

John Knox Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day December 14, 2025



GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

**Those who are able, please stand*

PRELUDE

A Child is Born
John Knox Handbells

arr. Linker and McFadden

*INTROIT: HYMN 105

People, Look East, v. 1

BESANCON

***People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.***

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Rob, Amelia and Garrett Wright

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 126

When the Lord restored our fortunes,
we were like those who dream—
**our mouths filled with laughter,
our tongues with shouts of joy!**

May those who go out weeping,
come home with shouts of joy.
**May all who sow seed with their tears,
reap the abundant harvest of God's care.**

*HYMN 123

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Relying on God's grace,
let us confess together our sin:

**God of glory and light,
you come to make your home among us,
yet we try to keep you at a distance,
dwelling at the borders of our hearts.
You have drawn near to us,
but we have shrunk back from you.**

**In mercy, forgive our resistance to you.
By your Spirit, revive our love for you.
Put in us a new and willing spirit
that welcomes you and your saving work
in us, among us, and through us;
for the sake of Emmanuel, God with us.**

Silent Confession

***LORD, HAVE MERCY**

***Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.***

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

based on Isaiah 40:1-2

Friends, hear the good news!
Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
Your sins are pardoned; your penalty is paid!
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!**

***RESPONDING IN PRAISE**

Hymn 582, v.1

Sing twice

***Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

LIFE AND WORK AT JOHN KNOX

Minute for Ministry: Transition Team

Ken Rowe

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Erin Rigot

At this time, K3s, K4s and K5s are invited to join Children's Church on the Nursery Hall for a time of learning and fun. Parents, please pick up your children there after the worship service.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-10
Pew Bible p. 578

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 11:2-11
Pew Bible p. 792

The grass withers, the flower fades,
The Word of our God will stand forever.

SERMON

"Word and Deed"

Carter Rief

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed
Hymnal, p.35

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming
John Knox Handbells

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

*Doxology

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

GO IN GOD'S NAME

***HYMN 113**

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: HYMN 88**

VENI EMMANUEL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, v. 7

***O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

POSTLUDE

*Postlude on "Antioch"
(Joy to the World)*

Gerald Peterson

Worship Team

Mark Britt
Susan Felton
Carol Phillips
Ava Watson

Luke Browder
Parker Johnson
Scott Reichen
Rob Wright

Justin Cazel
Kristine Lee
Carter Rief

Jacob deMaine
Bobby Mock
Caroline Robertson

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