



**Village Church**  
FOLLOWING JESUS FOR LIFE

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**December 21, 2025**

**10:30 AM**

THE VILLAGE COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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# Approaching God in Praise and Prayer

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+All who are able may stand

*As you enter this holy space and sacred time, please quiet your mind, meditate on the Scriptures,  
and pray for the Holy Spirit to prepare you to worship the Living God.*

## PRELUDE

*What Child Is This? (Greensleeves)*

arr. Richard Purvis  
Suzanne Shick, organ

## WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Jack W. Baca

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Romans 13:11-12

Leader: We know what time it is, how it is now the moment for us to wake from sleep.

**People: For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;**

Leader: the night is far gone, the day is near.

**People: Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

## + HYMN 93

**Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates**

TRURO

## + PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Rev. Janice Y. Cook

God of Light and Lord of Nations: In the darkness of night you came to bring light. To an oppressed people you came to bring hope. To a world torn by violence you came to bring peace. We confess that we have not always received your precious gifts. Too often we have preferred the destructive pathways of our old lives over the blessed pathway that is found in our following you. Forgive us, and restore in us the joy of that first Christmas morn when Bethlehem and all the world awoke to discover the Savior in their midst. Then help us follow him, so that we may bring light, hope, and peace to your world. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

## + MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

## + ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

## + RESPONSE: HYMN 119

**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

MENDELSSOHN

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,

Born to raise us from earth, born to give us second birth.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

## + PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

The Larrabee Family - Ethan, Kris, Erika and Junior

*At this time, children 5th grade and younger may meet their Sunday School leaders at the back of the Sanctuary.*

*Youth 6th grade and older are gathered in the Youth Room.*

## VILLAGE LIFE

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# Offering Ourselves to God

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## OFFERTORY

*Dance Prelude on "Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella"*

Christopher Uehlein

## + RESPONSE: HYMN 147

### The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

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# Receiving God's Word

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## ANTHEM

*Gabriel's Message*

Philip Ledger  
Calieanne Grossheim and Cole Tornberg, soloists  
Chancel Choir  
Juan Carlos Acosta, director

## THE WORD READ

Luke 1:26-38 (NT pg. 76)

Paul Zellerbach, lay reader

Leader: The word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## THE WORD PROCLAIMED

"Tell God I Say, 'Yes'"

The Rev. Dr. Jack W. Baca

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# Responding to God's Word

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## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Luke 1:68-75

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people, and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all who hate us; to perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant, the oath which he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our life.

## + HYMN 101

### No Wind at the Window

COLUMCILLE

Soloist verse 1, congregation verses 2-4

## + BENEDICTION

## + CHORAL BENEDICTION

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

Peter C. Lutkin

## POSTLUDE

*Toccata on "Adeste Fideles"*

Page Long

*The flowers in worship today are given by Bill and Shirley Burch in memory of his mother, Diane Burch.*

Bulletin Cover Art: The Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Votivkirche, Vienna, Austria.

The Deacon of the Day, Judith Johnson, can be found at the Welcome Table after service.

If you desire prayer, prayer ministers are available after worship. Please inquire at the Welcome Table.

*This service is being livestreamed.*

### The Village Church Pastoral & Program Staff

The Rev. Dr. Jack W. Baca, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Janice Y. Cook, Executive Associate Pastor

Mary Thibodeau, Executive Administrator

Juan Carlos Acosta, Director of Worship Ministry

Adrian Narlock, Director of Media Ministry

Calieanne Grossheim, Asst. Director of Worship Ministry

Christine Hecker, Director of Youth Ministry

Twyla Arant, Music Ministries Coordinator

Michelle Yuen, Director of Children's Ministry

Barbara Haran, Contemporary Worship Team Leader

Nancy Betts, Director of Preschool Ministry

Phyllis Graham, Bell Choir Director

Gretchen Scruggs, Director of Missions Ministry

Suzanne Shick, Organist

David Herman, Director of Adult Ministry

Gustavo Coria, Facilities Manager

Matt LaFond, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Francesca Ngo, Public Relations Coordinator



HONOR LOVED ONES WITH A  
BIBLE OR HYMNAL  
DEDICATION

SCAN QR CODE  
TO GIVE ONLINE



### **Gabriel's Message**

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame,  
All hail, said he, thou lowly maiden Mary!

Most highly favored Lady, Gloria!

For known a blessed mother thou shalt be,

(Gloria! A mother thou shalt be)

All generations laud and honor thee,

(Gloria! Gloria!)

Thy son shall be Emmanuel by seers foretold,

Most highly favored Lady, Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,

(Gloria! She meekly bowed her head.)

“To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said,

(Gloria! Gloria!)

“my soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name.”

Most highly favored Lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born

in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,

and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,

Most highly favored Lady, Gloria!

### **The Lord Bless You and Keep You**

The Lord bless you and keep you,  
The Lord lift His countenance upon you;  
And give you peace, and give you peace  
The Lord make His face to shine upon you,  
And be gracious unto you,  
The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you.

Amen.

