

December 24, 2023
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Morning Service

Prelude and Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

***Lighting the Advent Candles** (Focus: Luke 1:26–38)

Leader: O God, we light the four candles of Advent.
(lighting of the candles)

People: We hear your angel Gabriel and witness the faith of Mary. Fill us with your grace and light.

Leader: Mary was a young, strong, spiritual woman. Even though her life was not easy, she heard God's voice and said yes. Her song was a prayer that would uplift those who were downtrodden. Her lyrics shattered the proud and called the world to change. She would bear within her the promised child, Jesus, the Light of the World. This Advent, we respond to God's beckoning to us as well.

People: Revealing God, visit us and fill us with your Spirit. Bring your good news to life within us. Give us courage to carry your light into the injustices and shadows of this world. Amen.

***Hymn #5:** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (booklet of Traditional Christmas Carols)

***Passing of the Peace**

Scripture reading: Luke 2:8-20 Jim Miers

Anthem: Glorious Light with "O Little Town of Bethlehem" by I. Hannah, K. Getty and K.L. Getty, Arr. by T. Fettke

Time With Young Disciples

***Unison Prayer**

O God, at this time each year, we remind ourselves that you have come and continue coming into our lives. You shatter reasoned expectations, give wonder and awe, and fulfill promises little understood. Watching and waiting, we pray, hasten the day! Amen.

Sermon: "Go Tell It On the Mountain"

***Hymn #154:** "Go Tell It On the Mountain"

The Community at Prayer (*Joys and Concerns, Prayers for the People, Lord's Prayer*)

If you are watching online, type any prayer requests in the chat by the end of the sermon and we can voice them and get the names on the prayer list.

Prayer Response

Invitation to the Offering

(Opportunities to give for the ministries of this church are available through an offering plate during service, by mailing your gift to the church office, or by signing up for electronic giving through our website.)

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Generous God, we give thanks for all the beautiful resources you have given to us. Let these gifts bring glory and honor to you and beauty and peace to your creation. Amen.

***Hymn #6:** "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" (booklet of Traditional Christmas Carols)

*Commissioning and Blessing

*Choral Response

*Postlude