



Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 2022
9:30 am

True joy is hidden where we are the same as other people: fragile and mortal. It is the joy of belonging to the human race. It is the joy of being with others as a friend, a companion, a fellow traveler. This is the joy of Jesus, who is Emmanuel: God-with-us.
Henri Nouwen

Gethsemane Lutheran Church

11560 SE Market St, Portland, OR 97216

glcportland.org | (503) 256-1835

<https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>

Pastor Donna Herzfeldt-Kamprath

Accompanist: Brooke Benfield

Worship: Gloria Kelsay, Brenna Meyer, Jay Rector, Kim Stoffregen

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Let us be in the spirit of worship together.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship! For the safety of our community, we ask that you sign in. Our worship service is broadcast live on Zoom and Facebook. We are now serving communion at the altar. If you wish to continue taking it at your seat, pick a kit up in the narthex or see an usher.

*** = Please stand as you are able.**

*GETHSEMANE VISION & MISSION

We are forgiven and called by God to proclaim the Good News of Christ. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our mission is to serve both the physical and spiritual needs of all people in our changing society. We welcome all races, abilities, genders, and sexual orientations.

*ADVENT LITANY

God of hope, who brought love into this world,

Be the love that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought peace into this world,

Be the peace that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought joy into this world,

Be the joy that dwells between us.

God of hope, the one who accompanies us on the journey of life,

Be with us and guide us with your power for renewal and justice always, and particularly during this Advent time. Amen.

*ADVENT HYMN, *He Came Down*, ELW 253 (all verses)



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING PRAYER

Praise to you, O God, who lives with us, sharing our flesh and bones.
As Mary waited and Joseph dreamed, so we wait and dream for you.
Bless us and let your face shine upon us, more radiant than these candles,
and more dear than all else we seek.
Restore us when we fail to refuse the evil
and choose the good, and banish all our fears.
We pray in the name of Emmanuel, your promised child and our Savior.
Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN, *The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came*, ELW 265



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

***GREETING**

Blessed be the holy Trinity,
+one God,
who comes to wake us from sleep,
who leads us into the light of grace.
Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray,
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might,
free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your
promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
and forever.
Amen.

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Welcome families! We're so glad you are here!

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10-16

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰God spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put God to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore God himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 98

¹ Sing to the Lord a new song,
for God has done marvelous things;
**his right hand and holy arm
have worked salvation for God.**

² God has made his salvation known
and revealed righteousness to the nations.

³ **God has remembered his love
and faithfulness to Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.**

⁴ Shout for joy to God, all the earth,
burst into jubilant song with music;

⁵ **make music for God with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of singing,**

⁶ **with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn—
shout for joy before God.**

⁷ Let the sea resound, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it.

⁸ **Let the rivers clap their hands,
let the mountains sing together for joy;**

⁹ **let them sing before the Lord,
for God comes to judge the earth.**

He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9

A reading from Philippians.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends! I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM — Handbells

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.”²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY, *Here I Am, Lord*, ELW 574**



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
 2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
 3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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***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 power of 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 OF INTERCESSION**

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

God our shepherd, let your Spirit move with power throughout the church. Give discernment and wisdom to our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders. Take away our fear, so that we serve and love, confident that you are guiding us. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our source, awaken us to the beauty of the earth and the marvelous variety of life. Unite humankind in repairing and caring for your creation. Protect creatures and habitats in peril due to rising seas and warming temperatures. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our vision, raise up leaders in every nation who dream of freedom and justice for all people. We pray for the work of international organizations that promote peace and human rights, especially Amnesty International, Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, American Civil Liberties Union, and countless others. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our helper, come to the aid of all who cry out to you. Shelter migrants, refugees, those fleeing war and famine, and those fleeing unsafe homes within our borders. Bring relief to individuals and families experiencing hunger, homelessness, or impoverishment. Comfort any who are isolated or lonely. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our Emmanuel, you are with us in our life together. We give you thanks for gathering us in worship and fellowship, and we remember those who cannot be present. Watch over those who travel. Heal the sick and speed their recovery. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our mother, guide us so that we may love as you love and forgive as you forgive. We ask for every one of your children to feel your unconditional love, acceptance, grace, and nurturing embrace. Help us to walk in your ways so that we may share good fruit with those most in need. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God our hope, you bring life out of death, and you promise to be our God forever. Shine upon the faithful who now rest in the fulfillment of your promise and bring us also into your blessed reign of peace. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Share a sign of peace with a wave or a fist bump.

OFFERING

Please be seated for a quiet moment of reflection.

Thank you for your generous gifts to sustain the mission and ministry of Gethsemane Lutheran Church. You may place your offering in the offering plate by the baptismal font, give online at www.glcportland.org/give or with Venmo.

***OFFERTORY HYMN: *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*, ELW 182**



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Eternal God,

you make the desert bloom

and send springs of water to thirsty ground.

Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,

**and make us messengers of your mercy and love
for all in need of your healing and justice.**

We ask this through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

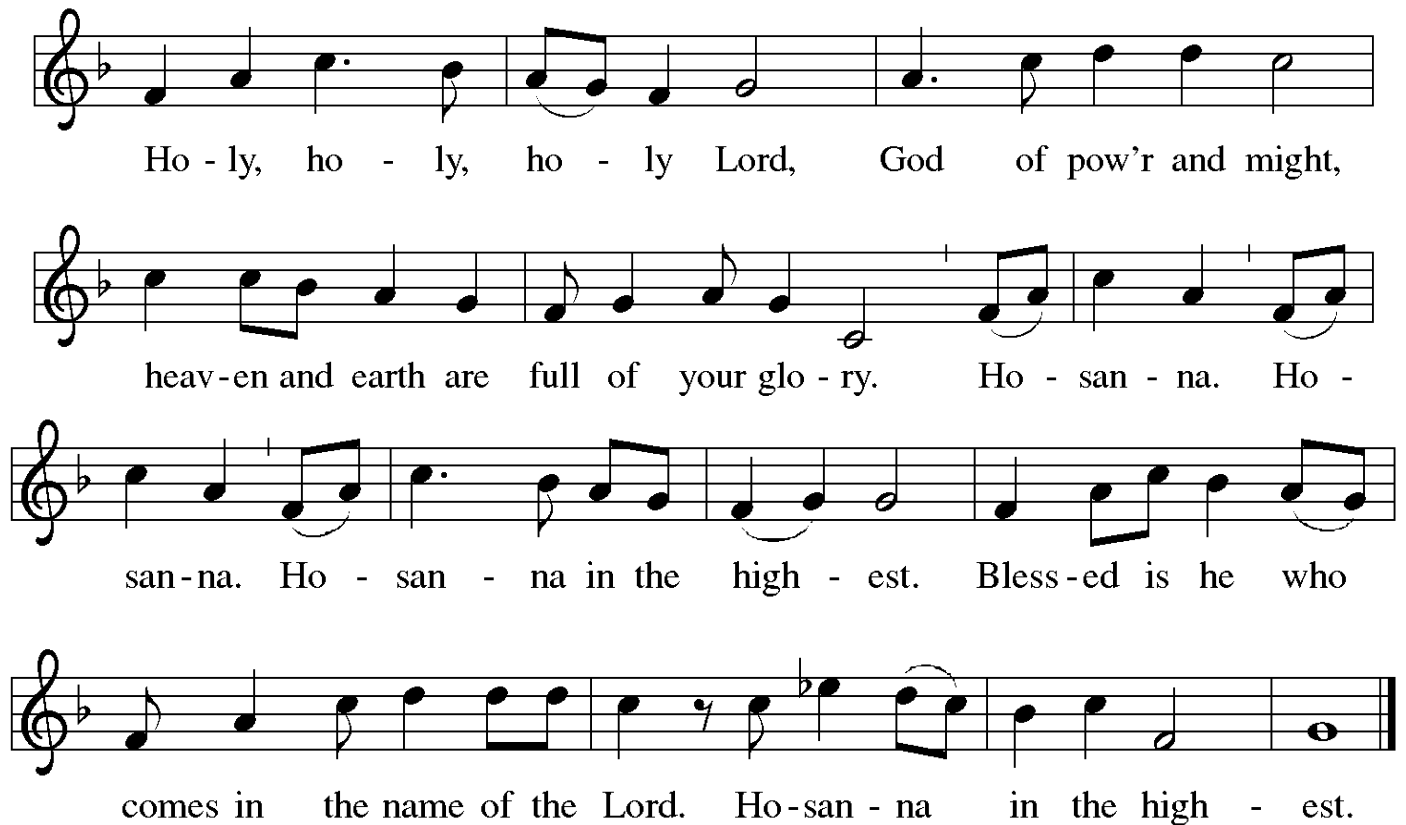
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is our duty and delight . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

All are welcome to celebrate communion as part of our worship this morning! If you are joining us via livestream, any bread and wine, water or juice may be used. Please hold up the bread and the cup as Pastor Donna says the Words of Institution:

*LORD'S PRAYER

Today we pray "A Version of the Lord's Prayer" from Prayer at Night, by Jim Cotter, GtB: Sheffield. Cairns Publications.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.
Amen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God, who has come to save you.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, ELW 279



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893
Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

*COMMUNION BLESSING

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
and the gifts of his body and blood
strengthen, keep and unite us,
now and forever.

Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray,

Faithful God,

**in this meal you have remembered your mercy,
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.**

**As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.**

**Guide us toward your promised future,
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

SENDING

***COMMUNITY COVENANT**

In recognition of God's greatest commandment, we will love God with all our heart, mind, and soul, and love our neighbor as ourselves. In that same spirit, we make this covenant:

- **We will welcome all people with our hearts, actions, and words.**
- **We will talk *with* each other, not *at* each other.**
- **We will listen to each other, not for fault but for understanding.**
- **We will express our concerns and issues directly with those involved, rather than with others.**
- **We will support our pastor and staff and honor their efforts among us.**
- **We will seek to discover what is best for our Church as a whole, not what may be best for us individually or as a small group.**
- **We will pray with each other and for each other.**

***BLESSING**

God the eternal Word,

who dwells with us in Jesus,

and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

***SENDING HYMN, *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*, ELW 240**



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Please leave the sanctuary quietly so that those who wish may remain to listen without interruption. Thank you!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924
Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

Advent Litany is from www.faithandworship.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



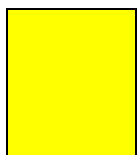
- **Pastor Donna Herzfeldt-Kamprath** has limited office hours but can be reached at pastor@glcportland.org or at 971-770-2610. You can also leave a message for her at the office at 503-256-1835 ext. 102 (checked on Wed and Sun only).
- Due to a few recent cases of Covid, for the next couple of weeks **we are strongly recommending masking in our building at all times.**
- Our last **Midweek Advent Service** in partnership with our cluster churches is **December 21: 7:00 p.m.** at Covenant Presbyterian (longest night service for Winter Solstice).
- **Worship with us on Zoom** at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81476436505>. To join by phone, call (253) 215 8782 and enter Meeting ID: 814 7643 6505. **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>.
- **We need Worship Assistants!!** If you have been considering volunteering to serve as a Worship Assistant but were unsure what exactly it would entail or just want more information, Worship has assigned one contact person for each role to make it easier to know exactly who to talk to. Support and mentoring are available. Contact these people for more information:
 - **Altar Guild** - Kim Stoffregen
 - **Cantor** - Jay Rector
 - **Communion Assistant** - Gloria Kelsay
 - **Reader** - Brenna Meyer
 - **Usher** - Laura Britzius
- Gethsemane: we are establishing policies regarding visitors on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. We ask that you all refrain from handing anyone cash on Sunday mornings. We have begun to seed an **“Open Hearts” fund for assisting families and individuals** who may come to the church to ask for assistance. If you’d like to hear more about the evolution of this fund and/or you would like to give to this fund, please contact a council member, a staff member, or a Leaven Land volunteer.

- The **GLC Quilters are taking a break until January 5**. Come and visit with us after your holidays.
- Join us for **Bible Study! Tuesdays at 10:00 am** on Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83076176257> Meeting ID: 830 7617 6257, and in the conference room. We are currently studying the Advent devotional, *About Time*.

Worship Assistants for December

To sign up, go to <https://signup.com/go/bDYAHDh>

Date	Cantor	Reader	Usher/s	Communion Assistant	Altar Guild
Dec. 18	Ernie Butenschoen	Youth		Youth	Sharon Magnuson
Dec. 24 4:00PM	Jay Rector	Mary Karter Gloria Kelsay			Gloria Kelsay
Dec. 24 10:00PM	Dick Bemrose	Sharon Magnuson Mary Curtis			Sharon Magnuson



= Position needs to be filled
Signup at

<https://signup.com/go/bDYAHDh>



venmo

Scan to donate directly to GLC (@glcpdx)!

Advent Spaces

During Advent, your church probably uses some decorations that you don't see the rest of the year.

Here is a picture of how one church decorates during Advent. Color it in!
How is this different from your church? Ask your pastor why you have the decorations you do, and what they mean.

