

3. He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth; love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth. Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald go. and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

4. To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend; his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.

The tide of time shall never his covenant remove; his name shall stand forever, that name to us is love.

Advent Candle Lighting:

**Reader 1:** On the way with hope, a prayer for peace guiding our every step, joy bursts into our lives in unexpected ways.

**Reader 2:** Like Mary, joy might come with unexpected news. Or, like Elizabeth, with a lifelong dream fulfilled.

**Reader 1:** But joy also comes from shifting the way we see the world around us, recognizing the abundance of blessings that remind us God is with us.

**Reader 2:** As we light the candle of joy, may its flame illuminate the presence of God’s love in our lives, guiding us to share that joy with the world. Amen.

*Lighting the Candles of hope, peace, and joy*

**Advent Hymn:** 198*My Soul Gives Glory to My God*MORNING SONG

My soul gives glory to my God.

My heart pours out its praise.

God lifted up my lowliness

in many marvelous ways.

My God has done great things for me:

Yes, holy is this name.

All people will declare me blessed,

And blessings they shall claim.

Scripture Lesson Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,
 **and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.**    Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
    **and holy is his name;
indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
    from generation to generation.**He has shown strength with his arm;
    he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
**He has brought down the powerful from their thrones
    and lifted up the lowly;**he has filled the hungry with good things
**and sent the rich away empty.**
He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
    in remembrance of his mercy,
**according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
    to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”**

Music of Preparation *Gesu Bambino*

 Yon/Thompson

 The Christ Church Ringers

 Kathryn Snodgrass, organ

Gospel Lesson Luke 1:26-45

Sermon Joy in the Journey: My soul magnifies the Lord

 Pastor Beth Rambikur

Music of Response

Prayers of the People

Prayer of Confession

God of joy and mercy, we confess that we do not always magnify You in our lives. We are often consumed by fear and doubt, forgetting Your promises of hope and joy. We fail to trust Your plans, clinging to our own understanding instead of Your Word. Forgive us, Lord, for the times we let the worries of this world overshadow the joy of Your presence. By Your grace, turn our hearts back to you. May our lives reflect Your light, and may our souls magnify Your name. Amen.

Pastor: Hear the Good News: God with us, Emanuel, has come to dwell renewing us for life with love. In the name of Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Christ you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God, Amen

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.

\*Passing of the Peace

Invitation to Offering

Offering

Offertory *Bring a Torch, Jeannette Isabella* arr. Richard Elsasser

\*Doxology 70 *Glory Be to the Father* MEINEKE

Glory be to the Father

and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen. Amen.

\*Offertory Prayer

**\*Closing Hymn**  234 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* ADESTE FIDELES

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2.True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal, lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;

Son of the Father, begotten, not created;

Refrain

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;

O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

Refrain

6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to thee be all glory given.

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

**\*Benediction** 431 *Let There Be Peace on Earth* WORLD PEACE

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me; Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our creator, children all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.

With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow: to take each moment

and live each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Postlude Glad Tidings of Joy

 Arr. L. Larson

 The Christ Church Ringers

Liturgist: Dick Lear

Stephen Minister: Michael Edwards

Golf Cart Driver: John Tejada

Thank you to all the staff and volunteers who made this service possible!

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“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

Words: James Montgomery, 1821 (Ps. 72)

“My Soul Gives Glory to My God”

Words: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987 (Lk. 1:46b-55)

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Words: John F Wade, ca. 1743: trans. by Frederick Oakeley, 1841 and others

“Let There Be Peace on Earth

Words: Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

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