

ALL SAINTS Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 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:

Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come—240

CORPORATE READING OF GOD'S WORD

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness.

And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins.

But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet.

For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

Hebrews 4:14—5:2, 10:11-14

‡ 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: *Good Christian Men, Rejoice*—238



PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

**Scripture Lesson from
the Old Testament**
Zephaniah 3:14-20

**Scripture Lesson from
the Epistles**
Hebrews 10:1-10

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

† **Gospel Lesson**—Luke 3:1-6

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

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *Gloria Patri*—436

† **Sermon Text**
Luke 1:39-45

Sermon
The Advent of the Lord
Pastor Steve Jeffery

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *Angels We Have Heard on High*—230

‡ 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 the 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;
I 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

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

† CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*—236

† 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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Baptism and Reception—Moses Wendell McGee will be baptized at the beginning of our service. Please join us for a reception in the Fellowship Hall after our service.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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

PLEASE NOTE:**Pregnancy Help Center of Fort Worth—Gift Drive**

During Advent and through Epiphany we will be gathering items to support the Pregnancy Help Center of Fort Worth. Particular items of need this year: baby wipes, small bottles of shampoo & baby wash, baby lotion, diapers size 4 & 5, baby digital thermometer, baby first aid kit, and baby toys.

Gifts for moms: Bibles, gas gift card, and Walmart gift cards. Strollers and playpens are always great as well. For more ideas, you may scan the QR code from the flyer on the back corner table in the foyer near the main entrance. Donations may be placed on this table.

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

The Congregation Stands and Speaks to the Child

Little child, for you Jesus Christ has come, He has fought, He has suffered. For you He entered into the shadows of Gethsemane and the terror of Calvary; for you He uttered the cry, "It is finished." For you He rose from the dead and ascended into heaven, and there for you He intercedes. For you, little child, this word is true: "We love Him because He first loved us."



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