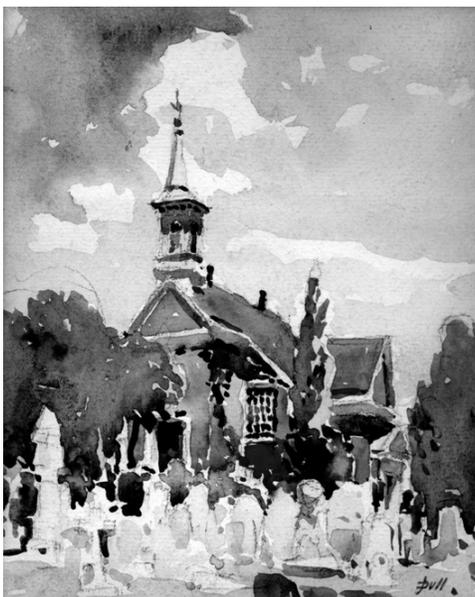


# Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church



Christian Street and Columbus Boulevard  
Philadelphia, PA 19147  
215-389-1513 [www.old-swedes.org](http://www.old-swedes.org)  
The Rev. Dr. Koshy Mathews

We, the congregation of Gloria Dei (Old Swedes), existing by and for the glory of God, knowing that God, through this congregation, helps us find our way and to use our gifts, gather together, to honor and celebrate the acceptance of our differences and uniqueness, to be an inviting, welcoming, sustaining and loving community, to respond to the needs of others, to preserve and build upon the beauty, tradition and heritage of this sacred place.

Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols

&

Eucharist

December 19, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Ministry Assistants Today**

Altar Guild: Cathy Ufheil

Readers: Anne Brilliant, Jill Duink, Jim Minacci, Janet Pinkerton, Lisa Reeves, Eric Soltycki

Usher: Jim Ufheil

Advent Candle: Jim and Cathy Ufheil

*(The CDC has updated its guidelines to recommend that people should wear masks indoors, and continue with social distancing regardless of whether they are vaccinated or not, as vaccination breakthroughs are happening. The state, city, and Diocese are asking us to follow the CDC guidelines.*

*Let us not do it grudgingly but do it with love, as following these guidelines may show our love for each other and our neighbor.*

*We continue to share peace with each other by waving at each other, or by showing peace signs or Namaste. Singing is allowed.)*

*[Silence for prayer and preparation]*

*(+As you are able standing; ++ sitting; +++ As you are able sitting or kneeling)*

**Opening Hymn # 53**

*Once He Came in Blessing*

Hymnal 1982



1 Once he came in bless - ing, all our ills re - dress - ing;  
2 Still he comes with - in us, still his voice would win us  
3 Thus, if thou canst name him, not a - shamed to claim him,  
4 One who thus en - dur - eth bright re - ward se - cur - eth.



came in like-ness low - ly, Son of God most ho - ly;  
from the sins that hurt us, would to Truth con - vert us:  
but wilt trust him bold - ly nor dost love him cold - ly,  
Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, from our sins re - lease us;



bore the cross to save us, hope and free - dom gave us.  
not in tor - ment hold us, but in love en - fold us.  
he will then re - ceive thee, heal thee, and for - give thee.  
let us here con - fess thee till in heaven we bless thee.

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

*Jim and Cathy Ufheil*

# Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW 240

Traditional Yiddish Folk Tune  
Lyrics by Wayne L. Wold



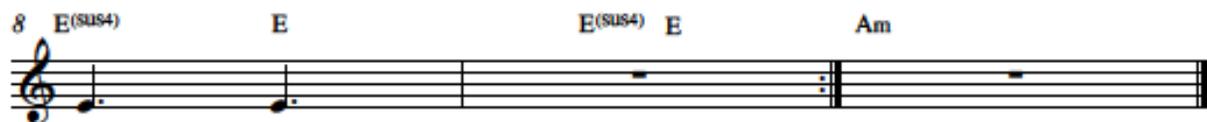
1. Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah:  
 2. Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah:  
 3. Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah:  
 4. Light four can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah:



let the light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall bring sal -  
 let the light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall feed the  
 let the light ban - ish dark - ness. Lift your heads and  
 let the light ban - ish dark - ness. He is com - ing,



va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the  
 flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them  
 lift high the gate - way for the King of  
 tell the glad tid - ings, Let your lights be



prom - ise.  
 home - ward.  
 glo - ry.  
 shin - ing!

## Bidding Prayer

Priest: Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city of Philadelphia.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to gather all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

**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 trespasses, 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.**

Priest The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen.*

*(We sit during lessons and stand during Carols; +as you are able standing; ++ sitting; )*

**++First Lesson Isaiah 40: 1-11**

*Jim Minacci*

*God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption*

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her  
that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.  
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.  
The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings;  
lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear;  
say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him;  
his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
and carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead the mother sheep.



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus  
 2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert  
 3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness  
 far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance  
 pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -  
 since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing  
 as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;  
 cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;  
 of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,  
 let the val - leys rise to meet him  
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.  
 and the hills bow down to greet him.  
 that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

**++Second Lesson Baruch 4: 36- 5:9**

**Eric Soltycki**

*The Scribe Baruch urges the people to look East because salvation is at hand.*

Look toward the east, O Jerusalem, and see the joy that is coming to you from God.

Look, your children are coming, whom you sent away;

they are coming, gathered from east and west,

at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,

and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.

Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;

put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;  
for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.

For God will give you evermore the name,

“Righteous Peace, Godly Glory.”

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east,  
and see your children gathered from west and east

at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them.

For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies;  
but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne.

For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low  
and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.

The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God’s command.

For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory,  
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

+Carol #65

*Prepare the Way of Zion*

Hymnal 1982



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!  
2 He brings God’s rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.  
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior’s rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.  
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.  
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.  
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.  
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.

*Refrain*



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most ho - ly name.

++Third Lesson

Micah 5: 2-4

*Sara Eisenstein/ Jill Duink*

*The one who is to rule Israel will be born in the village of Bethlehem.*

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.  
Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;

then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.  
 And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
 in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
 And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;

++Carol

#127

*Earth has Many a Noble City*

Hymnal 1982

1 Earth has man - ya no - ble ci - ty; Beth-lehem, thou dost all ex - cel:  
 2 Fair - er than the sun at morn - ing was the star that told his birth,  
 3 East - ern sa - ges at his cra - dle make ob - la - tions rich and rare;  
 4 Sa - cred gifts of mys - tic mean - ing: in - cense doth their God dis - close,  
 5 Je - sus, whom the Gen - tiles wor - shipped at thy glad e - piph - a - ny,

1 out of thee the Lord from hea - ven came to rule his Is - ra - el.  
 2 to the world its God an - nounc - ing seen in flesh - ly form on earth.  
 3 see them give, in deep de - vo - tion, gold and frank - in - cense and myrrh.  
 4 gold the King of kings pro - claim - eth, myrrh his sep - ul - cher fore - shows.  
 5 un - to thee, with God the Fa - ther and the Spi - rit, glo - ry be.

+Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 11: 1-9

*Anne Brilliant*

*The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon the Holy One.*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
 The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
 the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;  
 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
 he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
 and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
 the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together;

and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
 The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
 and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
 They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain;  
 for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

++Carol # 56 O Come, O Come Emmanuel Hymnal 1982



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from  
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen  
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us  
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the  
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge  
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to  
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on  
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of  
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions  
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.  
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.  
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.  
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.  
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

*God promises a new heaven and a new earth.*

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth;  
the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating;  
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.

I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people;  
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress.

No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days,  
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;

for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,  
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat;

for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,  
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity;<sup>[a]</sup>

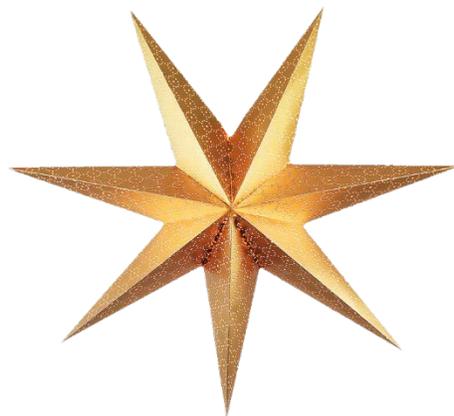
for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—  
and their descendants as well.

Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox;

but the serpent—its food shall be dust!

They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain,  
says the LORD.



1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!  
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;  
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.  
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;  
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;  
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.  
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!  
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

*An angel announces to Zachariah that his wife Elizabeth will bear a son.*

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there

appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Zechariah said to the angel, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, "This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people."

**++Carol # 57**

*Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*

Hymnal 1982



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for  
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in  
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his  
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand  
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at  
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less  
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the  
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -  
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,  
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,  
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the son of the Most High

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

++Carol # 81

Lo! How a Rose e'er Blooming

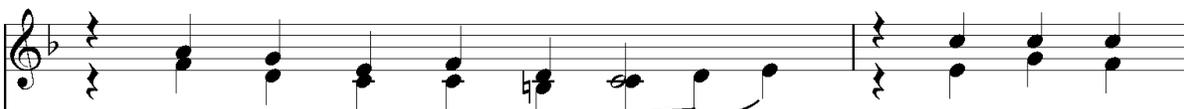
Hymnal 1982



1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,  
 \* 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,



Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.  
 with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.  
 dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;



It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the  
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to  
 true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and



cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
 us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.  
 death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

**+The Peace** (*Worshippers turn to each other and acknowledge their presence by a peace sign or Namaste*)

**++Announcements, Birthday & Anniversary Prayers**

**Offertory**

**Doxology**

Flowingly, in 1 Unknown

Praise God from whom all Blessings flow, praise Him all  
6  
creatures here below. Praise Him above all heavenly  
12  
hosts, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## We Share Holy Communion

### The Holy Communion – Eucharistic Prayer B

(Facing the congregation and standing behind the altar table)

**+Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant** Lift up your hearts.

**People** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**Celebrant** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** **It is right to give our thanks and praise**

**Celebrant** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**People**            **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are filled with Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**++Celebrant**    We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**People**            **We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory.**

**Celebrant**        And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

**People**            **Amen.**

**Celebrant**        And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**People**            **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.**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**  
 Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*(All persons are invited to the Lord's supper one by one, keeping a distance of six feet from the person ahead of you and wearing a mask. Remove the mask only to ingest the bread.)*

**+The Post-Communion Prayer**

Celebrant Let us pray  
**People Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Blessing**

**Closing Carol # 70**

*Herald, Sound the Note*

Hymnal 1982



1 Her - ald, sound the note of judg - ment, warn - ing us of right and  
 2 Her - ald, sound the note of glad - ness; tell the news that Christ is  
 3 Her - ald, sound the note of par - don— those re - pent - ing are for -  
 4 Her - ald, sound the note of tri - umph; Christ has come to share our



wrong, turn - ing us from sin and sad - ness  
 here; make a path - way through the des - ert  
 given; God re - ceives his way - ward child - ren,  
 life, bring - ing God's own love and pow - er,



till once more we sing the song.  
 for the one who brings God near. Sound the trum - pet!  
 and to them new life is given.  
 grant - ing vic - tory in our strife.



Tell the mes - sage! Christ, the Sa - vior King, has come!

**+Dismissal**

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!  
**People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

*(Worshippers exit the church one by one keeping the social distancing of six feet and wearing mask)*

**Postlude**



## **Announcements**

### **Evensong on Zoom**

Every Tuesday at 6:30pm. To participate, you can email Jaime at [jaimelkonowal@gmail.com](mailto:jaimelkonowal@gmail.com) for a Zoom link. Use Meeting ID: 834 5987 6076 and Passcode: 988017

Sign up on our website [www.old-swedes.org](http://www.old-swedes.org), and a link will be automatically emailed to you every week.

### **Gift Shop**

Be sure to go to our website ([www.old-swedes.org](http://www.old-swedes.org)) and browse our Swedish gift shop. Click on "Shop", then "Gift Shop". Open all day, everyday!

We have everything you need for a God Jul!

### **Christmas Eve Festal Celebration of Eucharist**

We will celebrate Christmas at Gloria Dei on Friday, December 24. Unlike last year, this year, our service will be in person. It will be a festal Eucharist with singing though with masks. A trio of outstanding musicians will accompany us. For those who wish to take communion in both kinds, we will have a Common Cup. Following the service, there will be a Fellowship Hour at the Riverside Hall with strictly following all the COVID related protocols.

The Christmas Eve service will start at 7:00 PM. As in previous years, we will take a special collection to help those in need in our area. The vestry and I look forward to seeing you all. We trust everyone is vaccinated. Still, for our safety, we will follow all the guidelines recommended by CDC, such as wearing masks inside the church and social distancing except for family units, sanitizing our hands, and contact tracing. Even with all these limitations, we hope that our participation in this service will be a meaningful and joyful experience.

### **Common Cup**

Following diocesan direction, our vestry has decided to offer Communion in both kinds to those who wish beginning at our Christmas Eve service. Congregants have the option to receive Communion in bread (wafer) only, as that will constitute full participation, or both bread (wafer) and wine/grape juice. Wine/grape juice should be taken from the common cup by mouth only. We will not allow intinction or individual cups, at least for now.

Beginning on Christmas Eve Service, we will have a separate station to serve wine/grape juice. After each person is served, the server will thoroughly wipe the cup and rotate it before administering it to the next person. All who participate in administering Communion are fully vaccinated and masked. We will take every step to minimize the risk. I look forward to this first step in reintroducing the Common Chalice at our Communions.

### **Koshy on Vacation**

Susan and I will be away on vacation beginning December 25 through February 6. While I am away, you will have the blessing of having four different priests covering six Sundays, and one of the Sundays, we will have Morning Prayer. For any pastoral emergencies, please call Jamie Konowal, our Senior Warden.

*Gloria Dei Staff*

Paul Fejko – Music Director - fej@fejko.com • Jim and Paula Minacci – Sextons  
Christine McBride – Parish Administrator

*Gloria Dei Vestry*

Megan Bartlett – (c) 267-581-9357 megan77777@yahoo.com

Barb Chilcott - (c) 267-348-8177 barbchilcott@yahoo.com

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Jerry Walker - (c) 856-905-1861 letgmanadjusts4you@gmail.com

Rev. Koshy Mathews – Rector – (c) 484-557-4559 koshy.mathews@gmail.com



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