



Prelude "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"
Caleb Clark, organ ~ Joshua Herrington, piano

arr. Bill Galliford

Welcome Rev. Dr. Adrian N. Doll

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath** 

The Bethlehem Candle

Jack, Donalda, and Eileene Smith (9:00)
Daniel and Brighton Wendt (10:30)

### \*Hymn of Advent

"Hark! The Glad Sound"

Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long; let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release, in Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst, the iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure, and with the treasures of his grace to enrich the human poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace, your welcome shall proclaim, and heav'n's eternal arches ring with your beloved name.

## \*Prayer of Confession

God of All Grace,

You reveal yourself to us in the most unexpected of ways.

You have spoken to us through the voice of the prophets, in the witness of an angel, and in the cry of a newborn child.

But we confess that we have not always listened for your voice.

We have doubted your appearing.

We question your ability to perform miracles in our world and in our lives.

Forgive us we pray. Silence us with holy wonder.

And may we give evidence in our lives to your glory and power during this Holy Season of Advent and always. Amen.

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#### \*Assurance of Pardon

#### \*Response

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel! Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

The Children's Lesson Pastor Hilda

**Choral Anthem** "For Unto Us a Child Is Born" G.F. Handel
Chancel Choir

<sup>\*</sup>Please stand as you are able.

**New Testament Reading** – Luke 1:8-20

Rev. Hilda G. Pecoraro

Rev. Dr. Adrian N. Doll

"A Promise Foretold" Sermon

Sermon Series: *Tales of the Glory* 

Bridget Kamea, vocalist ~ Joshua Herrington, piano

# Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

Offertory "Blest Mary Walks Amid the Thorn" arr. Todd Marchand

# \*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

O come let us adore him; O come let us adore him; O come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

## \*The Apostles' Creed

#### The Sacrament of Communion

The Lord's Prayer

# The Prayers of God's People

Rev. Hilda G. Pecoraro

\*Hymn of Advent

"How Great Our Joy!"

No. 269, vs. 1, 2, and 4 – Celebration Hymnal

While by the sheep we watched at night, Glad tidings bro't an angel bright. How great our joy! Great our joy!

Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy!

Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

There shall be born, so he did say, In Bethlehem a Child today. How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

This gift of God we'll cherish well, That ever joy our hearts shall fill. How great our joy! Great our joy!

Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy!

Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

\*Benediction

**Postlude** "Prepare the Royal Highway"

Caleb Clark, organ

arr. Paul Manz

**SCAN TO GIVE** 



## **Today at GVPC**

**Welcome** – A very warm welcome to all worshipping with us this morning. Please record your attendance in the black friendship pad located in the pew back. We invite all visitors to the welcome table located in the Narthex to learn more about GVPC.

**Sanctuary Flowers** – Today's Sanctuary flowers are provided by Sherri Brewer in celebration of grandson Jacob's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday ~ December 7; and by Rob and Rosemary Henrich in memory and honor of Uncle John Dayton Rodgers who perished while aboard the USS Arizona along with the many others who died at Pearl Harbor on a Sunday, 84 years ago today, December 7, 1941; a day that shall always be remembered in our country's history.

**Coffee Hour** – Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 am for coffee and fellowship. Today's Coffee Hour is hosted by Richard and Dianna Proud in celebration of mom's birthday!

**GVPC Youth Choir** – Calling all **young singers ages 5-14 years!** You are invited to join the GVPC Youth Choir this morning from 9:45 -10:15 am in the C.E. Bldg.

**Sunday School** – All children (grades K-5) are invited to Sunday School in the C.E. Bldg. immediately following the children's lesson during the 10:30 am worship service.

**Youth Group** - All junior and senior high youth are invited to the C.E. Bldg. from 12:00 – 2:00 pm for a meal, lesson, fellowship, and fun.

**Advent Potluck** - The Fellowship Committee invites the congregation to enjoy time together sharing a meal **today at 11:45 am** in the Fellowship Hall. The committee will provide spiral ham and asks you to bring a favorite potluck dish to share. There will be an Advent craft for all ages in the Conference Room.

Christmas Wreath Fundraiser – If you pre-ordered a Christmas wreath, please pick it up <u>today</u>, in the C.E. building, immediately following both worship services. If you did not order a wreath and would still like to buy one, there will be a limited number of surplus wreaths available for purchase on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost is \$40.00 per wreath.

## This Week at GVPC

**Pastor's Bible Study** – Join us this **Wednesday, December 10 at 11:00 am** in the Sanctuary as we conclude our discussion on "*Mere Christianity*." We will discuss book 4, chapters 9, 10, and 11.

**Gingerbread Fair Committee** – The committee will have a cookie exchange **tomorrow at 10:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall. (*Note* – *there will not be a business meeting this month.*) All fair volunteers are invited to join us.

**Messiah Concert is Coming!** – GVPC is hosting our 17<sup>th</sup> annual Messiah Sing-Along concert **this Wednesday, December 10 at 7:00 pm** in the Sanctuary. This joyous holiday event will benefit the Henderson Food Bank and features professional musicians, the chancel choir, and soloists. Proceeds of a free-will offering will benefit the Henderson Food Bank.

**GVPC Live Concert Series** - Presents *Christmas is Wonderful - A Special Afternoon with the Tierney Brothers* **next Saturday, December 13 at 3:00 pm** in the Sanctuary. You won't want to miss this special performance of Christmas Carols and Holiday Classics by GVPC'S own Michael Tierney and his brother, Andrew. Stay after the concert for a cookie reception in Fellowship Hall! As with all GVPC Live concert performances, admission is free of charge and a free-will offering will be accepted.

**Solo Seniors** - Our next Social Seniors Luncheon will be held next **Sunday, December 14 at 11:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch is provided at a cost of \$5.00. This month's theme is "Christmas Carol Fun." Sign up at the table in the Narthex today. Plan to join us for a time of fellowship, food, and fun!

**Christmas Caroling** – All singers are invited to spread Christmas cheer on **Sunday, December 21** for an afternoon of Christmas caroling. We will meet in the church parking lot at **1:15 pm** to carpool to local senior facilities to sing to our Friends-at-home. Come share Christmas joy!

**Christmas Flowers** - You are invited to purchase Christmas flowers to decorate the Sanctuary during the Season of Christmas. Orders may be placed at the table in the Narthex today through Sunday, December 14. The price is \$25.00 per plant.

**Christmas Joy Offering** - During this season of Advent, please consider contributing to the Christmas Joy Offering, which provides critical assistance to current and retired Presbyterian church ministers, staff workers, missionaries, and their families. You can use the special purple envelopes found in the pews or make an online donation on the GVPC website under the Christmas Joy Offering.

**Men's Group** – The Men's Study Group meets on **Saturday mornings at 8:00 am** for a time of fellowship, discussion, and study. The group is studying *"The Great Works of Sacred Music"* led by Professor Charles E. McGuire from Oberlin Conservatory of Music.

**Ladies Bible Fellowship** – Meets every Wednesday at 9:30 am in the Conference Room for a time of study and fellowship. The group is studying "The Women of Christmas," by Liz Curtis Higgs. All women of the church are invited to attend!

DEC 10 AT 7PM
Handel's Messiah
Sing-Along Concert

DEC 13 AT 3PM
Carols in the Sanctuary
with The Tierney Brothers

DEC 24 AT 5PM & 7PM
Christmas Eve Services
Celebrate the Savior's birth at music-filled
services in our beautiful Sanctuary

DEC 28 AT 10AM
Christmas Sunday Service