

December 29, 2024

Prelude and Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: People trot out like truth: Christmas is for children.

People: Christmas is also for people of age and experience.

Leader: Elizabeth, Mary's cousin and Zechariah, the priest, received new birth breaking all their familiar patterns.

People: Simeon the singer and Anna the prophet hoped for years to see the Messiah and then recognized the gift in a poor couple's baby.

Leader: How then shall we respond to Christ's promised coming?

People: With flexibility for change, patience in long waiting silence and singing, and by recognizing Christ in the least likely brothers and sisters.

***Hymn #4:** (Green Book) "Joy to the World"

***Passing the Peace**

Scripture: Luke 2:41-52 Karen Jones

Special Music: Rachael Alexander

Time for Young Disciples: The only story about Jesus as a boy.

***Unison Prayer**

O Christmas God – the tinsel falls, the year turns, and the carols fade. The blessing of Bethlehem that touched all the gray in our lives with silver stars is past. We read that the holy child grew and became strong and God's favor was with him. In this string of nameless days we long for just such steady becoming – for renewal amid the routine, for courage in current events, for the assurance of God's presence beyond the holidays and into the wintering times of our lives. Amen.

Carol Sing lead by Carol Bellamy

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 at <https://www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org/>)

***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**

Bountiful God, receive these gifts, extend their reach, and magnify their impact for your glory and for your creation. Amen.

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

***Commissioning and Blessing**

***Postlude**