

**Prelude: Grace Notes** Coventry Carol

Whether you are joining us in person or on-line, know that we are here to journey along with you as we live into our mission: to follow and invite others to follow Jesus Christ.

# Remembering our Baptism

### \*Advent Call to Worship

Sing: O come, thy Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; the captives from their prison free; and conquer death's deep misery.

O key of David and Scepter of the house of Israel, who opens, and no one shuts, who shuts and no one opens:

Come and bring forth from prison the captive who sits in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Sing Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

\*Song What Child Is This?

\*Song It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

First Lesson Matthew 1:1-17 CEB

Word for Children

Second Lesson Matthew 1:-18-25 CEB

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled:

Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will call him, Emmanuel. When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife. But he didn't have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. Joseph called him Jesus.

Message for the Lord's Day

Rev. Deborah Coble

Song Joseph's Song

#### **Prayers of the People**

After each petition, there will be a pause for silent prayer. After Pastor says "Lord in your mercy" ALL reply "hear our prayers."

Together, let us pray for

the people of this congregation...

for those who suffer and those in trouble...

for the concerns of this local community...

for the world, its peoples, and its leaders...

for the earth you have given to our care...

for the Church universal; its leaders, its members, and its mission, in communion with the saints...

#### **Mission And Ministry Moment**

## **Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings**

**Song** Messiah

#### \*Doxology

Blessed be God. Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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Blessed be His kingdom now and forever.

Amen, Amen.

## **Prayer of Confession**

When our faith is rooted deeply in you, O God, our lives reflect your kingdom values of justice and righteousness, but sometimes our lives become so entangled with the values of the world, that your values take second place.

Forgive us, O God, and reconnect us to the Holy Spirit, source of power and life. Merciful God, strip our hearts and minds of all that prevents our lives being firmly rooted in you.

May our lives bear fruit worthy of our faith in you, as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world once more, in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Blessed be the Lord our God, who does wondrous things (Psalm 72:8). The most wondrous of all being God's entry into our world in Jesus Christ, "not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." "Those who believe in him are not condemned" (John 3:17,18). Thanks be to God!

#### **Sacrament of Holy Communion**

### The Lord's Prayer:

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. Amen.

# **Prayer After Communion**

God our Father, you fill the hungry with good things and send the self-satisfied away empty. In this eucharist you have filled us with the word and the bread of life of your Son Jesus Christ. Make us hunger now for his coming in the hearts and the homes of all. Fill us with his spirit of service and self-forgetting love, that through us, he may become near to people. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

\*Song Oh Come All Ye Faithful

# \*Benediction

Life is short and we have too little time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind,

and may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and always. **Amen.**