

Seeking the peace and well-being of the city

December 17, 2023 11:00 a.m.





PRELUDE

People, Look East!

arr. W.L. Wold

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

ADVENT INTROIT

Prepare the Way, O Zion BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn REJOICE, REJOICE

CALL TO WORSHIP

*PROCESSIONAL CAROL

#154 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

*INVOCATION AND 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of justice and mercy, we confess that we get caught up in the busyness of our lives and forget to appreciate all the small moments of connection with you. Forgive us when we live in anxiety and fear, rather than in joyfulness.

We confess that we are consumed by fulfilling our personal agendas and forget to make room to meet the needs of others.

Forgive us when we live with the mindset of scarcity, rather than abundance.

We confess that we benefit from the oppressive structures of past generations and use our power and privilege for our personal gain.

Forgive us when we knowingly and unknowingly support unjust political, economic, and social structures, rather than working to free those who are oppressed.

God of justice and mercy,

help us live in a way that brings joy to you. May our spirits rejoice in God, our Saviour.

(Silence for personal confession and reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

R. Goodson

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.

ANTHEM

Advent Proclamation

L. Dengler

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11. Page 767-768, 1st half of the NRSV Bible Response to the reading: "Thanks be to God"

ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING (The Candle of Joy)

CAROL (remain seated) #178 Emmanuel, Emmanuel

(sing with the choir before and after the litany)

Let your Spirit sing in our hearts; let your song of joy fill our world; and as we wait through the Advent season let the glorious angels lead us to the place where the Christ would be born today. Amen

*CAROL OF PRAISE

#173 Magnificat

Taizé Community

B. McGee

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*CAROL OF MEDITATION

#171 To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary **ANNUNCIATION**

SECOND READING

Luke 1:46-55

First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation

of the New Testament

Response to the reading: "Thanks be to God"

SERMON "Mercy and Mary's Song" Rev. Dr. Ryan Sato

CELEBRATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS Offertory

Of the Father's Love Begotten

arr. A. Fedak

*Offertory Response

So, bring him incense, gold and myrrh, come peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary! *Prayer of Gratitude

*CAROL FOR THE JOURNEY

#168 Savior of the Nations, Come

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

THE BLESSING OF THE COMMUNITY

Leader: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: And also with you.

*Choral Benediction

"Rejoice! Rejoice!"

VENI EMMANUEL

*The Sending of the Community

*Congregational Amen

The service of the church into the world - - begins again this week

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

arr. P. Manz

*Please stand, as you are able

We are grateful for those who serve with us today: Writing & Leading - Rev. Susan Hunter; Prayers of the People - Jay Buhler, led by Rev. Jeremy Keay; Readers - Barb Falk, Ryan Keay; Video & Sound Technician - Evan Adnams.

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FBC Ministry Team:

Rev. Dr. Ryan Sato, Senior Minister Rev. Jeremy Keay, Minister of Youth, Young Adults, Outreach Dawn Stiles, Minister of Children and Families Dr. Evelyn Grieger, Minister of Music Jerrold Eilander, Organist/Choir accompanist

As we attempt to provide comfortable spaces for all and we have some members who have severe scent sensitivities, we ask that people refrain from wearing perfumes and colognes on Sunday morning to church. Thank you for helping us care for one another.

— FBC Council