

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor  
Shari Duminy, Transitional Associate Pastor  
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December 16, 2023

5:00 PM

## THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE





## PRELUDE

*A time for prayer and reflection.*

### ***Peaceful Meditation***

Paul Fey

Mark Jones, Organ

### ***Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah***

Folk tune/arr. David Cherwien

Nicole Campbell, Flute  
Charlie Campbell, Trumpet  
Mark Jones, Piano

### ***Prelude on What Child is This***

arr. Richard Purvis

Mark Jones, Organ

### ***O Holy Night***

Adolphe Adam/arr. Fred Bock

David Gerard, Piano  
Mark Jones, Organ

### ***O Come, O Come Emmanuel***

Latin hymn, 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> c.

Kountze Brass  
Jaime Tyser, Dan Nesbitt, Trumpets  
Jason Stromquist, Jay Wise, Trombones

### ***Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming***

German melody, 14<sup>th</sup> c./harm. M. Praetorius, 1609

Kountze Brass

Nursery care is provided. Please see an usher for assistance.  
All hymns can be found in the red hymnal in the front of the pews.

# GATHERING AND WORD

## Bell tolls

*(Please stand)*

## Scripture Reading

***John 1:1-9***

Pastor Wynard

Organ

Handbells

**I**n the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

## Processional Hymn

***Of the Father's Love Begotten*** ELW 295

Kountze Brass

Text: Prudentius, 348-413

Organ

Music: Plainsong, 13<sup>th</sup> c.

Stanza 1: Men and Boys

Stanza 2: Women and Girls

Stanza 4: All

Stanza 5: All

*(Please be seated)*

## **Choral Anthem**

Kountze Choir

### ***The Glory of the Father***

Text: Adapted from ***John 1***

Music: Egil Hovland, 1924-2013

The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.

We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth.

In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God. In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.

He came to his own, and his own, and his own, received him not.

## **Opening Prayer**

Pastor Duminy

St. Augustine of Hippo, 354-428

(prayer, adapted)

**P** Lord Jesus our Saviour, the One who is to come,  
we come to you now.

Our hearts are cold;

**C** Lord, warm them by your selfless love.

**P** Our hearts are sinful;

**C** cleanse them with your precious blood.

**P** Our hearts are weak;

**C** strengthen them with your joyous spirit.

**P** Our hearts are empty;

**C** fill them with your divine presence.

**Come, Emmanuel:**

**enter our lives,**

**possess them always**

**and only**

**for yourself.**

## Scripture Reading

***Luke 1:26-27***

Pastor Wynard

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.

## Congregational Hymn

***The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*** ELW 265

Text: Basque Carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924

Music: Basque Carol; arr. C. Pettman, 1865-1943 and John Wickham

Flute  
Organ

Stanza 1: Men and Boys

“Gloria!”: All

Stanza 2: Men and Boys

“Gloria!”: All

Stanza 3: Women and Girls

“Gloria!”: All

## Reading

from ***Martin Luther's Christmas Book***  
and commentary on the Magnificat  
Martin Luther, 1483-1546

Pastor Duminy

We must both read and meditate on the Nativity. If the meditation does not reach the heart, we shall sense no sweetness, nor shall we know what solace for humankind lies in this contemplation. There is such richness and goodness in this Nativity that if we should see and deeply understand, we should be dissolved in perpetual joy ... [Mary] held fast to the word of the angel because she had become a new creature. Even so must we be transformed and renewed in heart from day to day.

When she knew that her cousin Elizabeth was with child, she had no peace until she had gone to her. She went with joy, love, and humility, but the chief reason was the word of the angel and that she believed it. “And it came to pass, that, when Elizabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost: And she spoke out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women.” Then Mary broke forth into singing. Her song is called the Magnificat because it begins with the words: “My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden” ... “My soul magnifies Him.” — that is, my whole life and being, mind and strength, esteem Him highly. She is caught up, as it were, unto Him, and feels herself lifted up into His good and gracious will ... such a lively

inclination [will] be awakened in us when we experience the favor of God, which is exceedingly great in His works. All words and thoughts fail us, and our whole life and soul must be set in motion, as though all that lived in us would like to break forth into praise and singing.

*(Please stand)*

### **Congregational Hymn**

***My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness*** ELW 251

Kountze Brass, Organ

Text: based on the *Magnificat (Mary's song)*

Music: English folk tune/arr. R. V. Williams, 1872-1958

Stanza 1: Women and Girls

Stanza 2: Men and Boys

Stanza 3: All

*(Please be seated)*

### **Scripture Reading**

***Luke 2: 1-7***

Pastor Wynard

**I**n those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

### **Reading**

from ***God Is In the Manger***

Pastor Duminy

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1906-1945

...a child is placed here at the midpoint of world history - a child born of human beings, a son given by God (*Isa. 9:6*). That is the mystery of the redemption of the world; everything past and everything future is encompassed here. The infinite mercy of the almighty God comes to us, descends to us in the form of a child, his Son. That this child is born *for us*, this son is given *to us*, that this human child and Son of God belongs to me, that I know him, have him, that I am his and he is mine - on this alone my life now depends. A child has our life in his hands . . .

## ***A Child is Born in Bethlehem***

Text: 13<sup>th</sup> c. Latin Christmas hymn

Music: 14<sup>th</sup> century

Jeff Keele, Soloist  
Hand Chimes

A child is born in Bethlehem, Alleluia.

Exult for joy, Jerusalem, Alleluia.

Our joyful hearts we raise!

Christ is born: O come adore him

And sing new hymns of praise.

## **Choral Anthem**

### ***Salvation is Created***

Pavel Tschesnokoff, 1877-1944

Kountze Choir

Salvation is created in the midst of the earth, O God.

Alleluia.

*(Time for silent prayer)*

## **Reading**

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1906-1945

from ***God is in the Manger***

Pastor Wynard

“Joy to the world!” Anyone for whom this sound is foreign, or who hears in it nothing but weak enthusiasm, has not yet really heard the gospel. For the sake of humankind, Jesus Christ became a human being in a stable in Bethlehem: Rejoice, O Christendom! For sinners, Jesus Christ became a companion of tax collectors and prostitutes: Rejoice, O Christendom! For the condemned, Jesus Christ was condemned to the cross on Golgotha: Rejoice, O Christendom! For all of us, Jesus Christ was resurrected to life: Rejoice, O Christendom! All over the world today people are asking: Where is the path to joy? The church of Christ answers loudly: Jesus is our joy! (*1 Pet. 1:7-9*). Joy to the World!



*(Please stand)*

## **Congregational Hymn**

***Joy to the World*** ELW 267

Kountze Brass, Organ

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Music: English Melody, 18th c.

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 3: All

Stanza 4: All

*(Please be seated)*

## **Scripture Reading**

***Luke 2:8-14***

Pastor Duminy

**I**n that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

**☞ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”**

## **Congregational Hymn**

***Angels We Have Heard on High*** ELW 289

Kountze Brass, Organ

Text: French Carol

Music: French Carol

Stanza 1-3: All

## **Scripture Reading**

***Luke 2:15-16***

Pastor Wynard

**W**hen the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

## **Congregational Hymn**

### ***Silent Night*** ELW 281

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849

Music: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863/arr./adapted by Dan Forrest

Stanzas 1-3: All

## **Sacred Poetry**

Pastor Wynard

Text: 15<sup>th</sup> c., anon.

Lo, in the silent night  
A child to God is born  
And all is brought again  
That ere was lost or lorn.

Could but thy soul, O man,  
Become a silent night!  
God would be born in thee  
And set all things aright.

## **Scripture Reading**

### ***Luke 2:17-20***

Pastor Duminy

**W**hen they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

## **Poetic Reading**

Robert Louis Stevenson, 1850-1894

Pastor Wynard

- ☐ Loving Father,  
☑ **Help us remember the birth of Jesus,  
that we may share in the song of the angels,  
the gladness of the shepherds,  
and the worship of the wise men.**

# Meal

## Greeting

Pastor Wynard

*(Please stand)*

### The Peace is Shared

- ☞ The peace of Christ be with you.
- ☞ **And also with you.**

*(Please be seated)*

### The Offering is Received

*We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this church possible. We encourage everyone to give. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate in this portion of worship. If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online or place your offering in the plates that are located at the entrances to the Sanctuary. For those of you watching through our media outlets, if you are able, please mail in your offering or donate online. Thank you!*



## The Table is Prepared

### Choral Anthem

#### ***O Come, All Ye Faithful***

Text: Latin, 18<sup>th</sup> c.

Music: Traditional Christmas Hymn/arr. Jackson Berkey

Kountze Choir

*(Please stand)*

### Offertory Hymn

#### ***O Little Town of Bethlehem*** ELW 279

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 4: All

## Holy Communion

- ☞ The Lord be with you.
- ☞ **And also with you.**
- ☞ Lift up your hearts.
- ☞ **We lift them to the Lord.**
- ☞ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- ☞ **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Preface for Sundays

- P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Sanctus

- C** Holy, Holy, holy Lord, God of might and mercy, your glory fills all heaven and earth. You are holy, God. Blessed be the Savior, the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest. You are holy, God.

## The Words of Institution

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,  
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.  
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we  
for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al  
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,  
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## Invitation to Communion

**P** Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you.

**C** Let us share in the feast of salvation.

*(Please be seated)*

## The Distribution

*All baptized Christians who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and his Real Presence in, with and under the bread and wine, are welcome to the Lord's Supper. We believe that this is the Lord's table and is he who invites you. So you who are strong in faith, come with gratitude. You who feel weak in faith, come to be strengthened. And you who feel you have no faith, come so that the God of steadfast love will touch your heart with hope and joy. The form of distribution is intinction: you will receive the consecrated bread and then you may dip the bread into the wine.*

Gluten free bread is available upon request.

## Communion Hymns

***Children of the Heavenly Father*** ELW 781

Stanza 1: Women and Children

Stanza 2: All

Stanza 3: Men and Children

Stanza 4: All

***It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*** ELW 282

Flute

Stanza 1: Women and Girls

Stanza 3: Men and Boys

Stanza 4: All

***Beautiful Savior*** ELW 838

Trumpet

arr. Anders Öhrwall, 1932-2012

Stanza 1: Men and Boys

Stanza 3: Women and Girls

Stanza 4: All, **Please rise.**

## Prayer after Communion

Pastor Wynard

Text: Hildegard von Bingen, 1098-1179, based on *Psalm* 36:7-9

**P** Let us pray.

**C** How precious to me is your steadfast love, O God!

I take refuge in the shadow of your wings,  
and feast upon the abundance of your table.

I depend on the river of your gifts,  
For with you is the fountain of life;  
only in your light do I see life. Amen.

## Sending

### Scripture Readings

*John 1:14*

Pastor Duminy

**A**nd the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as  
of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**C** Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! (*2 Corinthians 9:15*)

### Congregational Hymn

*O God, Beyond All Praising* ELW 880

Kountze Brass, Organ

Text: Michael Perry, 1942-1996

Music: Gustav Holst, 1874-1934/arr. Robert Hobby

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 3: All

### Closing Prayer

*Aaronic Blessing*

*Numbers 6:24-26*

Pastor Wynard

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you;  
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

## Sending Proclamation

ELCA, admin, Augsburg Fortress

Pastor Duminy  
Handbells

**P** Rejoice, O heavens!

**C** **This holy night the stars of the sky dance with laughter  
and the doors to paradise burst open.**

**P** Rejoice, O earth!

**C** **This holy night the mountains and hills leap for joy  
and the valleys rise in splendor, for a rose blooms in the desert.**

**P** Rejoice, O people!

**C** **This holy night the animals murmur with delight  
and the shepherds run with great joy,  
for a child is born in Bethlehem.**

**P** Rejoice, O heavens, O earth, O people!

**C** **This holy night the whole creation marvels  
as the grace of God appears,  
joining heaven and earth forever and ever.**

## Recessional Hymn

***O Come, All Ye Faithful*** ELW 283

Text: John Francis Wade, 1711-1786

Music: John Francis Wade/arr. D. Willcocks, 1919-2015

Kountze Brass, Organ

Stanza 1: All

Stanza 3: All

Stanza 4: All

## Dismissal

Pastor Wynard

**P** Go in peace, share the news of salvation!

**C** **Thanks be to God!**

## Postlude

***The First Noel***

Kountze Brass

***The Wexford Carol***

# Worship with Us!

## **Sunday, December 17**

Children's Christmas Program: 9:00 AM

## **Wednesday, December 20**

Lunch: 11:00 AM – Noon

Supper: 5:00 – 6:30 PM

Worship: 12:15 & 6:30 PM

## **Weekend Worship Times**

Saturdays: 5:00 PM

Sundays: 9:00 & 11:00 AM

**Please Note:** Sunday, December 24,  
no 11:00 AM Worship Service

## **Christmas Eve**

Family Service: 4:00 PM

Candlelight: 7:00 & 11:00 PM

**Thank you for joining us in word and song!**  
**Thank you to all who have given of their time and talents this evening!**  
**Please join us for a cheese and dessert reception following the service.**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

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