

# ALL SAINTS Presbyterian Church

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

## † CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God! We are gathered in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**We give thanks to the Lord.**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.**

There will come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse; and a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

**Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.**

Isaiah 9:2 & 60:1



Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them up to the Lord!**

## † COLLECT & 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 have forgiven 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.**

## † CONGREGATIONAL SINGING:

*Lift Up Your Heads—224*

## CORPORATE READING OF GOD'S WORD

**Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.**

**A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

**Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.**

**And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."**

**A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.**

**The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass.**

**The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.**

Isaiah 40:1-8

‡ CONFESSION OF SIN

Most holy and merciful Father, we confess before you our sinful nature and our many offenses. We are prone to do evil and slow to do good. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your way, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Lord, we are ashamed and sorry for all the ways that we have displeased you. Father, teach us to hate our rebellious acts, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins for the sake of your Son. Hear us now as we continue in silent prayer, confessing our sins to you.

[We pause in prayer, and then conclude together...]

Gracious Father, help us to love you with all our heart and mind and strength, and give us the power of your Holy Spirit so that we may walk in your ways and serve you all of our days. Amen.

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God*—415

† ABSOLUTION: Our Assurance of Forgiveness is declared  
In the Name of God the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit  
**Thanks be to God!**

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*—226



PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

We join together praying for the church, one another, and the world

**Scripture Lesson from  
the Old Testament**  
Isaiah 7:1-17

**Scripture Lesson from  
the Epistles**  
Romans 4:13-25

*This is the Word of the Lord*  
**Thanks be to God!**

† **Gospel Lesson**—Mark 1:1-8

*This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ*  
**Praise be to Christ!**

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *Gloria Patri*—436

† **Sermon Text**  
**Matthew 1:18-25**

**Sermon**  
*Courageous Faith*  
Pastor Steve Jeffery

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*—241

‡ The congregation is invited to kneel

† The congregation is invited to stand

In Grateful Response We Present the Lord's Tithes & Our Offerings

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *The Doxology*

† Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication



† CONFESSION OF FAITH: *The Nicene Creed*

Christians, in whom do you believe?

**I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made.**

**Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church; acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

#### THE LORD'S SUPPER

We commune with the Lord & with one another

**The Lord's Supper should not be observed in individual homes.**

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*—243

† BENEDICTION AND SINGING

**Doxology from *Of the Father's Love Begotten* (p. 247)**

Christ, to Thee with God the Father, and O Holy Ghost, to Thee,  
Hymn and chant with high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be:  
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore! Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR

### TODAY

#### First Sunday of Advent

**New Members**—The Hinson & Jennings households will be presented for membership at the beginning of our service.

**Fellowship Meal**—All are invited to attend this monthly fellowship meal.

### THIS WEEK

#### Thursday (12/5) “Midweek” Caroling

Join us for an Evening of Caroling at Central Market, our final Midweek of 2024!

Please sign up for an opportunity to sing at 5:00pm, 6:00pm, or 7:00pm. The church will be open throughout the evening so that you can grab chili, hot dogs, and dessert, before, or even after, caroling.

Once you've RSVPd by selecting a time, Pastor Shaw will contact you (early next week) with additional details. Song books will be made available on 12/5, but our Advent and Christmas hymns have been loaded onto the Sing Your Part site.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Friday, December 20th at 7:00 p.m.—Lessons & Carols**

### PLEASE NOTE:

**Deacon Nominations—Sunday, November 24th through Sunday, December 29th**—As you prayerfully consider nominating someone, please consider the biblical qualifications found in 1 Timothy 3. Please also consider Pastor Jeffery’s teaching on diaconal ministry found on our website.

Once you have gained the consent of someone you wish to nominate, you may email the Session at [session@allsaintskirk.com](mailto:session@allsaintskirk.com)

**Gloria Sancta—January 8-11, 2025 at Timberline Camp and Conference Center. Registration is open.** Gloria Sancta is a retreat for Christian young adults (post high school; under 30)  
**Register at <https://www.gloriasancta.org>.**

### ALL SAINTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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