# Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church



Christian Street and Columbus Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19147 215-389-1513 <u>www.old-swedes.org</u>

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.

December 11, 2022
Third Sunday of Advent

# **Ministry Assistants Today:**

Lector: Susan Steele Intercessor: Jill Duink Usher: Bob Jenkins

Altar Guild: Megan Bartlett Celebrant: Rev. Canon Gordon Reid Advent Candle: Megan Bartlett

# Opening Hymn # 72

## Hark! The Glad Sound

Hymnal 1982



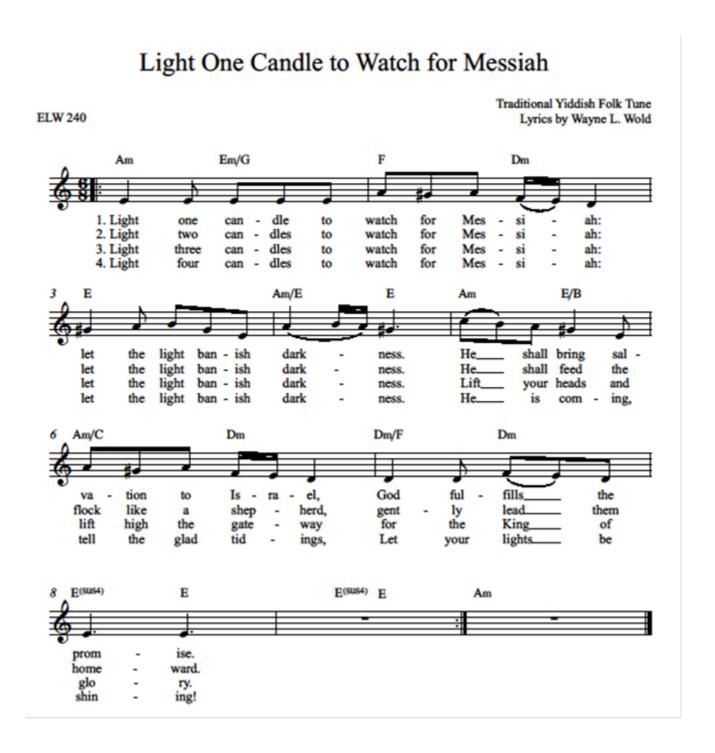
# **Lighting of the Advent Candle** Megan Bartlett

Candle lighters

We light these Advent Candles today as signs of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming. And we are preparing for the full coming of God's Kingdom. As we witness to the power of healing love, in ourselves and in others, we pray together:

ΑII

Risen Christ, Light of the world, shine in our lives, and shine among us now.



Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever.

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are

hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may

perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant The Lord be with you **People** And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray

People Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are

sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and

glory, now and forever. Amen.

# First Reading Isaiah 35:1-10

Susan Steele

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

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.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

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."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

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;

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.

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.

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.

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.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God

#### Psalm 146:4-9

- 4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \* whose hope is in the LORD their God;
- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \* who keeps his promise for ever;
- 6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \* and food to those who hunger.
- 7 The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; \* the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
- 8 The LORD loves the righteous; the LORD cares for the stranger; \* he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.
- 9 The LORD shall reign forever, \* your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

#### Second Reading James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, 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. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God





Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew (11:2-11) People Glory to you, Lord Christ** 

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

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? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 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.'
"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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord **People Praise to you, Lord Christ** 

## Homily

#### The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# Prayers of the People - Form III

Jill Duink

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; *That we all may be one.* 

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially: Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Daniel, our Bishop; the Vestry, staff, and congregation of our church.

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.* 

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; *That our works may find favor in your sight.* 

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; We remember especially those who are connected to our church family: **Gerard, Chris, Re, Jack, Bob, Jim, Charley, D.G., Eileen, Linda, John, Margie, Carol, Ed, Irene, Kim, Geoff, Connie, Bonnie, and Jack.** 

(You may add other names either silently or aloud.) Let us pray.

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest. (You may add names of departed people either silently or aloud.) We also pray for the souls of all who died in the pandemic, and from the epidemic of gun violence. Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. Grant us the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we seek a new Rector for our parish. We also ask for your blessings on anyone celebrating a birthday or anniversary this week.

Grant that we may continue to experience your love and guidance in the years to come.

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth; mercifully accept the

prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will, through Jesus Christ Our

Lord. Amen.

#### The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you

#### **Announcements**

Celebrant Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory

## The Holy Communion – Eucharistic Prayer B

+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** Celebrant We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory. 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 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, For ever 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. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for

you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving

## The Post-Communion Prayer

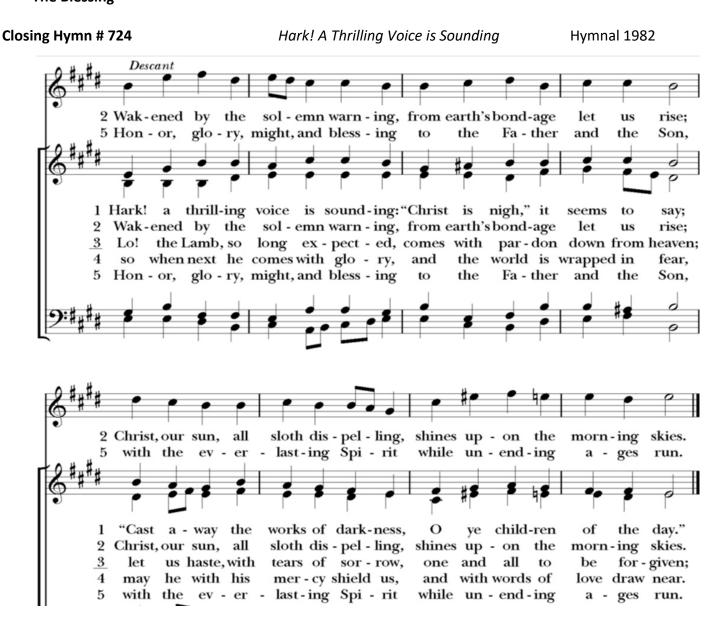
Celebrant Let us pray

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



#### Dismissal

Celebrant Worship has ended and our service begins. Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the

power of the Holy Spirit! Alleluia, Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Postlude** 

Announcements

## **Christmas Service Schedule**

Christmas Eve - Service with Eucharist 7:00pm Christmas Day (No Service) January 1 – Morning Prayer 10:00am There will be no Evensong on December 27 or Jan 3

# **Evensong**

**Evensong: Tuesday Musical Meditation,** every Tuesday at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. Join us for a refreshed version of our popular service. Don't worry, it isn't entirely different! Paul Fejko will still be performing on our beautiful Hook & Hastings organ. Keep an eye out for some interesting guest guitarists, a drum circle, poems, and discussions that we hope will inspire you throughout the rest of the week. The program will be led by our sextons, Jim & Paula Minacci, who want to create a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere that everyone will enjoy.

#### Lucia Fest 2022

Saturday, December 10 & Sunday, December 11, shows at 2:00, 3:30, 5:00 Tickets are now only available at the door (cash only). St. Eric's Fair with Swedish imports and treats will follow each show.

# O Brother, Where Art Thou? Tribute

Friday, December 16 & Saturday, December 17 at 8:00 in the Sanctuary Sexton Sideshow is bringing back their wildly popular tribute to *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Doors open at 7:00, show begins at 8:00. Tickets on sale on the website now, under SHOP.

# **Christmas Offering Envelopes**

The Christmas offering envelopes are on the table in the back of the church. Feel free to take one to donate towards the Christmas flowers, and remember a loved one, or give thanksgiving. The envelopes should be placed in the offering baskets during the service. You may also donate online on our website under the heading "give". Please label your donation as "Christmas offering" and list any names in the memo.

# Gloria Dei Staff

Paul Fejko – Music Director

Jim and Paula Minacci – Sextons

Christine McBride – Parish Administrator

Amy Liberi – Wedding and Event Coordinator

# Gloria Dei Vestry

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#### Gloria Dei (Old Swedes' Church)

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