# DECEMBER 7, 2025 | 8:00 A.M. CHAPEL COMMUNION SERVICE IN THE WAY OF IONA ABBEY, SCOTLAND



Cover Art: by Eva Estevez daughter of Rev. Dr. Edwin Estevez and Dr. Merideth Hite Estevez.

# **COMMUNION SERVICE**

8:00 a.m., Cedarholm Chapel

## **PRELUDE**

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us go into the house of the Lord!

Let us meet God with joy!

God builds us up like a great city.

May peace be within our walls.

Let us seek the goodness of God;

Let us go into the house of the Lord!

\* HYMN 96

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

WINCHESTER NEW

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

As we gather to light the second Advent candle, let us confess our failure to be one with God, who is always among us.

God of the future,

You are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.

We confess that we have not expected your kingdom,

For we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment.

We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace.

God, in your mercy, forgive us.

Grant us wisdom to welcome your way,

And to seek things that will endure

When Christ comes to judge the world.

As the candle is lit, these words are said:

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

As the Lord has promised, in days to come...

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,

The leopard shall lie down with the kid,

The calf and the lion and the fatling will lie down together,

And a little child shall lead them.

# **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low.

Now the glory of the Lord is revealed,

For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Beloved, believe the Good News:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

Thanks be to God!

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:8-14 (NT, page 58)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

SERMON The Gifts We Seek: Peace Rev. Edwin Estevez

**INVITATION** 

**THE THANKSGIVING** The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

LORD'S PRAYER Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE COMMUNION

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened our weary hearts with peace. Teach us to proclaim the birth of your Son Jesus Christ in all that we do. Empower us by your Spirit to be Christ's presence in the world even as Jesus was God-with-us. Give us courage to speak his truth, to seek his justice, and to love with his love. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

\* HYMN 104 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

#### **BENEDICTION**

## TITHES AND OFFERING

Your offering for the Kirk's ministry will be received as you leave worship. Our giving is an offering to God. All offerings are part of our worship of God and are used to support the Kirk's ministry. Text "KITH" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.

#### CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Click the QR code to see this week's @ The Kirk.

The wreaths, garlands, and poinsettias decorating the sanctuary and transepts are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Edgar and Mary Annette Flint, Howard Flint II and Marilyn Flint, by Martha and David Kistler, Heather and Mike Putz, David Fischer Jr., and Mary and Chris Pardi.

**The wreaths on the Sanctuary doors** are presented to the glory of God *by Mr. and Mrs. David B. Littleton* in joyful gratitude for God's gift to all people of his son, Jesus Christ.

**The wreaths on the Kirk House doors** are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Ann S. Bryant *by the Bryant Family.* 

**The wreaths on the Heritage Hall doors** are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Dick and Judy Ward *by Chris, Jennifer, Collin, and Henry Graff.* 





