

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
December 23, 2018, 10:00 a.m.



# WELCOME TO ST. FRANCIS CHURCH SERVICE OF ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

Please take a moment to silence your cellphone. Thank you.



*The Annunciation: The Angel Gabriel  
before 1511, Gaudenzio Ferrari*

**Celebrant:** The Very Rev. Paula Vukmanic  
**Deacon:** The Rev. Peter Huang

# A Few Words About Advent

Purple was the traditional color of Advent, a color that represents penitence and fasting, as well as royalty. Purple will continue to be the traditional color of Lent. But for Advent, we shall use deep blue, as other churches have come to do, because deep blue represents the Advent themes of expectation, hope and anticipation of the dawn of Christ. It is the color in the sky before the sun rises, encouraging us to keep watch for the promised light of Christ to break over the horizon, changing night into day. The use of blue has deep historical roots.

The origins of the Advent wreath are found in the folk practices of the pre-Christian Germanic peoples who, during the cold December darkness of Eastern Europe, gathered wreaths of evergreen and lighted fires as signs of hope in a coming spring and renewed light. Christians kept these popular traditions alive to celebrate their Advent hope in Christ, the everlasting Light. Traditionally, the wreath is made of four blue or purple candles in a circle of evergreens, with a central white candle lit on Christmas Eve and Day. The meaning assigned to each candle varies by tradition.

A † appears in the margin where you may wish to make the sign of the cross over your body. Making the sign of the cross is a choice left to each worshipper. It is simply a way to engage your entire body (not just your speech and mind) in worship, and physically to signify embracing the blessing of God.

## Advent Lessons and Carols

*Prelude: Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645(Awake, the voice is calling us)*

J.S. Bach

*Please stay seated for the first reading of our service of lessons and carols.*

### Lesson 1—The Fall

Genesis 3:1-15

Reader A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The LORD God said to the serpent,

'Because you have done this,  
cursed are you among all animals  
and among all wild creatures;  
upon your belly you shall go,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will strike your head,  
and you will strike his heel.'

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



*Please STAND as able, and join in singing,*

Carol

**Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

**Hymn #66**

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*A family steps forward:*

Leader Today we light the first, second, third, and fourth candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, the third candle is JOY, and the fourth candle is LOVE.

*The candles are lit.*

Leader "Jesus said to them, I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (*John 13:34*)

**People Loving God, your mercy and compassion endure forever. Open our hearts, that we may receive your love; and following the example of your Son, spread that love to a love-starved world. Through Jesus Christ, who loved us to the end. Amen.**

## An Advent Bidding Prayer

Dear People of God:

In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against God until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city. For all those killed or injured from acts of terrorism, violence and abuse of any kind in our country and around the world, from the consequences of natural disasters, and for those who grieve from tragic loss. We also pray for all first responders and members of the armed and foreign services and their families, especially Drew Deley, Kelly Hall, Mark Kappelman, TJ Malzahn, Will Piepenbring, Scott Ruston, Michael Strong, Jonathan Zimmerman and Steve.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ. We pray especially for those suffering in body, mind or spirit: Andrea, Susie Allen, Stephanie Bezner, James Eakins, Ceri Falk, Amalia Fraker, Mary Louise Gordon, Sally Hill, Jack Lovrich, Christine Ma, Jake Madrid, Marjorie Morris, Munoz Family, Bob Pilmer, James and Reiko, Anne Shepherd, Steve Smith, Phyllis Thomas, and all those we name to you now (*please add your own prayers, silently or aloud.*)

Finally, let us remember before God his Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*



## Lesson 2—God's Promise to Abraham

Genesis 22:15-18

Reader A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, 'By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.'

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

*A Servant's Blessing*

*Patti Drennan*

*When we waken every morning, God's blessings greet us there. At the end of every evening, he finds favor in our prayer.  
And throughout life's journey, where ever we may roam, God's eye of love and mercy guides us safely home.*

*When we are faithful in serving the Lord, his abiding presence will be our reward. No higher calling than exalting his name.  
No greater glory can we proclaim. By our sacrifice expressed, our lives are forever blessed.*

*There's a peace that comes from serving to the pleasure of God's will. As we give ourselves completely, his promise we fulfill.  
When faithful in the little things, the Savior says, "Well done." Come share in the delight of the Father, Spirit, Son.  
We serve no other Master than Jesus Christ alone! We have no higher calling than to make his Kingdom known!*

*When we are faithful...*



### Lesson 3—A Young Woman Shall Conceive

Isaiah 7:10-15

Reader A Reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah.

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

*Lo, How a Rose*

*Praetorius*

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath come. Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.*

*It came a flow'ret bright amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.*

*Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind. With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.*

*To show God's love a-right, she bore to men a Savior, when half spent was the night.*



### Lesson 4—New Heavens and New Earth

Isaiah 65:17-25

For I am about to create new heavens  
and a new earth;  
the former things shall not be remembered  
or come to mind.  
But be glad and rejoice for ever  
in what I am creating;  
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,  
and its people as a delight.  
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,  
and delight in my people;  
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,  
or the cry of distress.  
No more shall there be in it  
an infant that lives but a few days,  
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;  
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered  
a youth,  
and one who falls short of a hundred will be  
considered accursed.

They shall build houses and inhabit them;  
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.  
They shall not build and another inhabit;  
they shall not plant and another eat;  
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,  
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.  
They shall not labour in vain,  
or bear children for calamity;  
for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—  
and their descendants as well.  
Before they call I will answer,  
while they are yet speaking I will hear.  
The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,  
the lion shall eat straw like the ox;  
but the serpent—its food shall be dust!  
They shall not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
says the LORD.

Music (JERUSALEM) by C Hubert Parry



O day of  
Than shall the  
Your works will



peace that dim - ly\_ shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to  
wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce de - vour the small; as beasts and  
give you thanks, O\_ Lord. Your saints your might - y acts will show, 'Til all the



jus - tice, truth, and love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. Mayswords of  
cat - tle calm - ly\_ graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e -  
peo - ples of the earth your king - dom, pow - er, glo - ry know. E - ter - nal



hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re - lease, 'til by God's  
mies shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac - cord; the hope of  
is your king - dom, Lord, for - ev - er strong, for - ev - er sure; while gen - er -



grace our war - ring world shall see Christ's prom - ised reign of peace.  
peace shall be ful - filled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.  
a - tions rise and die, your high do - min - ion will en - dure



Used by permission.



## Lesson 5—New Covenant

*Jeremiah 31: 31-34*

Reader A Reading from the Book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the LORD', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## Anthem

*The Plans I Have for You*

*Jonathan Adams*

*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord; plans to prosper you and never harm you,  
plans to give you hope and a future.*

*Then you will call upon me, and come and pray to me; and I will listen to you. For I know the plans I have for you...*

## Lesson 6—Bethlehem

*Micah 5:2-4*

Reader A Reading from the Book of the prophet Micah.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labour has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## Carol

**O Little Town of Bethlehem**

**Hymn #78**



Lesson 7—Gabriel Appears to Mary

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Reader A Reading from the Gospel of Luke.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

*There Is No Rose*

*Anonymous 15th century*

*Refrain: There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu.  
There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu. Alleluia. (Refrain)*

*For in this rose contained was heaven and earth in little space; Res miranda (Thing of wonder) (Refrain)*

*By that rose we may well see that he is God in person three, Pari forma (Equal in form) (Refrain)*

*The angels sungen the shepherds to: Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gaudeamus (Let us rejoice!) (Refrain)*

*Please STAND, as able for,*

The Holy Gospel—John 1:1-14

† Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Carol

**Of the Father's Love Begotten**

**Hymn #82 vv 1-2**

*Please remain STANDING as able, and join in saying,*

## An Affirmation of Faith for Advent

*Liturgy For The Whole Church, Susan K. Bock*

**We believe in God, who bends and kneels toward our world, drenching it with love, making it new with every breath. We believe in Jesus, God become human, who brought every person a spark of the divine. We believe in the Spirit, hovering God, present among us, abiding, upholding, awaking all things to her grace. We believe we are called to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God and each other, ready for God's reign, awake and alert, as we work to bring it near. We believe we are called, as Christmas comes close, to lift up our hearts in hope and in love, seeking God's advent in each moment and person, each challenge and heartache, each blessing and joy. This we promise to do. Keep us faithful, Lord Jesus, and come soon.**

**Come soon! Amen.**

## The Peace

**Celebrant** May the transforming peace of Jesus Christ be always with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## Welcome and Announcements

# The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

*"Verbum caro factum est"*

*Hans Leo Hassler*

*The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory,  
glory of the only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

Offertory Hymn

**Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence**

*PICARDY*

8 Let all mor-tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand; pon-der noth-ing  
15 earth - ly — mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his — hand, Christ our God to earth de -  
scend - - - eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.

*Words from the Liturgy of St James. Music PICARDY 17th century French carol.*

*Please continue STANDING, as able, for*

## The Offertory Prayers

**Celebrant** Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which the earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the Bread of Heaven and the Cup of Salvation.

**People** **Blessed be God forever.**

**Celebrant** Receive, O Lord, these gifts presented by your holy people for the work of your holy Church.

**People** **Blessed be God forever.**

*Please remain standing for,*

**The Great Thanksgiving** (Eucharistic Prayer 2 from *Enriching Our Worship 1*, supplement to *The Book of Common Prayer*)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

**People We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues. The People read the parts in bold.*

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

**From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.**

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways.

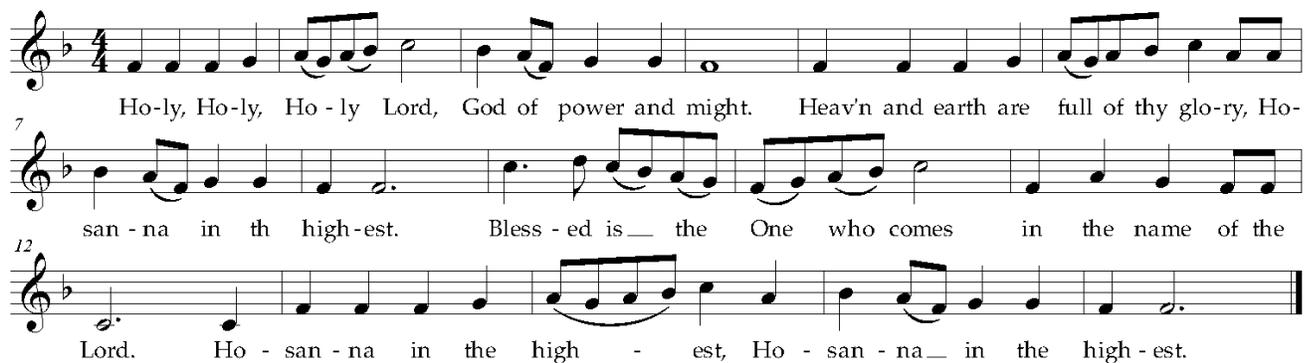
**But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; And yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.**

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

FOREST GREEN



7 Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of power and might. Heav'n and earth are full of thy glo-ry, Ho-

12 san - na in th high-est. Bless - ed is the One who comes in the name of the

17 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

FOREST GREEN Traditional English tune adapt by Ralph Vaughn Williams

*All stand or kneel as the Celebrant continues. The People join in reading the text in bold.*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.

**To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.**

Living among us, Jesus loved us.

**He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.**

Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: this is my Body, which is given for you.

**Do this for the remembrance of me."**

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it,

**do this for the remembrance of me."**

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

**In the fullness of time bring us, with St Francis and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.**

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say  
**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Fraction Anthem

**Jesus Came, Adored By Angels**

PICARDY

Je - sus came, a - dored by an - gels, came with peace from realms on high;  
Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, bring - ing news of sins for - giv'n;

7  
Je - sus came for our re - demp - tion, low - ly came on earth to die. Al - le - lu - ia,  
14 Je - sus comes in sounds of glad - ness, lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n; Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia! came in deep hu - mi - li - ty.  
Al - le - lu - ia! now the gate of death is riv'n.

Words by Godfrey Thring (1823-1903) from Hymnal #454 PICARDY 17th century French Carol

### The Communion of the People

*All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please follow the directions of the ushers. Kneeling or standing, each person receives the Bread\* in the palm of the right hand, eats, and then guides the cup for a sip of the Wine. If you do not wish to receive or are not yet baptized, we encourage you to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply fold your hands across your chest when you come forward. The clergy will carry Communion to anyone in the congregation who is unable to come forward. Please notify an usher if you wish to be served in your seat.*

If you have come with a particular prayer concern today, after receiving Communion you may come to the Nason Prayer Chapel to the right of the altar rail where someone will be available to pray with you.

*\*Gluten-free Communion wafers are now carried alongside regular wafers at Holy Communion. If you require one of these, simply ask at the Altar rail.*

Communion Music

*What Sweeter Music*

John Rutter

*What sweeter music can we bring than a carol for to sing the birth of this, our heavenly King?  
Awake the voice! Awake the string!*

*Dark and dull night, fly hence away, and give the honor to this day that sees December turned to May.*

*Why does the chilling winter's morn smile, like a field beset with corn?*

*Or smell like a meadow newly shorn thus on the sudden? Come and see the cause, why things thus fragrant be: 'Tis he is born,  
whose quickening birth gives life and luster, public mirth, to heaven and the underearth.*

*We see him come, and know him ours, who, with his sunshine and his shower, turns the patent ground to flowers.*

*The darling of the world is come, and fit it is, we find a room to welcome him.*

*The nobler part of all the house here, is the heart, which we will give him;  
and bequeath this holly, and this ivy wreath, to do him honor; who's our King, and Lord of all this revelling.*

*What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King.*

Post Communion Prayer for Advent

Celebrant Let us pray.

**All Holy and eternal God, you have graciously fed us with the Body and Blood of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant Let us say together our Mission Statement:

**All We welcome everyone to worship God together, to be transformed by the Holy Spirit and each other, and to share the light of Christ in the world. Amen.**

A Blessing for the Advent Season

Celebrant May the dawn of Christ's coming be the joy of your strength. May the sun of righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; And may the blessings of God our Creator, Jesus our Redeemer, and the Spirit our Sustainer, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

*Please STAND as able, and join in singing,*

The Recessional Hymn

**O Holy Child of Bethlehem**

**Hymn #79 v 5**

The Sending Forth

Deacon Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God!**

*Postlude: Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*

*Paul Manz*

