

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Building Faith + Building Community + Building Lives



December 15, 2024

GATHERING MUSIC

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

Johann Pachelbel

Third Sunday of Advent

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELL

GATHERING

WELCOME

You are invited to stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy, we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might, we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst, we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through + Christ Jesus, whose day draws near. Amen.



GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

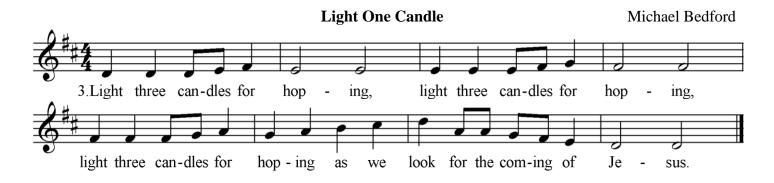
KYRIE







THE WORD



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Josh Lowman and Elizabeth Ballman

During the third week in Advent, we spend time thinking about joy. From Psalm 5:11, we hear these words, "But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, so that those who love your name may exult in you." *Credit: DeBenedetto, Susannah. Liturgy Link.*

3rd candle is lit.

Let us pray together: We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, strengthen our hearts as we await the Lord's coming in glory. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may serve our neighbors in need. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.

Congregation sits. Children are invited to come forward during the song and sit on the chancel steps.

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Jesus Loves Me

Jesus loves me, this I know For the Bible tells me so Little ones to him belong, They are weak, but he is strong!

READINGS

A reading from Zephaniah (3:14-20).

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. ¹⁷ The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸ as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. ¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰ At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD. The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

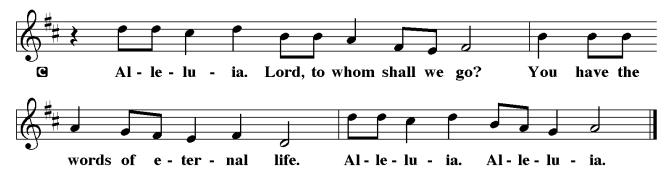
Yes, Jesus loves me,

Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, for the Bible tells me so. A reading from Philippians (4:4-7).

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Stand)



HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 3: 7-18

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the third chapter.

Congregation sings:



⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹ In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³ He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The gospel of the Lord.



Silence is kept for reflection.



APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

> *Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use. **Lower case "c" means universal.

THE PRAYERS

You are invited to either sit or kneel.

The response to each prayer will be Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

THE MEAL

SHARING OF THE PEACE (Stand)

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

OFFERING (Sit)

Support the mission and ministry of Gloria Dei by giving your financial tithes and offerings by:

- placing your offering envelope into the offering plate as it is passed.
- mailing to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 250 Fox Hill Road, Hampton, Virginia 23669.
- using the Tithe.ly app: https://get.tithe.ly/download-tithely-app.
- using the Kiosk in the lobby.
- using online bill pay with your own banking institution, using your envelope number as your account number.

For electronic offerings, see back page for QR codes.

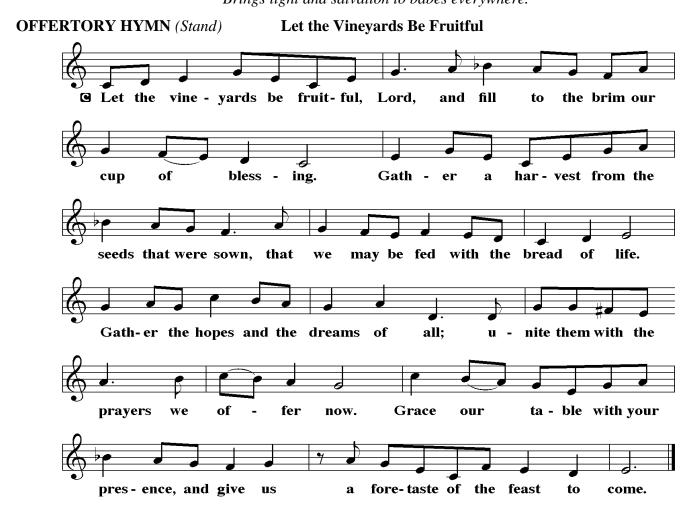
MUSICAL MEDITATION

Ev'ry Child

Natalie Sleeth

Chorister Choir

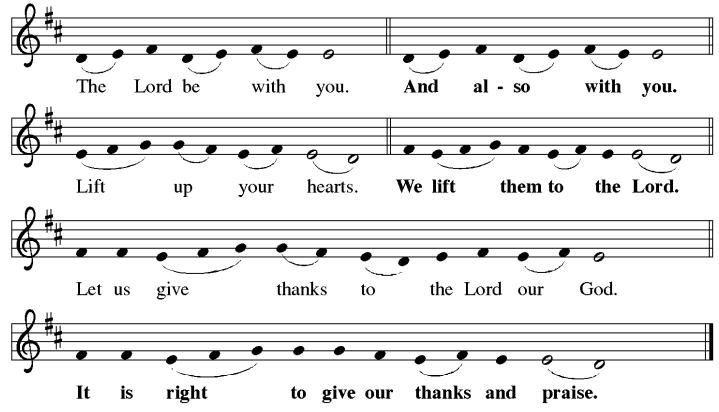
Ev'ry child is a gift of love to the Earth from H'vn sent down Filled with promises yet unknown, like the babe of Beth'lem town. Ev'ry child is a sacred trust, ever worthy in God's sight One small miracle here a while, like the babe on Christmas night Let us welcome them now with joy, as we welcome the Holy boy Guide them carefully so they know, hope and happiness as they grow Ev'ry child brings us faith anew, in the wonder of it all God's continuing gifts of grace, like the babe in Beth'lems stall Oh come little children, oh come and behold The child in the manger whom prophets foretold Rejoice, for the babe who lies slumbering there Brings light and salvation to babes everywhere.



OFFERING PRAYER

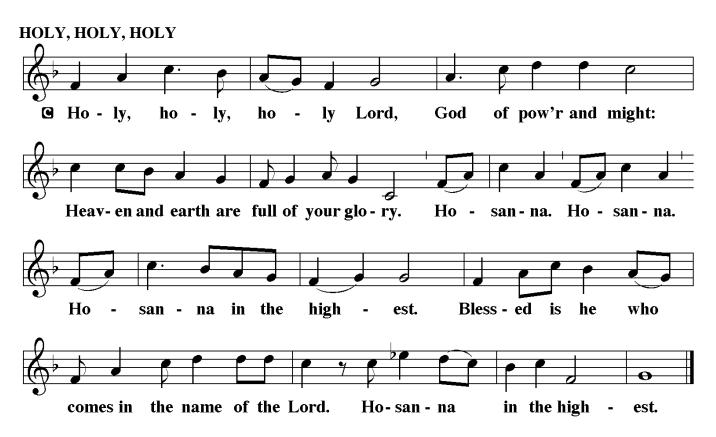
Let us pray together: Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DIALOGUE



PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

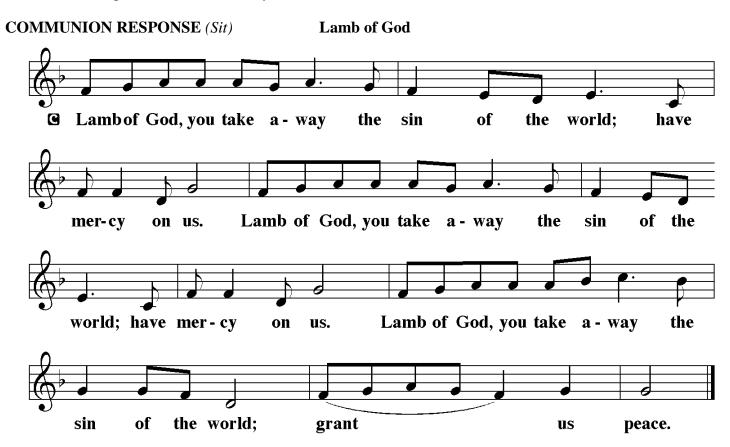
LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.



We believe that in the Eucharist our Lord Jesus Christ offers us His gifts of love and forgiveness. All are welcome to share in Communion. If you would like to receive communion by common cup instead of individual cups of wine or grape juice, after you consume your wafer, hold your hands out (palms up), just like you did for your wafer.

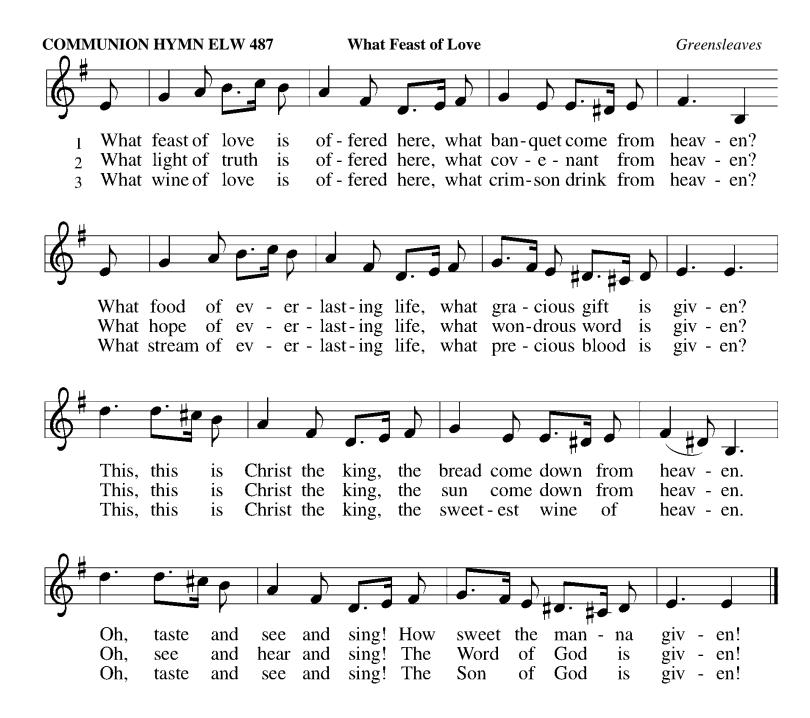
DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

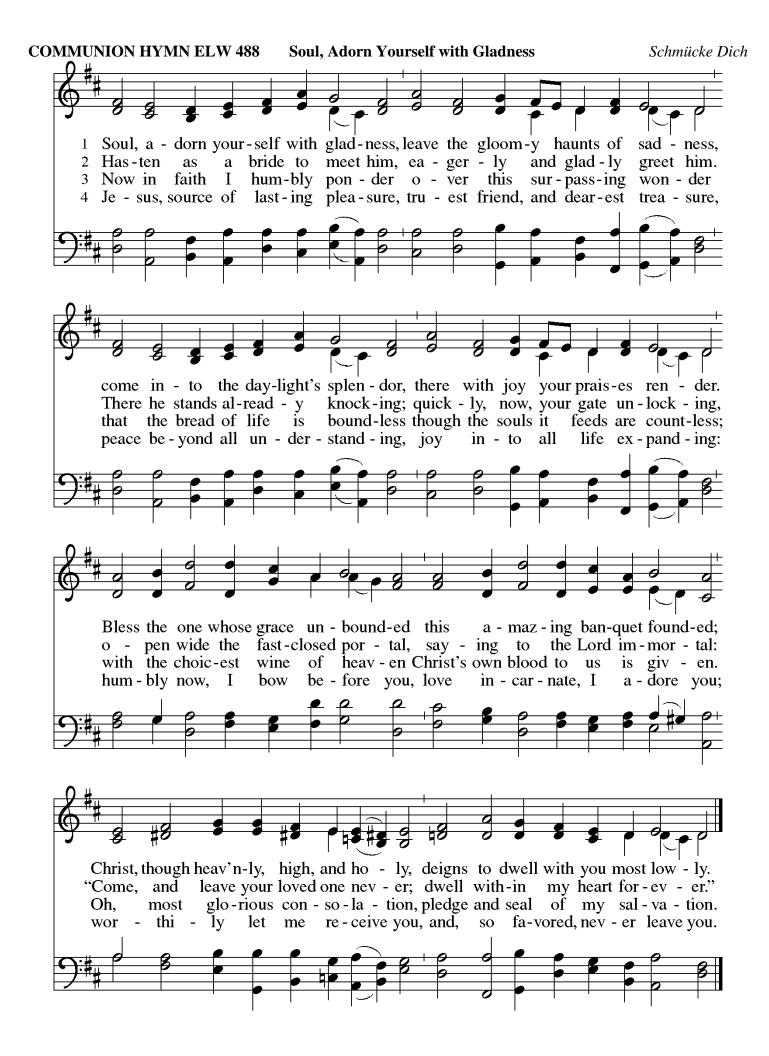
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

COMMUNION MEDITATION

Un Flambeau, Jeanette, Isabelle Virginia Lyeth, solo

Traditional French Carol





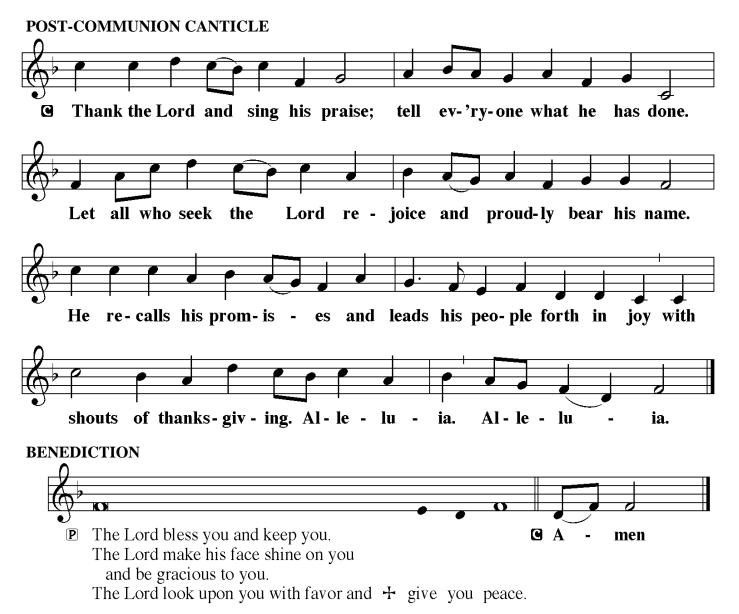
SENDING

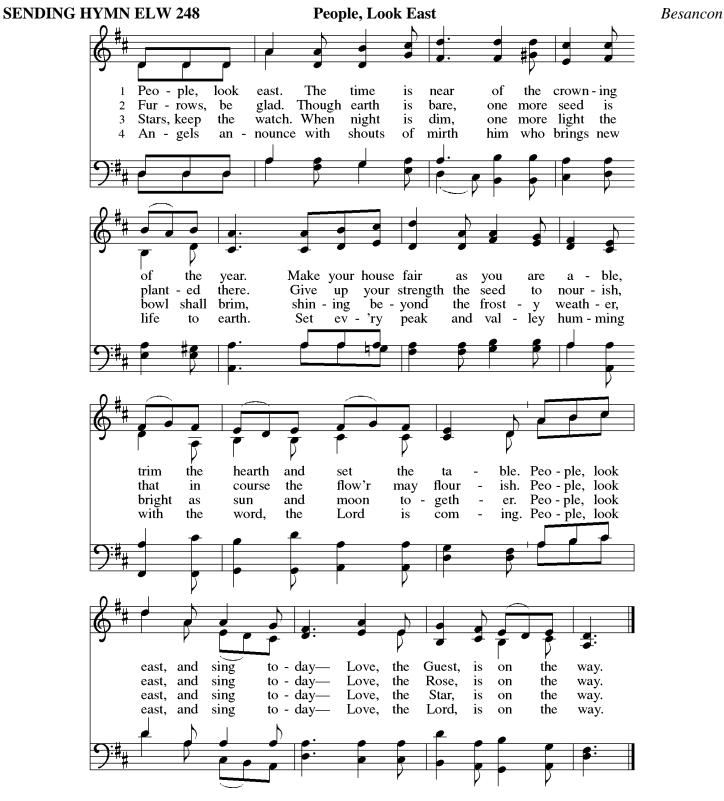
BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL (Stand)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.





ANNOUNCEMENTS (Sit)

POSTLUDE

Joshua Fought the Battle

arr. Hancock

Please take this time to ponder what Christ may be calling you/us to do through today's prayers, readings, sermons, and hymns as we listen to the postlude. If you are particularly moved by the Postlude, please hold your applause and congratulate the musician in person after worship.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



GLORIA DEI WEEKLY

250 Fox Hill Road, Hampton, Virginia 23669-1793 Telephone (757) 851-2838 FAX (757) 850-3935

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{elephone} \left(757\right) 651 - 2656 \quad \text{FAX} \left(757\right) 650 - 3666 \\ \text{FAX} \left(757\right) 650$

www.gloriadeilutheranchurch.net e-mail: <u>GDLC@gloriadei.net</u>

Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center, (757) 873-2273, peninsulapastoral.org

Permission to stream and print today's music is obtained through Augsburg, #SAS028379, One License, #A-730790 and CCLI, #11514371.

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God by Ann Myers in celebration of Fred Bradley's birthday.

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS are available for each Sunday's service on the table in the Atrium. PARENTS, if you would like your child to have a coloring book and colored pencils during worship, please ask an usher. RESTROOMS are located in the Atrium.

INDIVIDUAL HEARING AIDS are available from the ushers. Please return them to an usher after the service.

#1—Serving Today

	Rowena Cornwell, Debbi Ortiz
CROSS AND CROWN:	Dallam Brown, Wade Brown, Ruth Hutchison
GREETER:	Anita Hamilton
LAY ASSISTANT:	Sarah Olsen
READER:	Jeane Fullen
TECHNICAL TEAM:	Barry Hutchison, Derry Mace, Mike Riley, Aaron Sutherland, Jenny Sutherland
USHERS:	Brown Cornwell, Josh Lowman

#2—Pledge Cards

If you have yet to do so, please turn in your pledge card soon. You may place your completed card in the offering plate or submit it online by visiting our website. Your pledge cards help us to plan the next year's budget

#3—Watterton Fund

Kevin Watterton, spouse of Amy Watterton (long-time teacher at Gloria Dei), has been diagnosed with a rare and terminal cancer. If you would like to support the Watterton family, you may send a contribution to the church office through one of our payment methods. Please add "Watterton Fund" to the memo area of your chosen payment method.

#4—ELCA Good Gifts Fundraiser

This Christmas, the Senior High Youth are sponsoring the ELCA Good Gifts fundraiser, with the goal to raise \$2,500 to provide safe water access to ELCA-partnered communities in third world countries. We are representing this fundraiser with a "wishing well" display in the Atrium next to the Angel Tree.

Instructions for how to donate are posted next to the well. Donations can be made by cash, check (made to Gloria Dei), and our electronic payment options with "WELL WATER" noted as the description. All donations are due by Christmas Day!

Senior High Youth leader, Rachel Lomax, will be available after worship services to collect donations and answer any questions.

Thank you for helping those in need!

#5—Wonderful Wednesday Break

Wonderful Wednesday will resume on January 8, 2025!

#6—A Pint with Pastor

Please join Pastor Dave from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on **Thursday**, **December 19**, at The White Oak Lodge, 3533 Kecoughtan Rd, Hampton.

#7—Blessing Tree

Please consider helping local families in need by selecting an angel from the tree and supply the requested item(s) shown. Add your name and information on the corresponding line in the book on the table. Return the wrapped gift(s) by **Monday**, **December 16**.

#8—Gloria Dei Parade

Gloria Dei Lutheran School will be holding our 5th Annual Christmas Parade as a fun event for our students to attend on **Friday**, **December 20**. We are looking for participants to help make this event memorable for students and staff. We do have some regular attendees, such as the Kecoughtan Warrior Marching Band, Mission BBQ's Bam Bam, decorated golf carts, boats, and more. We even have Santa! If you, or someone you know, would be willing to participate, please contact the school office at 757-851-6292, or send an email to Lisa Dadez (Idadez@gloriadei.net) or Jeanene Nolte (jnolte@gloriadei.net).

#9—Christmas Caroling

Christmas Caroling begins at **11:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 22**. Carolers will travel by Gloria Dei bus. All are welcome to join in the singing. Following caroling, we will come back to the church to enjoy some more fellowship over a spaghetti lunch. Please RSVP by signing up on the sheet provided on the table in the Narthex or you may call the Church Office, 757-851-2838, or email <u>tbialk@gloriadei.net</u> or <u>psipes@gloriadei.net</u> so we can plan on enough food.

#10—Our Love and Prayers go out to...

If you have any prayer requests during the week, you may email psipes@gloriadei.net, or call the church office, 757-851-2838.

Our members: Jill Ruhl, Charlie Venable, Melvin Lanning, Debbi Ortiz, Judy Wagner St. Pierre, Buzz Hamilton, Vickie Roark, Abby Hella, Joann Morrison, Russ Morrison, Madeleine Etheridge, Dorie Scherer, Sharon Rose, Joan Ehlers, Tommy Vanorsdale, Donna Vanorsdale, Ernie Atkins, Chris Tucker, Craig Ruhl, Susan Krebs, Roger Ward, Marna Mayo, Wivi Pelt-Detlie, Bill Siefers, Max Vanpelt, Nancy Monroe, Bill Monroe, Bill Swanson, Joan Hudgins, Emily Urban

All names below will remain on the prayer list for the current month. Should you wish your loved one to remain on this list for another month, please call the church office the first week of each month to have them added.

Prayers for our families and friends:

Reyna Rodriguez, great-grandmother of Amelia Venable and Lucas Lopez Venable Linda Jones, cousin of Carol Godley Corine Gendron (GDLS employee) Pam Spring, wife of Pastor Spring (former GDLC Pastor) Claude Jarrell, friend of Fullens and Sutherlands Inken Myers, GDLS employee Adam Clark, friend of Jane Barefoot (GDLS employee) Patrick Reid, friend of Thomas and Lisa Dadez Mike and Roni Hull, grandparents of Amelia Venable Kevin Watterton, husband of Amy Watterton (GDLS employee) Nedra Clark, friend of Sharon Bennett Chuck Gravley, friend of Sharon Bennett Jane Barefoot, GDLS employee Michelle Nisbet, GDLS employee Larry Mullins, friend of the Fullens Siggi Williams, friend of the Fullens and Atkins Charlotte Tyeryar, mother of Pam Hess Bernard Allen family, friends of Jim and Jeane Fullen Julia Mutch, friend of Jim and Jeane Fullen Jude (GDLS student) and Monte (GDLS parent) Kuligowski Erin Weigel, friend of the Pfahls Marc Schaub, brother of Kim Miller Corie Amell, niece of Julie Hutchison Mike May, brother of Deborah Walker, GDLS employee Sheila May, mother of Deborah Walker, GDLS employee Tom Vanorsdale, husband of Donna Vanorsdale

#11—Birthdays

15 Fred Bound, Jr.

- 17 Kristin Wallis-Thomas, Miranda Venable
- 18 Vivian Griese
- 19 Pam Hess, Tom Hooks
- 21 Zachary Via
- 22 Lucas Lopez Venable

#12—Anniversaries

- 18 Bob and Joan Hudgins Bob and Vivian Reynolds
- 22 James and Yvonne Roberts

#13—Members and friends serving in the military who have asked for our prayers:

lan Bogy, USN Husband of Tamara Bogy Mark Bradford, USN Husband of Marilyn Bradford Colin Chambers, USA Friend of Mike Canny Ryan Curtis, USAF Son of Lynn and Cathy Curtis Daughter-in-law of Lynn and Cathy Curtis Crystal Curtis, USAF Son-in-law of Bill and Carolyn Swanson John Demitraszek, USMC Matthew Dudek, USA Friend of the Venables Tyler Green, USAF Son-in-law of Judy Wagner St. Pierre Nicholas Griese, USAF Son of Vivian Griese Megan Haskell, USA Granddaughter of Buzz and Anita Hamilton Jack Jones, USA Family friend of Mike Canny Dylan Kremp, USMC Member of Gloria Dei Kerri Masters, USA Member of Gloria Dei W. Allan Monroe, MSC Son of Bill and Nancy Monroe Matthew Morse, USMC Son of Kevin Morse Friend of Laura and Berto Lopez Troy Newton, USN Son of Judy Wagner St. Pierre Marc St. Pierre, USMC Paul St. Pierre, II, USCG/FSO Son of Judy Wagner St. Pierre Bradley Rollyson, USMC Son of Mark and Marilyn Bradford Steve Swanson, USN Son of Bill and Carolyn Swanson Grandson-in-law of Donna and Tom Vanorsdale Nick Tavarez, USN J.P. Venable, III, USAF Member of Gloria Dei Richard Williams, USAF Husband of Stephanie Williams and Son of Joan Ehlers

#14—Next Week at Gloria Dei

9:30 a.m. WORSHIP 11:00 a.m. Altar Guild/Cross and Crown Rehearsal Choir Rehearsal 12:00 p.m. Christmas Tree Sales				
Choir Rehearsal				
12:00 p.m. Christmas Tree Sales				
2:00 p.m. Hampton Story Telling Event				
Monday 6:00 p.m. Pack Meeting				
6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Meeting				
7:00 p.m. Troop 10 Meeting				
Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Bible Study (alternate location)				
Wednesday 12:00 p.m. Community Bible Study-H.E.L.P.				
Thursday 6:00 p.m. Bell Rehearsal				
7:00 p.m. A Pint with Pastor – White Oak				
Friday 5:00 p.m. Christmas Tree Sales				
Saturday 9:00 a.m. Christmas Tree Sales				
Next Sunday FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT				
9:30 a.m. WORSHIP				
10:30 a.m. Donuts				
11:00 a.m. Christmas Caroling				
12:00 p.m. Christmas Tree Sales				
1:00 p.m. Spaghetti Lunch				

#15—2025 Flower Calendar

The 2025 flower calendar is posted on the bulletin board just outside the church office suite for those wishing to give flowers for our Sunday worship services. These flowers cost approximately \$63.00. You may designate your flowers in celebration of something, in memory of someone, in honor of someone, to the glory of God, etc. You will be billed directly by *Jeff's Flowers, Of Course*. Thank you!

#16—Community Bible Study

We will not meet on December 25 or January 1. Our weekly Community Bible Study is held at H.E.L.P., 329 Buckroe Avenue, on Wednesdays at noon. All are invited to attend. This is a great opportunity for us to learn the needs of our community and help us to become more outreach-oriented.

#17—Story Telling Event

Join us today at 2:00 p.m. for story time with Hannah B. Harvey.

#18—Fellowship Bible Study

You are invited to join us in Bible study every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. We are meeting in the Simeon Center and using the Augsburg Adult Bible Study Series. This is a small group study, where you will find fellowship and a relaxed atmosphere. For information, please email Sharon Padula at slpadula1@gmail.com.

#19—Winter Clothing Collection

We are collecting items for men, women and children. All items are distributed with H.E.L.P. at A Night's Welcome shelters in Hampton and the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula. Clothing donations accepted through December 29. WINTER GEAR items collected (please no spring and summer items):

*Coats	*Hats	*Belts
*Socks	*Sweatshirts	*Sweaters
*Long sleeve shirts	*Scarves	*Gloves
*Backpacks		

#20—Clothes Dryer Donation for School

Our School is in need of a clothes dryer. If you have a gently used or new one to donate, please call Lisa Dadez, 757-851-6292.



QR Codes for Online Giving

If you would like to give electronically to the church, you can do so by scanning one of the QR codes below.

Tithe.ly



PayPal



Venmo

