



\*congregation standing; **bold print** indicates congregation reading in unison.

WELCOME Drew Herring

CHORAL PRELUDE *Ding, Dong, Merrily on High* Sanctuary Choir

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE: LOVE Casey & Frances Jones

DEDICATION OF NATHAN LEE OWEN

**With God's help we will seek to follow Christ ourselves so that Scotty and Kelly may be strengthened in their faith and that Nathan, surrounded by love, may be nurtured in the faith and strengthened in the way that leads to life.**

\*CAROL 125 *Angels We Have Heard on High* The Church

\*ADVENT AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Advent is believing in God's good.  
**Advent is embracing hope in fear.**  
 Advent is making peace in chaos.  
**Advent is finding joy within sorrow.**  
 Advent is love made visible.  
**Light in darkness.**  
 Life abundant.  
**Advent is waiting patiently...**  
 With hope and with peace.  
**With joy and with love.**

\*RESPONSE 83 (verse 1) *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* The Church  
**Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free; from our fears and sins 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.**



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# CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PAGEANT

Readers: Raylen Rubio, Autumn Silicki, Avery Holshouser

CAROL 110, vs 1 *Away in a Manger* The Church  
**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;  
the stars in the sky looked down where He lay, the little Lord Jesus a sleep on the hay.**

\*CAROL 107 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* The Church

PRAYERS Drew Herring

SERMON *What Are You So Afraid Of?* Matthew 1: 18-25 Drew Herring

\*CAROL 148 *What Child Is This* The Church

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Kelly Owen

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Carols Around* Sanctuary Choir  
Carl J. Nygard Sandie Parker, *accompanist*

\*ADVENT RESPONSE 119 (verse one) The Church  
**His name is called Emmanuel, more wonderful than words can tell. God is with us! Alleluia!  
Born in our darkness, He is Light; Born in our weakness, He is Might.  
God is with us! Alleluia! God is with us! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\*BENEDICTION John Bishop

POSTLUDE *Angels We Have Heard on High* Mark Gourley  
Timothy Albrecht

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## 2023 Commitment Update

We have one more Sunday to complete our 2023 commitment. We are currently at \$249,240 (49%) of our goal, \$512,492. If you have pledged, thank you. If not, please return your commitment card for 2023 by Dec. 31st. Let's make this happen!

The 2023 envelopes have arrived. You may pick your envelopes up at the church in the main hall.

2022 Contributions must be received by 12/31/22

**Friday, Dec. 23rd:** Church open 9-12 noon  
**Saturday, Dec. 24th @ 5:30:** Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Communion Service  
*Nursery provided for infants - 3 year olds*  
**Sunday, Dec. 25th @11:00 :** Worship Service only  
in the Fellowship Hall- casual dress  
**Monday, Dec. 26th-Tue.27th:** Church office closed  
**Wed. Dec. 28th & Thur. 29th:** Office open 9-4  
**Friday, Dec. 30th:** Office open 9-12 noon  
**Sunday, Jan. 1st @11:00:** Worship Service Only  
**Monday, Jan. 2nd:** Church office closed

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