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Sunday, December 22, 2024

10:00AM

Fourth Sunday of Advent

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

In Dulci Jubilo

arr. Gilbert Martin

Welcome to all – especially to our guests.

Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Pad, located in each of the pews.

Hymns labeled GTG are in the Glory to God Hymnal (purple)

Hymns labeled AAHH are in the African American Heritage Hymnal (beige)

**Please stand as you are able*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Behold, the Lord has come. He was born to Mary,
worshipped by kings, shepherds, and angels.

**Let us also fall down and worship before Him, Emmanuel,
“The God Who Is With Us.”**

Behold, the Most High God has become human for our sake.
He was given to us and for us;
he is worshipped by sinners, saints, and all creation.

**Let us also fall down and worship before Him, Emmanuel,
“The God Who Is With Us.”**

Behold, the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

He is worshipped in heaven and on earth, now and forever;
and forever and ever. Amen.

**Let us also fall down and worship before Him, Emmanuel,
“The God Who Is With Us.”**

Gospel Praise

Silver and Gold

Gospel Choir

Lighting the Candle of Love

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

As the Lord has promised, in days to come

“The Lord will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child.

She shall bear a son, and name him Emmanuel: ‘God is with us.’

We light this candle in peace and hope and joy and love for all nations,
All peoples, all tribes, and all creation.

O Ruler of nations, Monarch for whom the people long,

You are the cornerstone uniting all humanity:

Come, save us all, whom you formed out of clay.

Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord, have mercy on us, sinners. You show us the Way and we choose to be lost. You show us the Life and we choose death.

Lord, revive us. Renew our hearts and minds and strengthen us.

Grow us in your commandments and virtues and give us your peace.

Lord, you are so kind and good and merciful. Make us new.

Yours is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever, Amen.

Declaration of God’s Forgiveness

If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation.

See, the old has gone. The new has come! [2 Corinthians 5:17]

Passing of the Peace/A Time for Celebration

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you!**

Exchange signs of Christ’s peace and forgiveness with others.

*We greet one another as neighbors in Christ. You may say, “Peace be with you,”
or respond, “And also with you.”*

***Response GTG #83** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

**Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free,
from our fears and sins release us, Let us find our rest in thee.**

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to live in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Micah 5: 2-5

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Magnificat in F Major
Chancel Choir

David Mc K. Williams

Second Reading

Luke 1: 46-56

Christmas Pageant

'Christmas Hope'

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

***Affirmation of Faith [The Magnificat, Luke 1:46-55]**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

My spirit rejoices in God my savior,

For you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:

You, the Almighty, have done great things for me

And holy is your name.

You have mercy on those who fear you,

From generation to generation.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

My spirit rejoices in God my savior.

You have shown strength with your arm,

And scattered the proud in their conceit,
Casting down the mighty from their thrones
And lifting up the lowly.

You have filled the hungry with good things,
And sent the rich away empty.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
My spirit rejoices in God my savior.
You have come to the aid of your servant, Israel,
To remember the promise of mercy,
The promise made to our forebears,
To Abraham and his children for ever.
My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
My spirit rejoices in God my savior.

The Word was made flesh and has dwelt among us,
And we beheld his glory. **Alleluia!**

Hymn GTG #99

My Soul Gives Glory to My God
vv. 1,4,5

Call to Offering

*If you would like to make an offering online, scan the QR code located in the
Westminster News section of today's bulletin.*

Invitation to Offering

Organ Offertory

Sussex Carol

arr. Noel Rawsthorne

***Doxology GTG #606** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever, Amen.

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

***Hymn AAHH #200** He Came Down [*Love, Peace, Joy, Hope, Life]

***Benediction**

Postlude There's a Star in the East arr. Karl Osterland

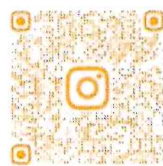
The organ postlude is offered as an instrumental prayer. You are invited to remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly, remembering those who are still worshipping.

Worship Leaders:

The Rev. Dakota Whitaker, Pastor/Head of Staff
Dalos Grobe, Chancel Choir Director/Organist
Victor Boyd, Gospel Choir Director
Jordan Palmer, Liturgist

Dakota, Megan, Lennon, Dorothy Joy Whitaker, Advent Wreath Lighting Liturgists
Peyton Friday, Brice Morden, Acolytes

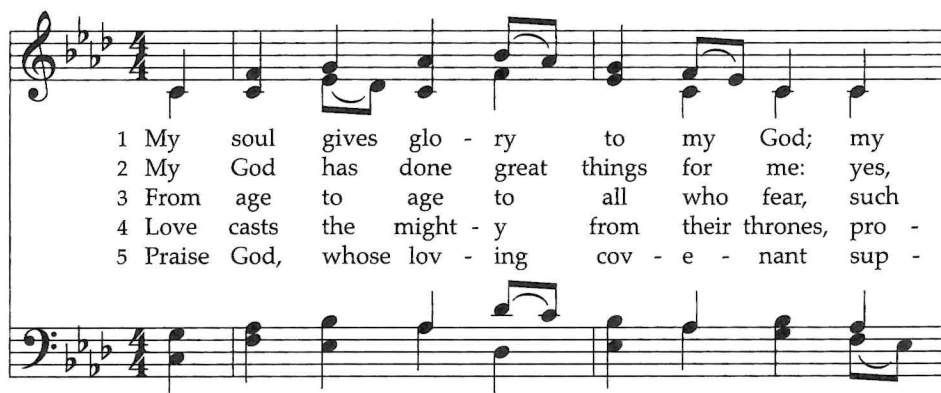
Visit our website at www.wcodetroit.org for the link to view our Sunday morning worship services on YouTube or follow us on Instagram and Facebook.




@WESTSTARSTEWCHURCHOFDetroit

My Soul Gives Glory to My God 99

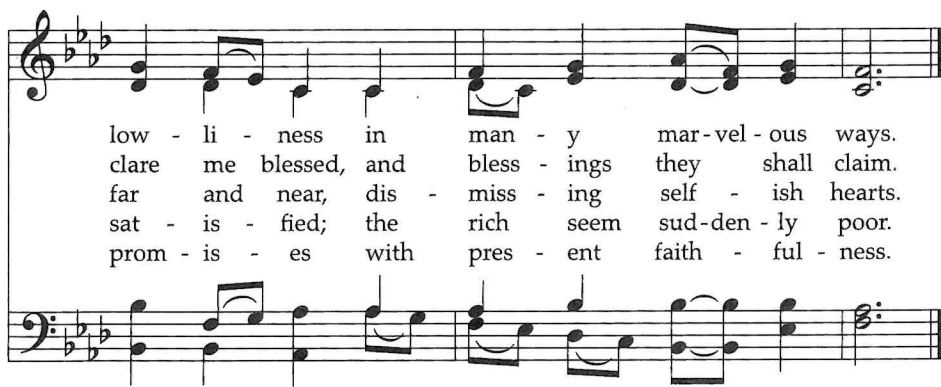
Song of Mary



1 My soul gives glo - ry to my God; my
2 My God has done great things for me: yes,
3 From age to age to all who fear, such
4 Love casts the might - y from their thrones, pro -
5 Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant sup -



heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my
ho - ly is God's name. All peo - ple will de -
mer - cy love im - parts, dis - pens - ing jus - tice
motes the in - se - cure, leaves hun - gry spir - its
ports those in dis - tress, re - mem - ber - ing past



low - li - ness in man - y mar - vel - ous ways.
clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.
far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
sat - is - fied; the rich seem sud - den - ly poor.
prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

HE CAME DOWN 200

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may... have eternal life.
John 3:16

He came down that we may have *love; He

came down that we may have love; He came down that we may

have love, Hal-le - lu - jah for ev - er - more.

Solo: Why did He come?

**Substitute peace, joy, hope, life, etc.*