






9:00 service + December 18, 2016 + 4th Sunday of Advent

 KNOW  BE KNOWN  MAKE KNOWN

# Order of Worship

Liturgist is Rev. Randy Mayfield

## Prelude

### Now Is Born the Divine Christ Child

K. McChesney

Chancel Ringers

STANDING (IF ABLE)

## God calls us to worship

Liturgist: Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**All: *the Second Adam and image of God,  
the true God become true man.***

Liturgist: Give glory to God in the highest through Jesus,  
who is Christ the Lord!

**All: *Hallelujah, Amen!***

## We praise God

**Good Christian Men, Rejoice!**  
**Hymnal #151**

Text: German hymn 14th c.  
Tune: German melody 14th c.

## We pray for God to help us worship

Pastor: Christ is coming!

**All: *He is coming indeed,  
and all the earth will see the salvation of our God!***

## We greet one another with the peace of Christ

# We confess our sin

The Talbott family:  
Mr. Mark, Mrs. Kiley, Anna Kathryn, and Lottie

Leader: But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. (Micah 5:2)



Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord, our shepherd King.  
Let us confess our sin and sorrow to him with hope.

Leader: Lord Jesus, you have promised to lift our heads in hope  
by redeeming our ravaged world and making all things new.

**All:** *But we often live without hope,  
for we forget that your power works through humble means.*

Leader: You are the humble King who serves the creation that you rule.

**All:** *But we want to be served rather than to serve,  
for we do not see hope in being humble before you.*

Leader: You are patient in working out your plan for our good.

**All:** *But we are impatient with the timing of your plans,  
for we believe the lie that you are absent and uncaring.*

Leader: You came to us humbly in the form of a child.

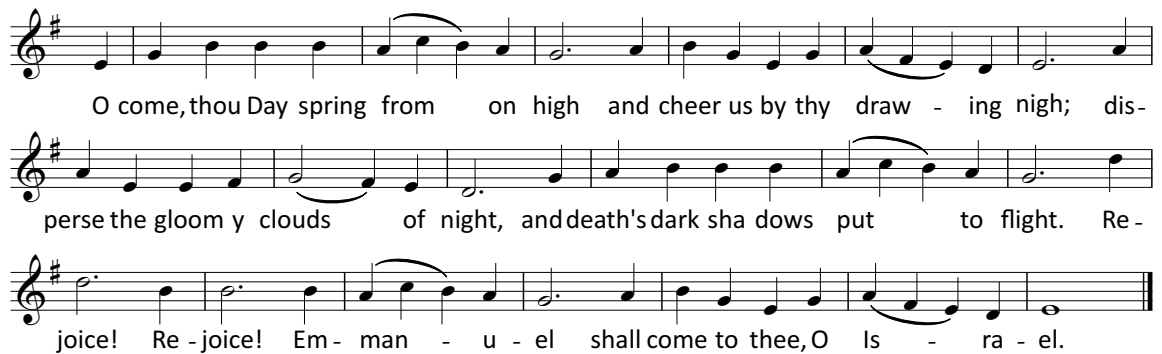
**All:** *But we seek hope in our strength and achievements,  
for we do not trust your power to work through weakness.*

Leader: You came to us in a humble place.

**All:** *But we avoid places where we feel weak and unprepared,  
for we do not see your glory and hope in humble places.  
Lord, have mercy on us for living without hope in you.*

(silent prayers of confession)

Leader: Lord, please forgive our forgetfulness, and forgive our pride.  
Forgive our impatience and our fear born of unbelief.  
Please lift our heads in hope, and lead our faltering hearts back to you  
to find our life and strength in you in the present  
and to wait patiently for your future return with inexpressible joy.  
By your Spirit's power, help us look to Jesus, our faithful King,  
with humble trust and courageous hope.



STANDING (IF ABLE)

## God declares our forgiveness

from 1 John 5:11

Liturgist: And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

For all who have turned from sin in sorrow and look to God for mercy, this is God's gift.  
In Jesus Christ, God loves you, God forgives you, God accepts you,  
and God rejoices over you as beloved daughters and sons.

**All: Hallelujah, Amen!**

# We praise God

## Hark! the Herald Angels Sing Hymnal #133

Text: Charles Wesley 1739, alt.  
Tune: Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy 1840

SEATED

## The Lord Did Send the Angel Gabriel Chancel Choir

Text: Luke 1:26-38;  
adapted by Fred Gramann  
Music: Fred Gramann 2016

The Lord did send the angel Gabriel  
to a town in Galilee.  
To Nazareth the angel came to tell  
news of what was soon to be.  
“Alleluia! The Lord is with you.”

He greeted Mary, called her “favored one,”  
saying “The Lord is with you.”  
But Mary did not understand his words,  
thinking this could not be true.  
“Alleluia! The Lord is with you.”

“Forget your fears for God has chosen you,  
and soon you shall bear a son.  
You’ll name him Jesus, Son of the Most High.  
He will sit on David’s throne.  
Alleluia! Now the Lord is with you.

For nothing is impossible with God.”  
Mary said then, “Here am I.  
And in accordance with your word I’ll be  
the Lord’s servant all my life.”  
Alleluia! Now the Lord is with you.

## God instructs us in scripture reading

Isaiah 9:1-7; Micah 5:2  
(pew Bible pp. 573, 779)

## God instructs us in preaching

“Surprised by Hope:  
A Surprising Place”  
Rev. Dr. Robert Yarbrough

## **We hear testimony of God's mission**

Michele Peterson

## **We offer ourselves in gifts and song**

*Prior to singing, we will take a moment of silence to reflect and pray.*

### **O Little Town of Bethlehem Hymnal #141**

Text: Phillip Brooks 1868  
Tune: Lewis H. Redner 1868

### **Little Baby in the Manger, I Love You** Choristers

Music: Carrie B. Adams  
Director: Elizabeth Smith

Little baby in the manger, "I love you!"  
Lying there, to earth a stranger, "I love you!"  
Wise men saw the star and answered, "I love you!"  
Shepherds heard the angels singing, "I love you!"

Grime

### **Knock! Knock! Knock!**

Music: William

Choristers

Knock, knock, knock went Joseph at an inn in Bethlehem,  
"Can you shelter a family and be a big help to them?"  
"No room, no room," said the man in Bethlehem.

Knock, knock, knock went Joseph on the stable door so bright,  
"Can you shelter a family for Christ shall be born tonight!"  
"Come in, come in," said the beasts in Bethlehem.

## We pray for the church and the world

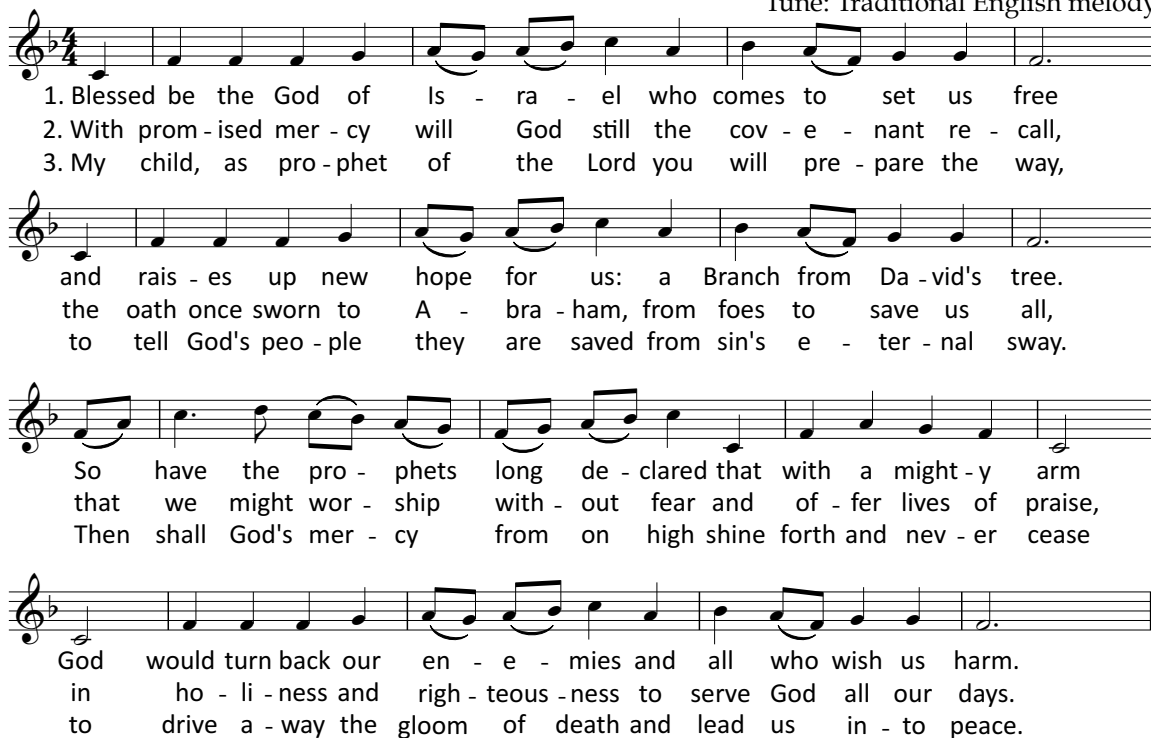
Liturgist: (prayers for the church and the world)

**All:** *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 debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

## We praise God

### The Song of Zechariah

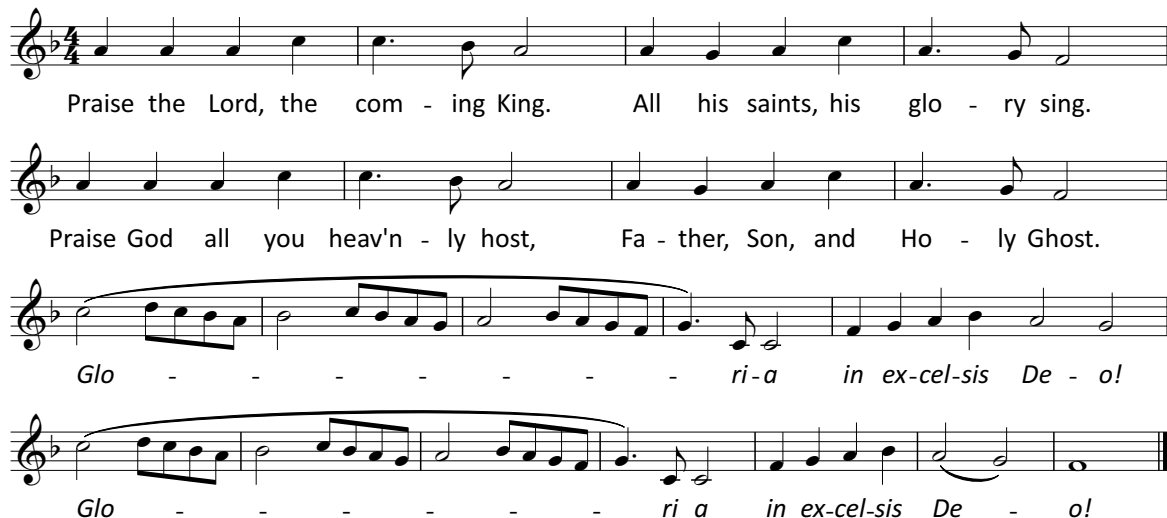
Text: Luke 1:68-79;  
trans. Carl Daw 1989, © 1989 Hope Publishing Co.  
Tune: Traditional English melody



1. Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free  
2. With prom - ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,  
3. My child, as pro - phet of the Lord you will pre - pare the way,  
and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.  
the oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all,  
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.  
So have the pro - phets long de - clared that with a might - y arm  
that we might wor - ship with - out fear and of - fer lives of praise,  
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease  
God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.  
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous - ness to serve God all our days.  
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

## Advent Doxology

Tune: Traditional French melody



Praise the Lord, the com - ing King. All his saints, his glo - ry sing.

Praise God all you heav'n - ly host, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o!

Glo - - - - - ri a in ex-cel-sis De - o!

## God blesses us and sends us out

Pastor: And all God's people said...

**All:** *Hallelujah! Amen.*

## Postlude

## Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

P. Laubengayer

Sermon discussion questions are available in paper copies at the Hanley Road entrance, on the table outside the Choir Room, and online at [www.centralpres.com](http://www.centralpres.com) as sermon "Notes."

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