

**December 21, 2025**

**GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

PRELUDE Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Here in worship, we pray together,

**People: we stand together,**

Leader: we sing together,

**People: we listen together.**

Leader: Here in worship, we are not alone.

**People: When life gives us reason to grieve, to fear, or to worry, we remember this moment.**

Leader: We are not alone. Let us worship our with-us God.

\*OPENING PRAYER

\*SHARING GOD'S PEACE

\*HYMN #88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**In this season of giving, we feel full of generosity. However, we confess that there were many times this year when we were selfish: selfish with our time, selfish with our money, selfish with our energy, and selfish with our grace. May we continue lives of generosity through all seasons, and all moments. For we know, your generous compassion meets us every day and every moment. Amen.**

Leader: Let us continue our confession together in silence.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Family of faith, even when we doubt God's presence, even when we fail to notice God's fingerprints in this world, God is always moving closer to us. Hear and believe the good news this Advent season: Nothing can keep God's love away. We are seen.

We are forgiven. We are not alone.

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD**

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

**FIRST READING**

Isaiah 41:5-10

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

**People: Thanks be to God**

ANTHEM *Gloria* by Vivaldi, Movements 1 and 6

**SECOND READING**

Matthew 1:18-25

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

**People: Thanks be to God**

SERMON

SILENT REFLECTION

**RESPONDING AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

\*HYMN #366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

To share a joy or concern: Click [HERE](#) or use the QR code

OFFERING Mon Cœur S'ouvre à ta Voix

To give online: Click [HERE](#), or use the QR code

\*DOXOLOGY

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**GOING IN GOD'S NAME**

\*CHARGE AND SENDING

POSTLUDE Fanfare

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#### POINSETTIAS MEMORIALS

Each Christmas season we offer the congregation the opportunity to adopt one of the poinsettia plants in honor or memory of a loved one. There is a sign-up clipboard in the narthex. The cost is \$19 per plant. Your honorees and memoriams will be listed in an insert in the Christmas Eve bulletins, and will be shown on the sanctuary video screens. The last day to sign up is Tues., 12/23.

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Children's Christmas Pageant 4 pm Christmas Eve  
All ages welcome. For more info contact Emma Kate Lander  
[elander@erpc.org](mailto:elander@erpc.org)

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Christmas Eve Schedule  
December 24 at 4pm Family Service  
December 24 at 7 pm Traditional Service

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Discover Membership Class Sunday January 18  
Contact Pastor Brett or Sheree Fleming for more information. This group will meet in the library after Sunday service.  
[brett@erpc.org](mailto:brett@erpc.org); [membership.marketing@erpc.org](mailto:membership.marketing@erpc.org)

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