



“Let us go over to  
Bethlehem and see this  
thing that has happened,  
which the Lord has  
made known to us.”

*Luke 2:15b*

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2025

GOD CALLS US  
TO WORSHIP

We prepare our hearts to come in the Lord's presence, and orient ourselves to worship.

Our worship begins with a scriptural call for God's people to worship. In this way, our gathered worship is a conversation initiated by God between himself and his people.

We humbly ask Jesus to preside and to represent us before the Father. We ask the Holy Spirit to fill us and inform us and dedicate the service to the Lord.

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"Oh the solemnities of that great day, when the frame of nature shall be dissolved, when the Judge shall appear, the books be opened, and all mankind shall be summoned to his tribunal! Will not you yet tremble and bow before him, ye careless ones, while he is seated upon a throne of grace, and while the door of mercy stands open? Once more, I call, I warn, I charge you, to repent, and believe the gospel. If today you will hear his voice, it is not yet too late. But who can answer for tomorrow?"

- John Newton, Works of John Newton, Vol. 3, pg. 328-329.

### † CORPORATE CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 60:1-3

**All:** Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

### † PRAYER OF INVOCATION

### LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Shepherds' Candle

Judah Sutton & Petra Weimar

Luke 2:15-18

### † HYMN OF PRAISE

*While by the Sheep We Watched at Night*

Hymn No. 215

We are a Confessional Church. We choose to stand shoulder to shoulder with those saints who have gone before us. We embrace the timeless doctrinal truths of the Gospel.

## GOD CLEANSES US

Within the context of our relationship with God, we are invited in safety, not shame, to consider our sins. God loves us in spite of our sins. We rehearse this truth each week by confessing our sins corporately and leaning into his renewal, restoration, and cleansing.

The scripture that follows our confession assures us of God's forgiveness, grace and pardon. This is the good news.

Our giving is an act of worship; it is both a response of gratitude for God's generosity toward us and a sign of faith in God's future provision.

## † CONFESSION OF FAITH

Westminster Larger Catechism, Q. No. 47

**Leader:** Let us now confess together what we believe the Scriptures teach: How did Christ humble himself in his conception and birth?

**All:** Christ humbled himself in his conception and birth, in that, being from all eternity the Son of God, in the bosom of the Father he was pleased in the fulness of time to become the son of man, made of a woman of low estate, and to be born of her; with divers circumstances of more than ordinary abasement.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

**Leader:** Let us now confess our sins together to our Lord.

**All:** God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.<sup>1</sup>

## SILENT CONFESSION OF PERSONAL SIN

## PROMISE OF PARDONING GRACE

Isaiah 30:18

**Leader:** Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.

## CHORAL ANTHEM

*Come, Joy of Every Longing Heart*

Lyrics pg. 6

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Elder, Jim Denmark

## WORSHIP THROUGH THE GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Scan QR on the back to give online

## † DOXOLOGY & DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

Children, ages 4 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade, may be dismissed for Children's Church.

GOD  
COMMUNICATES  
WITH US

God's Word itself has power. The Preaching of God's Word is one of the chief means of grace by which God's people grow.

GOD  
COMMISSIONS  
US

Our worship concludes with God's sending us into the world with his blessing as we seek to love our community.

## HYMN OF PREPARATION

*While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*  
Hymn No. 223 (v. 1-4, 6)

## READING OF GOD'S WORD

John 9:39-41  
Bible pg. 1140

## PROCLAIMING & HEARING GOD'S WORD

Rev. Vosseller

TO BRING JUDGEMENT

## † HYMN OF RESPONSE

*God Rest You Merry Gentlemen*  
Hymn No. 211

## † BENEDICTION

Revelation 1:5b-6

**Leader:** To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

† Please Stand

1. Bobby G. Griffith, Jr., Confessions of Sin and Assurances of Pardon: A Pocket Resource (Christian Focus Publications, 2016), pg. 59.

**PREACHING:** Rev. Dave Vosseller

**LEADING WORSHIP:** Rev. Bryan Villarreal

## John 9:39-41

Theme: Jesus' Coming Will Either Give Us Sight or Reinforce Our Blindness

### I. The Background: The Blind Man Sees Twice (v. 1-38)

### II. The Purpose and Effect of Jesus' Coming (v. 39)

#### A. Salvation

#### B. Judgment

### III. The Dire Warning: How to Remain Blind (v. 40-41)

## CHORAL ANTHEM

Come, Joy of Every Longing Heart

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sing release us; let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a King;  
Born to reign forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone, our hearts alone;  
By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious Throne.

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, joy of every longing heart.