



**W**elcome to Beautiful Savior!

**5631 North Adams Road,  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304**

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**[www.bslemi.org](http://www.bslemi.org)**

**Advent - Tidings of Comfort and Joy**

***"The Angel Speaks to Mary's Doubt"***

**December 12, 2021 9:00 a.m.**

O God, who brings comfort and joy, when our faith waivers and we question your word, speak to our doubt. Comfort us with your promises and renew our trust in you.

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P: Pastor

C: Congregation

A: Assisting Minister

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### GATHERING WORSHIP MUSIC

*Piano Duets with Joe and Julie*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*(Please kneel as you are able during a time of silence for reflection and self-examination.)*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: The Lord of Advent tells us to be watchful for his coming, keeping our lamps lighted, and our hearts clean. Therefore, let us confess to the Lord.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God and Father of all:

**C: We prepare our hearts for the coming of your Son, confessing our sins, confessing our attraction to a godless world that does not know Christ. Forgive our sins, cleanse our hearts, and keep us faithful for the promised coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: God sent the Only Begotten Son, the Babe of Bethlehem, to show God's infinite love and forgiveness for all. Your sins are forgiven in the holy name of ✙ Christ who came and will come again.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please be seated.)*

### THE GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH - JOY

The Jehowski Family

A: Today we light the third candle of Advent, the candle of Joy. In Advent, we are in a time of waiting. Like the Israelites who wandered through the Wilderness, waiting to come into the Promised Land, we wait for the coming of the Joy of Ages. We wait for the day where we can join our voices with the angels to sing "Joy to the World, the Lord is come!" We wait for the day when everlasting joy will be on each of us.

*(Light Candle.)*

A: We light this candle in Joy.

**C: On this day, we remember the Spirit who breathes joy into our lives.**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## GATHERING CAROL

*"Joy to the World"* vv. 1 & 2

**ELW 267**

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

## GATHERING ADVENT DIALOGUE

P: This season of Advent confronts many of our emotions.

**C: Sometimes we doubt and fail to trust God.**

P: "Do not be afraid. You have found favor with God."

**C: Nothing is impossible with God.**

P: Let it be with us according to your word.

**C: And we will all share tidings of comfort and joy.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. O God who brings comfort and joy, when our faith waivers and we question your word, speak to our doubt. Comfort us with your promises and renew our trust in you. In Jesus's name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

## **BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR MISSION STATEMENT**

P: Although as individuals we are unique in many and various ways, we gather as a congregation for a common mission.

**C: In Jesus's name, we:**

**Bring Glory to God through fulfilling worship,**

**Serve God's people, both within our congregation and without,**

**Learn about the Lord's will for us through sharing and teaching, and**

**Connect within our membership and reach out to connect with others.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## **MISSION MOMENT**

*"Forever Home Run"*

Rachel Sykes

## **CHORAL ANTHEM**

*"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"*

Ronald A. Nelson

Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;  
the evening is advancing and darker night is near.  
The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle, at midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near;  
go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.  
Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.

The saints, who here in patience their cross and sufferings bore,  
shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall be hold;  
in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear.  
Arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see  
the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE READING**

Tammy Dukatz

## READING

*Jeremiah 33:14-16*

A: The reading is from the book of Jeremiah, the thirty-third chapter.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## GOSPEL VERSE

*Refrain*

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o.

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

P: Faithful God, you chose Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Sovereign and Savior, Jesus Christ. Now fill us with your grace, that with her, we may understand your ways, rejoice in your salvation, and embrace your will; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## INTERACTIVE GOSPEL

*Luke 1:26-38*

*(Please be seated.)*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Wade Jehowski

## SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Niklaus C. Schillack, Senior Pastor  
“The Angel Speaks to Mary’s Doubt”

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

**CAROL OF THE DAY** “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came” vv. 1 & 3

**ELW 265**

- 1 The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:  
"All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,  
most highly favored lady." Gloria!
- 3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;  
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.  
"My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."  
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: During these weeks of waiting and expecting, where people live in fear of the unknown,

**C: we pray for peace.**

P: Where people are confused about your will for their lives or for the world,

**C: we pray for clarity.**

P: Where people doubt your presence and your word,

**C: we pray for trust.**

P: Where people are curious, and await the future with hopeful anticipation,

**C: we pray for wonder.**

P: Most of all, when the world longs for you,

**C: we pray you help us respond with glad tidings of comfort and joy.**

P: We pray all this in the name of Jesus, our long-expected Savior.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please be seated.)*

## STEWARDSHIP READING

*Matthew 25:40*

(Jesus said,) “And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’”

## OFFERING VIDEO

*“The Call of Christmas: Mary”*

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Together, let us pray:

**C: God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**C: Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** – sung to the tune of *Away in a Manger*

Our Father in heaven, all praise to your name!  
Your kingdom among us, your will done the same;  
by mortals and angels, come, Lord, reign alone;  
oh hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.

The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;  
as we forgive others, our sins take away;  
in times of temptation, to lead us be near;  
from evil deliver your children most dear.

For yours is the kingdom; o'er all things you reign.  
And yours is the power; all things you maintain.  
To you be the glory, resounding again,  
From all of creation, forever. Amen.

*(Please be seated.)*

### ***What is Holy Communion?***

Holy Communion is a meal instituted by Jesus Christ that involves the receiving of God's forgiveness in a tangible form – we receive Jesus's life-giving body and blood in the presence of bread and wine (or grape juice). The meal is a time of remembrance and celebration.

***Who can take part?***

Holy Communion is something that not one of us has earned, so we receive it as God's free gift of life. The Church traditionally recommends that people be baptized before taking part, but all that is required is simply a heart that believes in Jesus Christ. If a person of any age wishes to be baptized, please let us know.

***How does Holy Communion take place?***

If you wish to take part, come forward as directed by the ushers. You will receive the wafer from the Pastor and the wine/grape juice from the communion assistant. If you wish to come forward for a blessing only, please cross your arms across your chest. You may also remain seated if you so wish.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

*"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"*

Gilbert M. Martin

**POST HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING**

**P:** May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

**PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION**

**P:** Together let us pray:

**C: Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus. Amen.**

**A REMINDER OF GOD'S GIFTS TO US**

**BENEDICTION** – sung to the tune of *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Now may the good Lord bless and keep, his love in us increase;

Lift up his face with shining grace, and grant eternal peace.

To Father, Son, and Spirit, Eternal One-in-Three.

Be thanks and praise through all our days. And to eternity!

## SENDING CAROL

“Joy to the World” vv. 3 & 4

ELW 267

- 3 No more let sin and sorrow grow  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, and share the Good News, for Christ is near.

**C: We will! Thanks be to God!**

P: And next time ...

**C: ... we'll invite a friend!**

## POSTLUDE

“Come, Divine Messiah”

David Lasky

*We thank you for worshiping with us today.*

*We hope to worship with you again in the near future!*

*Many thanks to all those on our tech team  
for making this livestream service possible.*

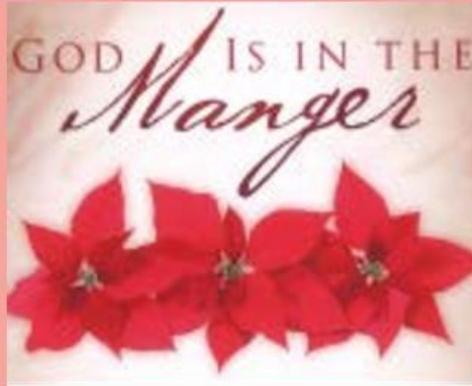
Confession and Forgiveness are from the Liturgy by Rev. Thomas L. Weitzel, modified.

The Advent Candlelighting liturgy is from the Rev. Will Ryan, First Christian Church (DOC), Burlington, Iowa.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:



There will be an opportunity to break bread and worship together on the Wednesday evenings during the season of Advent. The services will be based on the writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, which will guide and inspire us as we move through the weeks leading up to Christmas. Through the sharing of scripture, song, and Bonhoeffer's letters and sermons, we'll explore together the joys of waiting, mystery, incarnation and redemption.

A light supper provided by James and Emily Kaiser (homemade soup, salad, and fresh bread) will be available at 6:00 p.m. in the Welcome Center, followed by the worship service at 6:45 p.m. on December 15, and 22. Please RSVP to Julie Steinmayer at [jsteinmayer@bslcmi.org](mailto:jsteinmayer@bslcmi.org), if you think you are interested in breaking bread together, so the Kaisers can plan appropriately.



### **Sunday, December 19, 2021**

Our young people's Christmas Celebration, "I Didn't Think It Would Happen Like This" will be during our 9:00 a.m. worship service, Sunday, December 19. Invite family & friends!

## **HELPFUL INFORMATION**

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES – The 9:00 & 11:15 a.m. worship services will be livestreamed through our website and YouTube pages. People can gather with us in the Sanctuary at 9 a.m. to worship in a more traditional style in person. We offer a more contemporary style worship service at 11:15 a.m. People can also worship in their homes with the livestream at 9 or 11:15 a.m., as well as access the recording of either service any time after worship concludes.

### **STAFF MEMBERS**

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