

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*HYMN 16

*The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*Noel*

R. Hudson

\*WE CELEBRATE OUR GIFTS (TUNE 591)

**We give thee but thine own, What e'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is thine alone, A trust O Lord, from Thee.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

**Our best we give to you, loving God, for you have given your best to us in the mystery of the incarnation. May our offerings proclaim Jesus in ways that will be received with joy. Send your Word to the world in this season through our caring service. May we share it with one another in ways that help us all to grow. We are your servants. The gifts we dedicate are already yours. Thank you for all the ways you have provided for us. Amen.**

## BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN 7

*When First You Came to Earth*

\*BENEDICTION

One: Inspired by God's presence, spread Advent good news.  
Strengthened by the gospel, go out to serve.

**All: Our spirits rejoice in the Savior's coming.  
Our lives are blessed by a merciful God.**

One: God has granted a beautiful earth for our home.  
God appoints us as care-givers of the land and its people.

**All: We are a covenant people, shaped by love.  
Wherever God sends us, we will go.**

One: God's steadfast love will go with you every day.  
You will know the strength of God's mighty hand.

**All: We will work with God to lift up the lowly.  
We will share good things with those who are hungry.**

One: Amen.

**All: Amen.**

\*POSTLUDE

*Hark! The Glad Sound!*

R Powell

11:00

# 11:00 WORSHIP CELEBRATION

*December 18, 2011*

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

Listening devices and large-print materials  
are available from the ushers.

*Please set all cell phones and electronic pagers to vibrate.*

\*All those who are able, please stand.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

*The Angel Gabriel*

R. Lau

✦ ✦ ✦ *Please keep silent so that others can meditate* ✦ ✦ ✦

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT LITANY

the Peelen family

One: During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is  
our Everlasting Father.

**All: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

One: During Advent we look to the One who knows our deepest thoughts.

**All: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

One: During Advent we look to the One who cares for our deepest needs.

**All: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

One: During Advent we look to the One who knows  
our most pressing concerns.

**All: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

One: During Advent we look to the One who knows our innermost being.

**All: From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING *God With Us, Emmanuel*

Joel Raney

Chancel Choir, with congregation (see insert)

\*HYMN 9

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, in whom all things are possible, we confess that we have doubted what we cannot explain. We have sought strength and enjoyment apart from you. We have taken pride in ownership more than giving praise through stewardship. We have neglected to thank you, either in good times or when you have supported us during days of uncertainty. We have resisted the newness you offer. Forgive us, we pray, for installing ourselves as reigning deities. Lead us, rather, in paths of trust and obedience. (silent confession) Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: ...Friends hear and believe the Good News of the Gospel:

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

\*RESPONSE TO PARDON ST. LOUIS

**O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;**

**Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.**

**No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,**

**Where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.**

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

TIME WITH CHILDREN

THE 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.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

*On Christmas Night (Sussex Carol)*

arr. McChesney

Bells of St. Andrews

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle

Romans 16:25-27

(Pew Bible N.T. page 165)

Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

(Pew Bible N.T. page 56)

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*Unexpected Grace*

David Lantz, III

Chancel Choir

SERMON

*THE Happening is Happening:*

Pastor Steve

Trustworthiness for the Treasure