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*"Sharing the love of Jesus by glorifying God and extending His kingdom"*

**DECEMBER 7, 2025**

**WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

**"Believe For It"**  
Words and Music by  
CeCe Winans, Kyle Lee,  
Mitch Wong and Dwan Hill

**GREETING**

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

**KYRIE**

Kyrie eleison. **Lord, have mercy.**  
Christe eleison. **Christ, have mercy.**  
Kyrie eleison. **Lord, have mercy.**

**GLORIA**

**Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
yours is the promise, the blessing, the  
birth. Ours the rejoicing for Word given  
frame; ours the thanksgiving to your holy  
name. Ours be the telling of deeds greatly  
done; yours be the glory,  
O God, yours alone.**

**Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
yours the hosannas, the dying, rebirth.  
Ours the rejoicing for nature reclaimed;  
ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.  
Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done;  
yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.**

**Glory to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
yours the anointing, the radiant worth.**

**Ours the rejoicing for spirits aflame;  
ours the thanksgiving to your holy name.  
Ours be the telling of deeds greatly done;  
yours be the glory, O God, yours alone.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**  
**NANCY FERZOLA**

**FIRST READING:**

Isaiah 11:1-10

**PSALM:** Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

(Read Responsively)

- <sup>1</sup> Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to the king's  
son;
- <sup>2</sup> **that he may rule your people  
righteously and the poor with justice;**
- <sup>3</sup> that the mountains may bring prosperity  
to the people, and the hills, in  
righteousness.
- <sup>4</sup> **Let him defend the needy among the  
people, rescue the poor, and crush  
the oppressor.**
- <sup>5</sup> May he live as long as the sun and moon  
endure, from one generation to  
another.
- <sup>6</sup> **Let him come down like rain upon the  
mown field, like showers that water  
the earth.**
- <sup>7</sup> In his time may the righteous flourish;  
and let there be an abundance of peace  
till the moon shall be no more.
- <sup>18</sup> **Blessed are you, LORD God, the God  
of Israel; you alone do wondrous**

**deeds!**

<sup>19</sup> And blessed be your glorious name  
forever, and may all the earth be filled  
with your glory. Amen. Amen.

**SECOND READING:**

Romans 15:4-13

**GOSPEL:**

Matthew 3:1-12

**SERMON**

**ANTHEM**

**“He Became Poor”**

Byron Carmony

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is  
marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
whose home is heaven and earth,  
whose salvation is sure.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of  
God  
and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Long-expected God,  
**we confess that we look to ourselves  
for the peace and security only you can  
provide.**

**We reach for swords and spears,  
reluctant to release our grip on the ways  
of war.**

**We become impatient while waiting  
and weary of keeping awake.**

**Free us from self-reliance,  
and teach us to live in harmony with our  
neighbors.**

**Increase our trust in God’s timing,  
and awaken us to your advent among us,**

**that we may abound in the hope you have  
promised.**

**Amen.**

God judges us not as we deserve,  
but according to God’s own righteousness.

✠ You are freed and forgiven,  
saved by grace,  
and ready to welcome the Savior.

**Amen.**

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son,  
our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the**

**Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYERS**

**RESPONSE: HEAR OUR PRAYER**

**PEACE**

**OFFERING**

**COMMUNION NARRATIVE**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

## COMMUNION SONGS

### “On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry”

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;  
make straight the way for God within,  
and let us all our hearts prepare  
for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord,  
our refuge and our great reward;  
without your grace we waste away  
like flow'rs that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,  
and make us rise to fall no more;  
oh, let your face upon us shine  
and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son,  
whose advent has our freedom won,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

### “Remember”

In the darkest hour  
When I cannot breathe  
Fear is on my chest  
The weight of the world on me  
Everything is crashing down  
Everything I have known  
When I wonder if I'm all alone

I remember  
I remember  
You have always been faithful to me  
I remember  
I remember  
Even when my own eyes could not see  
You were there  
Always there

I will lift my eyes  
Even in the pain  
Above all the lies  
I know You can make a way  
I have seen giants fall  
I have seen mountains move  
I have seen waters part because of You

I remember  
I remember  
You have always been faithful to me  
I remember  
I remember  
Even when my own eyes could not see  
You were there  
Always there

I can't stop thinking about  
I can't stop thinking about  
I can't stop thinking about  
Your goodness goodness

I can't stop thinking about  
I can't stop thinking about  
I can't stop thinking about  
Your goodness goodness

I can't stop thinking about  
I can't stop thinking about  
I can't stop thinking about  
Your goodness goodness

I remember  
I remember  
You have always been faithful to me  
I remember  
I remember  
Even when my own eyes could not see  
You were there  
Always there

### “All Earth Is Hopeful”

All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!  
Furrows lie open for God's creative task:  
this, the labor of people who struggle to see  
how God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.

People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell:  
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel";  
she conceived him, "God with us,"  
our brother, whose birth restores hope and  
courage to children of this earth.

Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared;  
new highways opened, new protocols declared.  
Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and  
grace! All clear ev'ry gateway, in haste, come  
out in haste!

We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib.  
This same Lord Jesus today has come to live  
in our world; he is present, in neighbors we see  
our Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free.

### BLESSING

May God who comes among us,  
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the  
darkness, and good news to share today and  
always. **Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

#### "Prepare the Royal Highway"

Prepare the royal highway;  
the King of kings is near!  
Let ev'ry hill and valley  
a level road appear!  
Then greet the King of glory,  
foretold in sacred story:

#### *Refrain*

Hosanna to the Lord,  
for he fulfills God's word!

God's people, see him coming:  
your own eternal king!  
Palm branches strew before him!  
Spread garments! Shout and sing!  
God's promise will not fail you!  
No more shall doubt assail you! *Refrain*

Then fling the gates wide open  
to greet your promised king!  
Your king, yet ev'ry nation  
its tribute too may bring.  
All lands will bow before him;  
their voices join your singing: *Refrain*

His is no earthly kingdom;  
it comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and freedom  
and justice, truth, and love.  
So let your praise be sounding  
for kindness so abounding: *Refrain*

### DISMISSAL/ POSTLUDE

#### TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Preaching & Presiding	Pastor Scott Lindner
Assisting Minister	Giada Styles
Reader	Nancy Ferzola
Praise Band Music Dir.	Brian Lindner
Celebration Choir Dir.	Sally Schaefer
Keyboardist	Ken Hanks
IT/Livestream	Scott Giesking
Worship & Music Dir.	Rebecca Parker