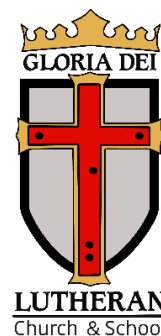


# Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

## Third Sunday of Advent

### December 14, 2025

Building Faith ✚ Building Community ✚ Building Lives



#### PRELUDE

**Be a Candle of Hope**  
Chorister Choir

#### RINGING OF THE TOWER BELL

### GATHERING

#### WELCOME

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
whose home is heaven and earth,  
whose salvation is sure.

**Amen.**

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

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Long-expected God,  
**we confess that we look to ourselves  
for the peace and security only you can provide.  
We reach for swords and spears,  
reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.  
We become impatient while waiting  
and weary of keeping awake.  
Free us from self-reliance,  
and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.  
Increase our trust in God's timing,  
and awaken us to your advent among us,  
that we may abound in the hope you have promised.  
Amen.**

God judges us not as we deserve,  
but according to God's own righteousness.

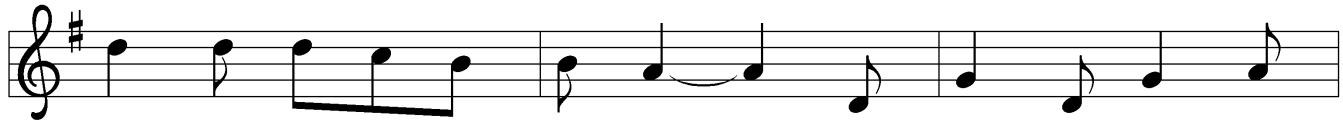
✚ You are freed and forgiven,  
saved by grace,  
and ready to welcome the Savior.  
**Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN ELW 242 (Stand) Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

*Rejoice, Rejoice*



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and

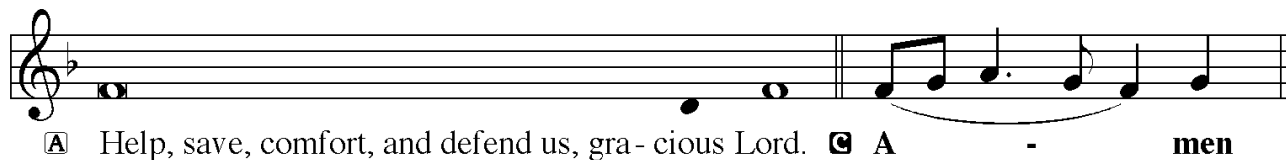
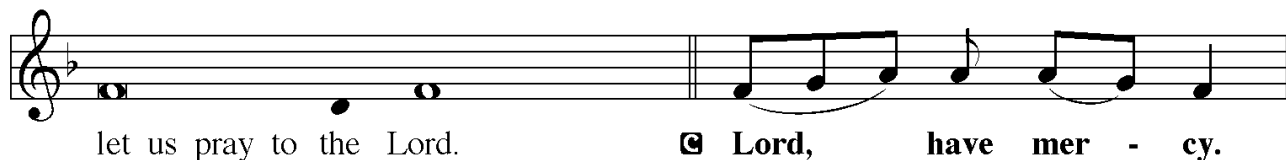
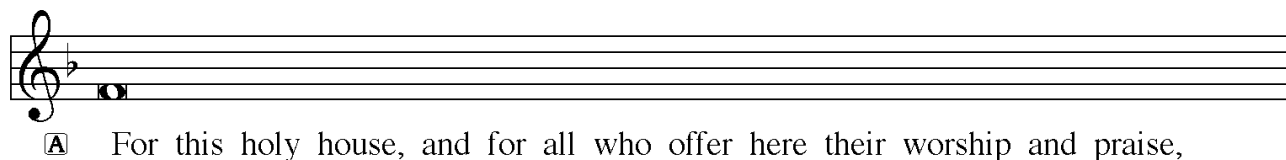
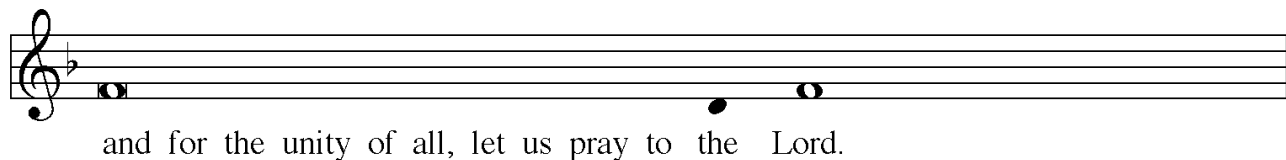
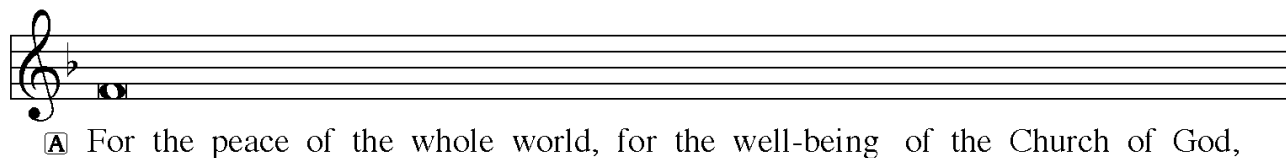
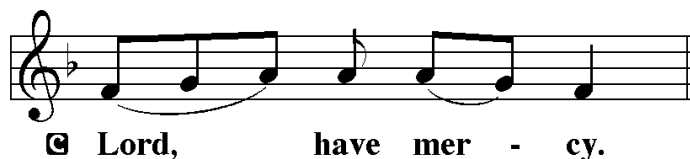
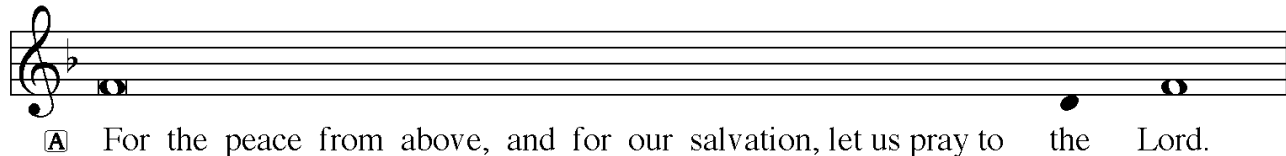
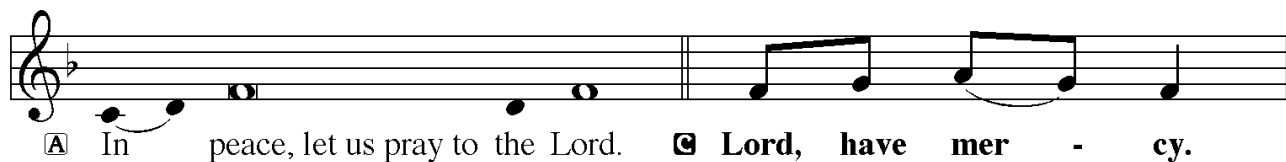


lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

## 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



## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **I** Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was

slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **II** Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or,      bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.


 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **I** Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre-a - tion: Bless- ing, hon-or, glo- ry, and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

**☩** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **II** For the Lamb who was  
 slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.  
**☩** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

## THE WORD

Light One Candle

Michael Bedford

3. Light three can-dles for hop-ing, light three can-dles for hop-ing,  
 light three can-dles for hop-ing as we look for the com-ing of Je-sus.

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES (*Sit*)

Whitney and Colby Owens

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.*

3<sup>rd</sup> 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.**

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

## WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

## This Little Light

*This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

## READINGS

A reading from Isaiah (35:1-10).

<sup>1</sup> The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;  
like the crocus <sup>2</sup> it shall blossom abundantly  
and rejoice with joy and shouting.  
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
the majesty of our God.]]

<sup>3</sup> Strengthen the weak hands  
and make firm the feeble knees.

<sup>4</sup> Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
"Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

<sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;

<sup>6</sup> then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness  
and streams in the desert;

<sup>7</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup> A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God's people;  
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

<sup>9</sup> No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.

<sup>10</sup> And the ransomed of the LORD shall return  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain joy and gladness,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm (146:5-10) is read responsively.

<sup>5</sup> Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

<sup>6</sup> **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;  
who keeps promises forever;**

<sup>7</sup> who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.  
The LORD sets the captive free.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;  
the LORD loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD cares for the stranger;  
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup> **The LORD shall reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

A reading from James (5:7-10).

<sup>7</sup> Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup> You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup> Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup> As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*Stand*)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11**

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

*Congregation sings:*



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup> When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

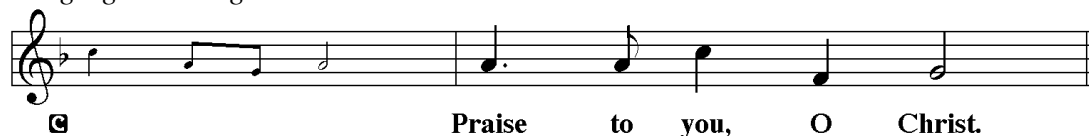
<sup>7</sup> As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup> What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup> What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you.’

<sup>11</sup> “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

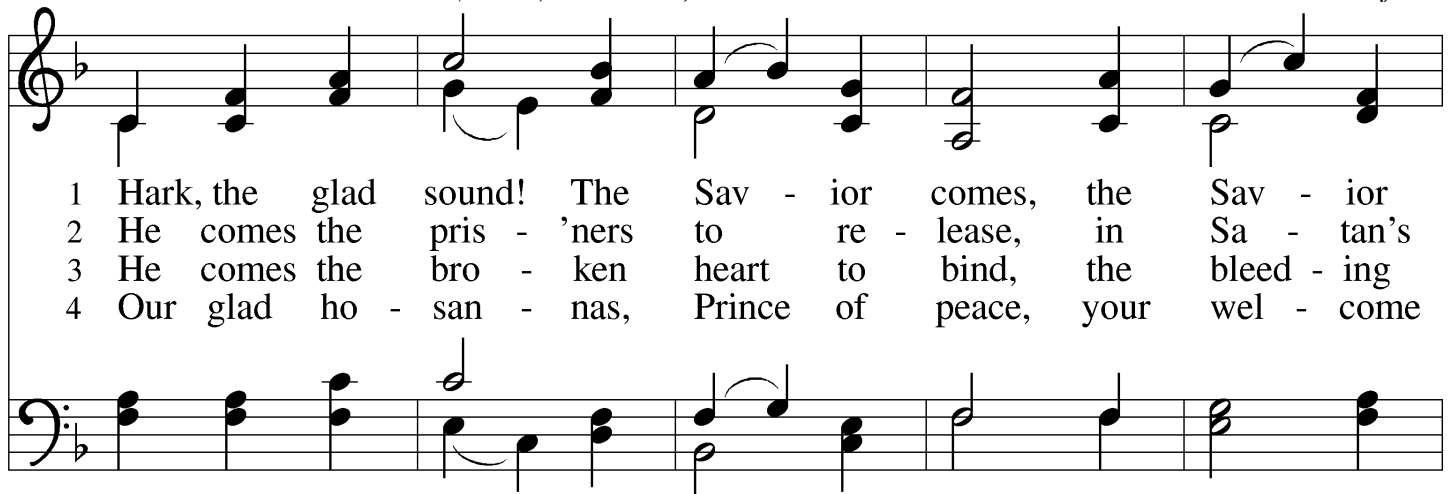
*Congregation sings:*



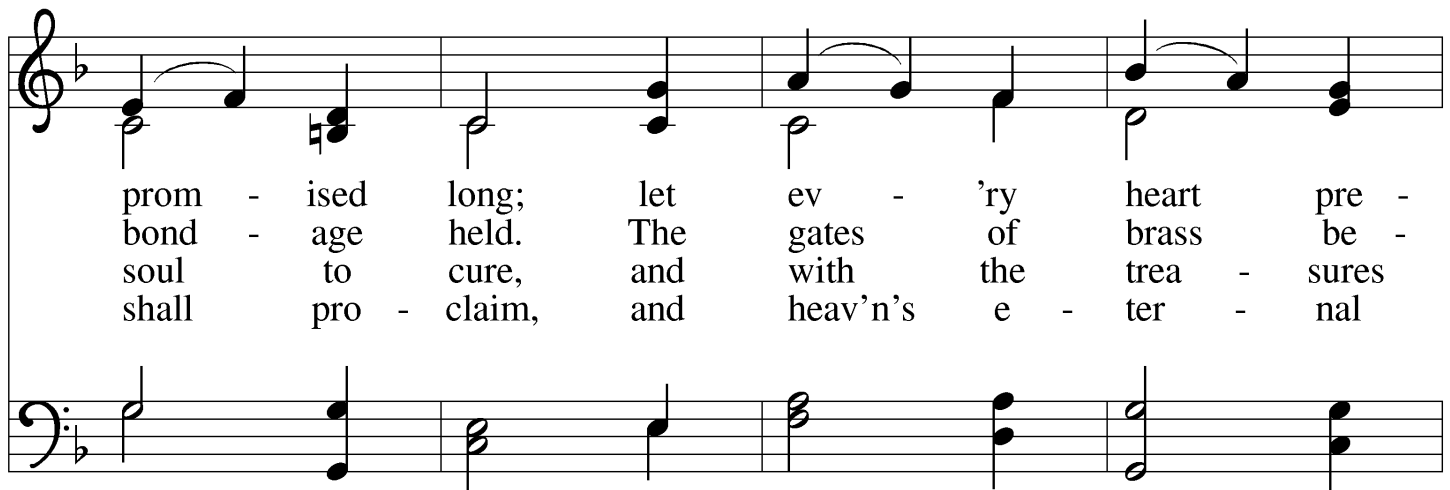
Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON** (*Sit*)

*Silence is kept for reflection.*



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.



## 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 stand or kneel as you are able.*

The response to each prayer will be *God of grace, **hear 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 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**

### **Look to the Light**

**Chorister Choir**

*Look to the light, the candle of love.  
Jesus is coming. Jesus is coming.  
Look to the Light, God's gift from above.  
Jesus is coming. Jesus is coming.  
Put away anger and open your heart.  
Keep your light burning and let Christmas start.*

*Look to the light, the candle of love.  
Jesus is coming.  
Jesus is coming soon.*

*People arise, prepare the way!  
Let your music greet the day.  
Let all the earth break forth with singing.  
Let all the mountains and valleys start ringing.*

*People arise and share the news.  
Christ the Light is coming soon.  
Christ is coming soon.*

*Look to the light, the candle of love.  
Jesus is coming. Jesus is coming.  
Look to the Light, God's gift from above.  
Jesus is coming. Jesus is coming.  
Put away anger and open your heart.  
Keep your light burning and let Christmas start.  
Look to the light, the candle of love.*

*Jesus is coming.  
Jesus is coming soon.  
Coming soon!  
Coming soon!*

**OFFERTORY HYMN** (*Stand*)**Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.'

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together:

**Creator God,**

**in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good**

**and the harvest is plentiful.**

**Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth**

**and our labor,**

**that we may work for the good of all;**

**through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

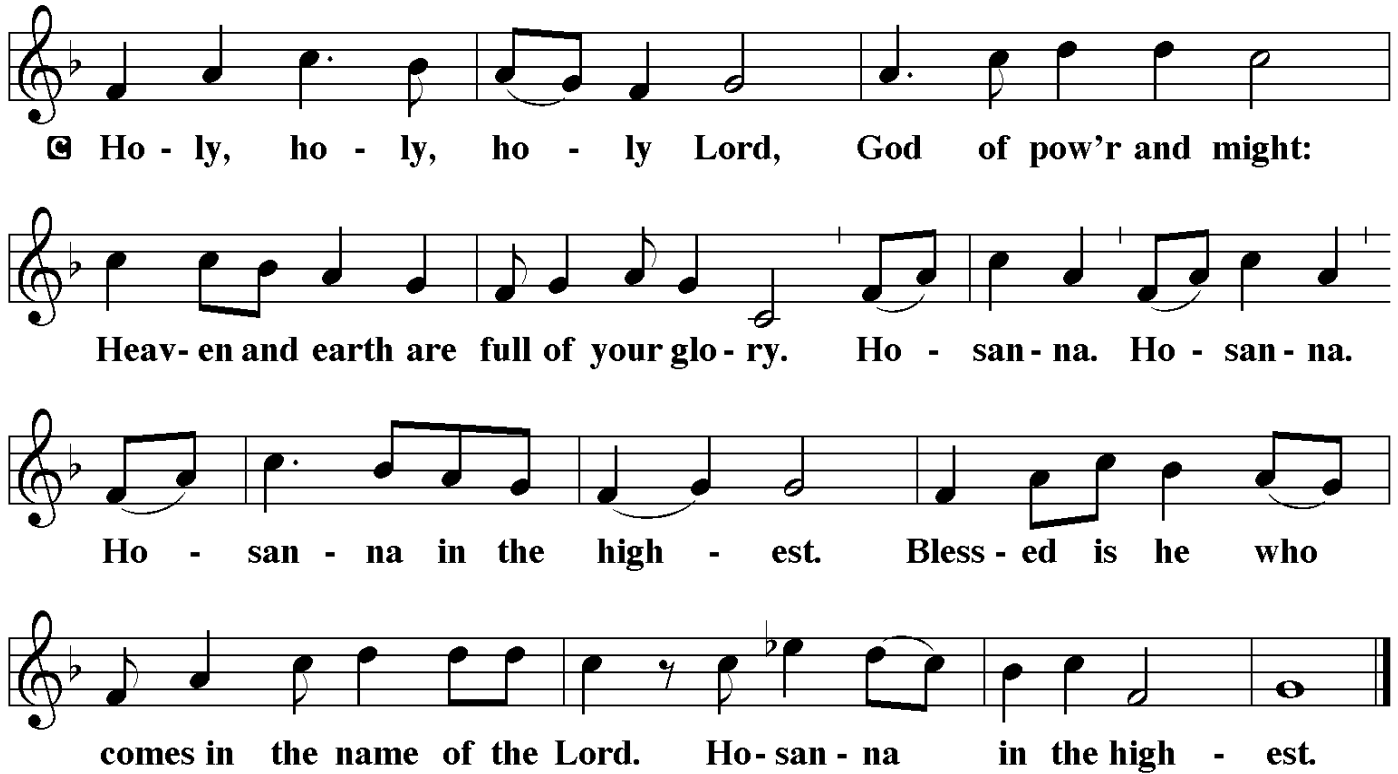
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## 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:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.**

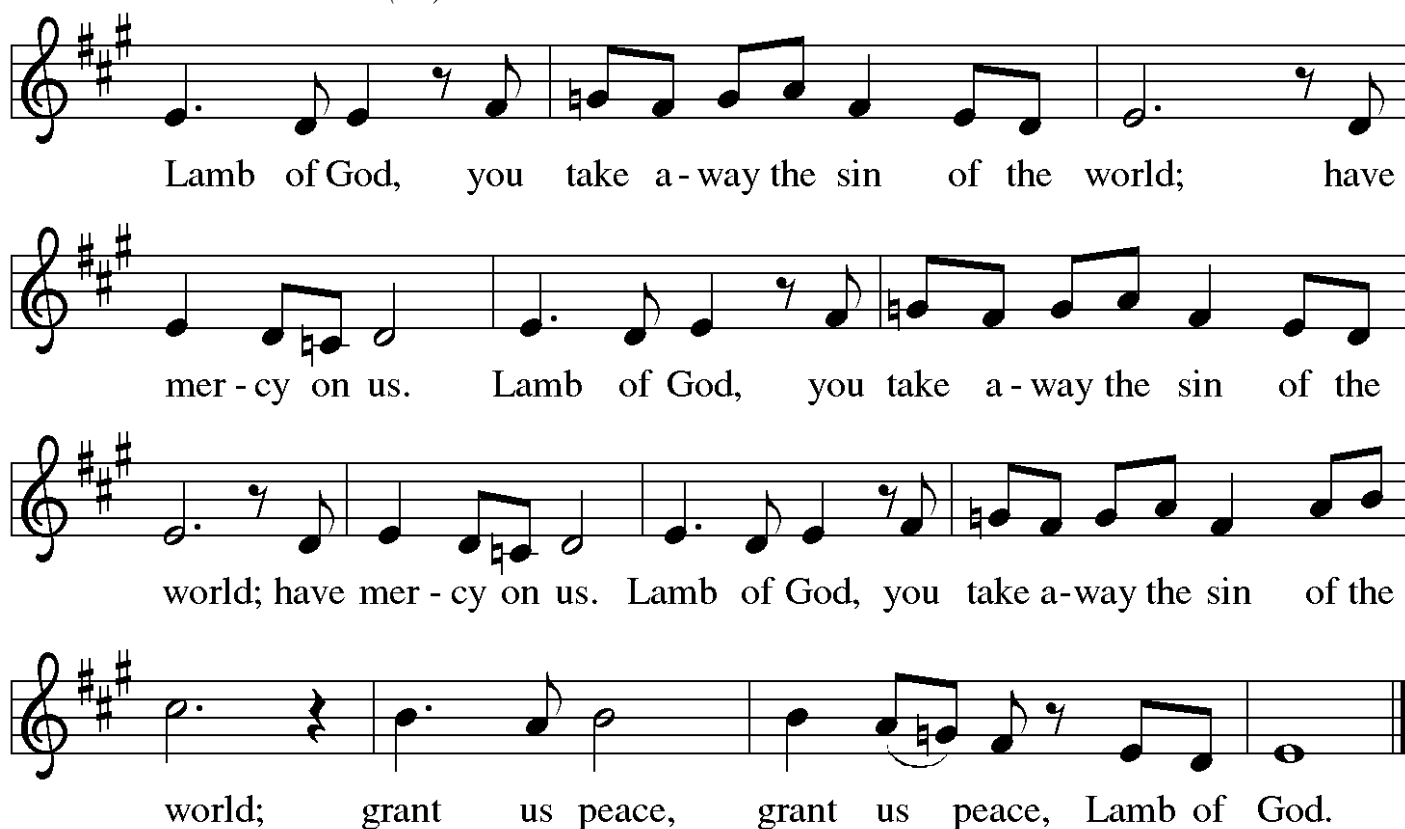
**For thine is the kingdom,**  
    **and the power, and the glory,**  
    **forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is life. God is with us.  
Come, receive what God has promised.

## COMMUNION RESPONSE *(Sit)*

### Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

*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.**



- 1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
- 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,
- 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way;
- 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand  
 Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,  
 as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,  
 veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom-age to de - mand.  
 he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.  
 comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark-ness clears a - way.  
 "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

# SENDING

## BLESSING AFTER THE MEAL *(Stand)*

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

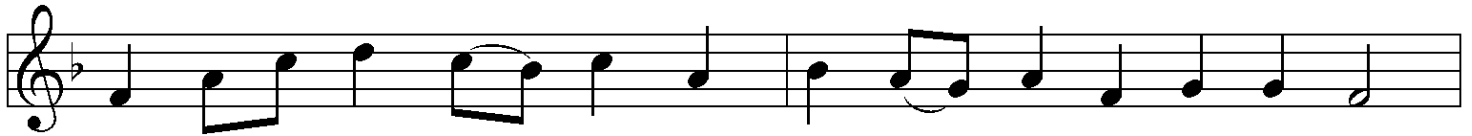
## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:  
**God our host,  
at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.  
Send us forth, eager to share the feast,  
welcome the stranger,  
and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



**☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.**



**Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.**

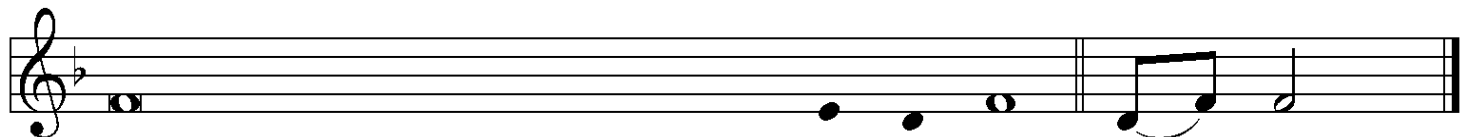


**He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with**



**shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.**

## BENEDICTION



**☩ The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.**

**☩ A - men**



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (Sit)

## POSTLUDE

## In Dulci Jubilo

Johann Sebastian Bach

*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

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Telephone (757) 851-2838 FAX (757) 850-3935

www.gloriadelutheranchurch.net e-mail: [GDLC@gloriadei.net](mailto:GDLC@gloriadei.net)

Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center, (757) 873-2273, [peninsulapastoral.org](http://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 memory of Jerry Myers.

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.

## Serving Today

COFFEE CREATORS: Debbi Ortiz, Vicki Venable  
CROSS AND CROWN: Ruth Hutchison, Hayley O'Neill, Micaela Ruhl,  
Jacob Zamora  
GREETER: Anita Hamilton  
LAY ASSISTANT: Anne Perry  
READER: Jerri Dickseski  
TECHNICAL TEAM: Jeremiah Green, Barry Hutchison, Derry Mace,  
Mike Riley, Aaron Sutherland, Jenny Sutherland  
USHERS: Tom Clasen, Don Padula

## Weekly Calendar

**Today** ..... **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
8:30 a.m. First Light Sunday School  
9:30 a.m. **WORSHIP**  
11:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal; Prayer Shawl  
**Monday** ..... 6:30 p.m. Girl Scout Meeting  
Pack 27 Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Troop 10/1051 Meeting  
**Tuesday** ..... 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Bible Study  
6:00 p.m. Supper at Capri-RSVP Required  
**Wednesday** ..... 12:00 p.m. Community Bible Study  
**Next Sunday** ..... **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
8:30 a.m. First Light Sunday School  
9:30 a.m. **WORSHIP**  
11:00 a.m. Caroling followed by Lunch  
4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

## Congregational Sympathy

Congregational sympathy is extended to Kelly Redman and family on the death of her mother, Donna Hyatt, who died in Columbus, Georgia, on Sunday, December 7, 2025. Condolences may be sent to 415 Durham Street, Hampton, VA 23669.

## Flower Calendar

The 2026 flower calendar is posted just outside the Nave for those wishing to give flowers for our Sunday worship services. These flowers cost approximately \$65.00. 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!

## First Light (Sunday School)

First Light is on Sunday mornings from 8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

## Christmas Caroling

Christmas Caroling begins at **11:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 21**. 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 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 [psipes@gloriadei.net](mailto:psipes@gloriadei.net) or [tbialk@gloriadei.net](mailto:tbialk@gloriadei.net) so we can plan on enough food.

## Women of Gloria Dei WELCA

The WELCA Book Club is getting together at the home of Mary Mace on **December 15 at 7:00 p.m.** The book selected is "Catching Christmas," by [Terri Blackstock](#). The book is a perfect read to prepare us for the holidays. Please consider joining us.

Please join us for Glass with the Girls at Pour Girls in downtown Hampton on **Monday, December 22, at 7:00 p.m.**

## Wonderful Wednesday Break

Wonderful Wednesday will resume on January 8, 2026!

## Pledge Cards

Please turn in your pledge cards by placing in the offering plate or submitting them via mail, or the link on our website as soon as possible. Your pledge cards help us to plan the next year's budget. We will celebrate the pledges submitted so far and will let you know how many pledges were submitted and how much money has been pledged for 2026.

## Suppers at Capri

Join Pastor and others at Capri Pizza and Italian Restaurant, located at 227 Fox Hill Rd., on Tuesday, January 20, at 6:00 p.m. We will have a meal together and share in conversations around Scripture. At the end of our time together, we will share Holy Communion. Invite your friends and family. **Please, RSVP to Peggy in the Church Office by Tuesday, January 13;** we want to make sure the restaurant is prepared for our group being there. You are responsible for the cost of your meal and a generous tip.

## Fellowship Bible Study

Fellowship Bible Study meets from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. every Tuesday in the Simeon Center. We use a study called Daily Faith Practices published by the ELCA. For information, please email Sharon Padula at [slpadula1@gmail.com](mailto:slpadula1@gmail.com).

### Our Love and Prayers go out to...

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

**Our members:** Larry Dunn, Debbie Dunn, Fred Bradley, Julie Hutchison, Frank Dickeski, Debbi Ortiz, Lisa Dadez, Sharon Rose, Gordon Robertson, Ernie Atkins, Leonard Mayo, Marna Mayo, Jill Ruhl, Judy Wagner St. Pierre, Charlie Venable, Vickie Roark, Joann Morrison, Dorie Scherer, Joan Ehlers, Tommy Vanorsdale, Donna Vanorsdale, Chris Tucker, Craig Ruhl, Susan Krebs, Wivi Pelt-Detlie, Bill Siefers, Nancy Monroe, Bill Monroe, Bill Swanson, 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, please call the church office the first week of each month to have them added.

#### Prayers for our families and friends:

Emily Hyatt, sister of Kelly Redman  
Mike and Roni Hull, grandparents of Amelia Venable  
Adonai Bennett, son of Tamika (GDLS parent)  
Kevin Watterton, husband of Amy Watterton (GDLS employee)  
Jane Barefoot, GDLS employee  
Michelle Nisbet, GDLS employee  
Larry Mullins, friend of the Fullens  
Siggi Williams, friend of the Fullens and Atkins  
Jude (GDLS student) and Monte (GDLS parent) Kuligowski  
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

### Life Groups at Gloria Dei

Joining or creating a small group in your church offers a unique opportunity to grow deeper in your faith and build meaningful connections. If you feel the call to host a small group and/or to join a small group, please email Pastor at [pastordave@gloriadei.net](mailto:pastordave@gloriadei.net).

### Maintenance Requests

If you see something on our church campus that needs repair or attention, please send an email to [maintenance@gloriadei.net](mailto:maintenance@gloriadei.net).

### Calendar Request

Please email [CalendarRequest@gloriadei.net](mailto:CalendarRequest@gloriadei.net) for all facility usage requests.

### Annual Coat Drive

#### Now through December 28

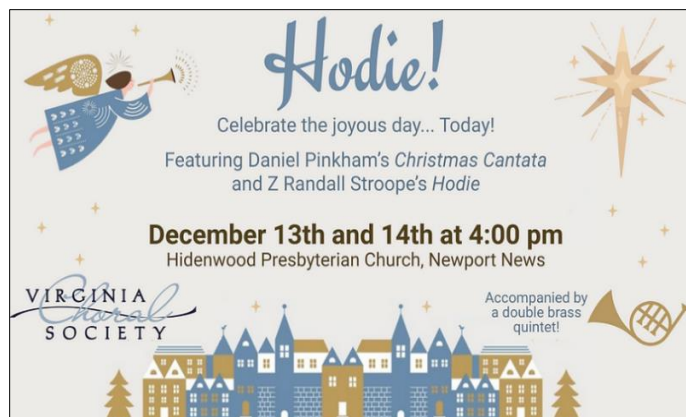
Andrew Sutherland is kicking off his annual coat drive. He is collecting coats and many other items for the homeless this winter. There is a collection box in the Atrium. He collects items for men, women, and children. All items are distributed with Hampton Roads Ecumenical Lodgings and Provisions (H.E.L.P.) at A Night's Welcome shelters in Hampton and the Boys and Girls Club of the Peninsula.

#### WINTER GEAR Items collected (PLEASE no spring and summer items):

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

Please share the news with your family, friends, coworkers and neighbors. Feel free to call with any questions, 757-513-4943.

Thank you for your support!!



### 60th Anniversary Final Challenge!

#### 60 Days of GROWTH THROUGH CHANGE

*"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me."  
Psalm 51:10*

Gloria Dei Church, School, and community have been blessed by all your prayers, attitudes of gratefulness, and your acts of kindness, during the previous three 60 Day Challenges.

The fourth and final challenge is meant to inspire you and your family to reflect through prayer to identify an area you can commit to change, resulting in growth for you, for others, for our church, school, and missions.

#### Some ideas for positive change:

- Challenge yourself to daily prayer.
- Challenge yourself to regular church attendance.
- Challenge yourself to regularly read the Bible.
- Challenge yourself to let go of anger or a grudge.
- Challenge yourself to accept others with different opinions or ideas.
- Challenge yourself to welcome others.
- Challenge yourself to spend more time with loved ones.

How will you challenge yourself?

See the table and poster in the Tower of the Triumphant for more information on this challenge. Don't forget to pick up a cross penny to remind you of this challenge!

## Christmas Eve Worship Services

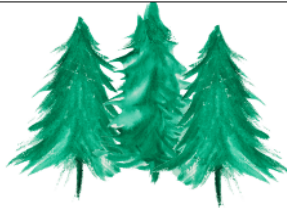
# Christmas Eve Worship Services

**5:00 PM** A brief worship service with familiar Christmas carols and special music.  
Perfect for families with young children.

**7:30 PM** A candlelight worship service with Christmas carols and special music.

## Christmas Tree Sales

**\$65**  
6FT TREES



**\$80**  
7FT TREES

## Christmas Tree Sales

**BEGINNING SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29**

FRIDAYS ... 5 PM - 8 PM

SATURDAYS ... 9 AM - 7 PM

SUNDAYS ... 12 PM - 6 PM

*All proceeds benefit the youth groups!*

## QR Codes for Online Giving to Gloria Dei

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

Tithe.ly



PayPal



Venmo

