

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020



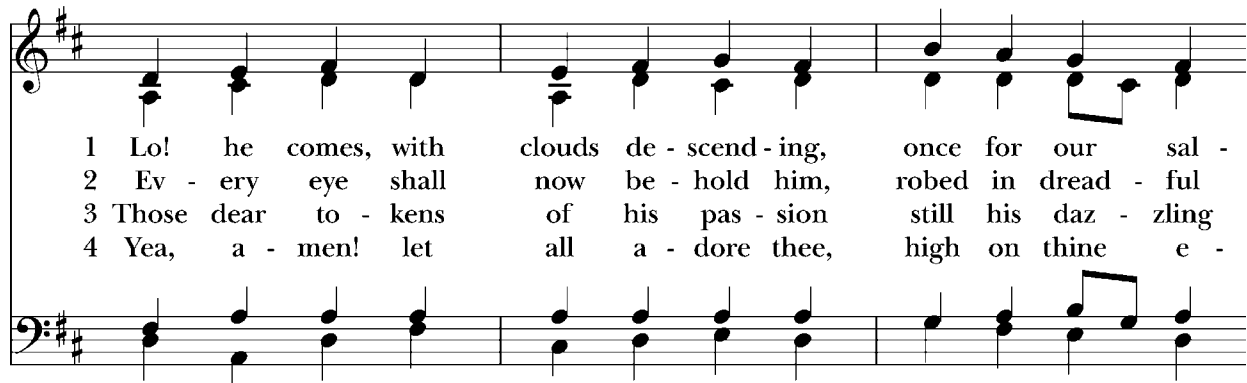
## St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church

WELCOME

St. Cyprian's is a welcoming, inclusive, vibrant community of faith, where every person is invited to engage in our worship, mission, and ministry. This booklet contains all you will need for this morning's worship. Information about upcoming events, activities, and ministries are found on the Announcement page. If you are a visitor to our live-streaming service, we would be honored if you would leave your name and email address to keep you informed of news of our church and ministries. WELCOME!

# PRELUDE

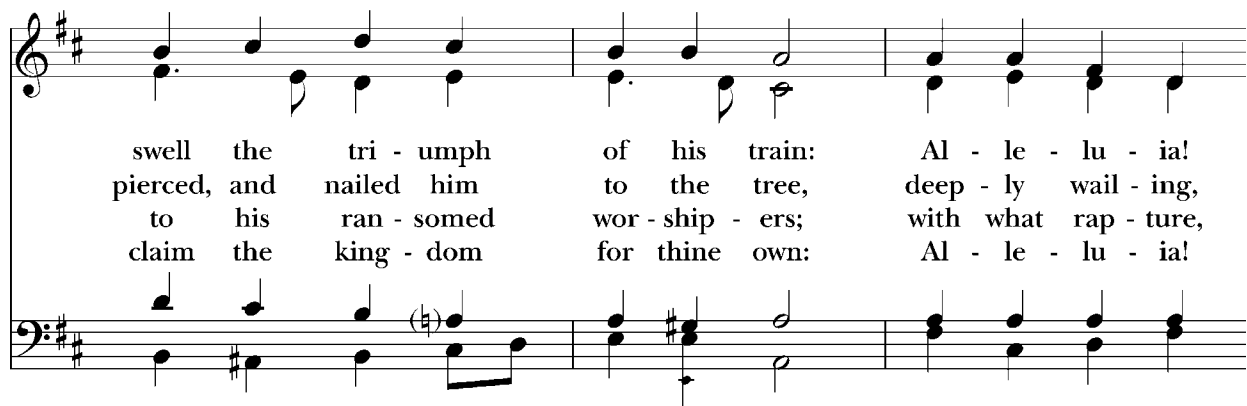
## OPENING HYMN "Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending"



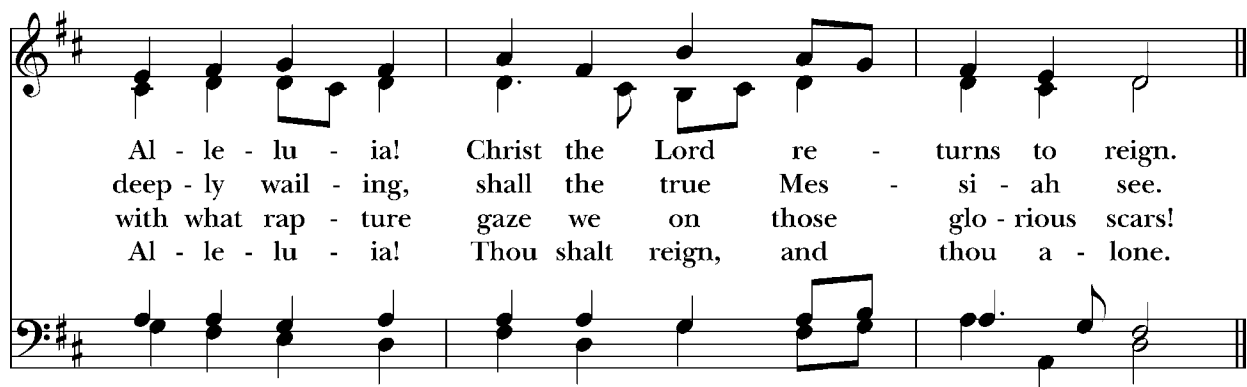
1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for our sal -  
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in dread - ful  
3 Those dear to - kens of his pas - sion still his daz - zling  
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on thine e -



va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
ma - jes - ty; those who set at nought and sold him,  
bo - dy bears, cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion  
ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the power and glo - ry;



swell the tri - umph of his train: Al - le - lu - ia!  
pierced, and nailed him to the tree, deep - ly wail - ing,  
to his ran - somed wor - ship - ers; with what rap - ture,  
claim the king - dom for thine own: Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant:* Blessed be our God:  
*People:* **Forever and ever. Amen.**

## COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.  
*People:* **And also with you.**  
*Priest:* Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE FIRST READING:

**2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16**

<sup>1</sup>Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, <sup>2</sup>the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." <sup>3</sup>Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." <sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: <sup>5</sup>Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? <sup>6</sup>I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. <sup>7</sup>Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" <sup>8</sup>Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; <sup>9</sup>and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup>from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. <sup>16</sup>Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
*People:* **Amen. Amen.**

## CANTICLE 15: THE SONG OF MARY

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*

**for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**

From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*

**the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him \*

**in every generation.**

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*

**he has scattered the proud in their conceit.**

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*

**and has lifted up the lowly.**

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*

**and the rich he has sent away empty.**

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*

**for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

The promise he made to our fathers, \*

**to Abraham and his children for ever.**

## THE SECOND READING:

**Romans 16:25-27**

<sup>25</sup>Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—<sup>27</sup>to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People:* **Amen. Amen.**



GRADUAL HYMN

"Light One Candle"



1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the  
 2 Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the  
 3 Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the  
 4 Light four can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the



light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall bring sal -  
 light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall feed the  
 light ban - ish dark - ness. Lift your heads and  
 light ban - ish dark - ness. He is com - ing;



va - tion to Is - rael, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
 flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.  
 lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.  
 tell the glad ti - dings. Let your lights be shin - ing.



## THE GOSPEL:

Luke 1:26-38

*Priest:* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People:* **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

*Priest:* The Gospel of our Lord.

*People:* **Amen. Amen.**

## THE SERMON

PASTOR DEENA GALANTOWICZ

### A DECLARATION OF FAITH

**We believe in the one God who has created the land and sea and heavens  
and all that is in them;**

**who established a world that is good;**

**who gives to us the task of watchful and responsible care over it;**

**who is certainty and truth.**

**We believe in the one God who in Jesus Christ assumed our humanity  
and knew our life as child, youth, and adult;**

**who dined with sinners and lived with the homeless;**

**who confronted popular opinion and power;**

**who remained obedient in temptation and suffering;**

**whose triumph was a servant's death and resurrection.**

**We believe in the one God who comes to us as comforter and advocate;**

**who does not leave us as orphans;**

**who brings peace and calms the troubled heart;**

**who bestows gifts for serving, healing, showing compassion, and doing miracles;**

**who alone is the power and the wisdom of our proclamation.**

**Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Leader: For all people in their daily life and work;

**People: *For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.***

Leader: For this community, the nation, and the world;

**People: *For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.***

Leader: For the just and proper use of your creation;

**People: *For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

Leader: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**People: *For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

Leader: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**People: *For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

Leader: For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and John our Bishop; for Fr. Ted and Pastor Deena, the clergy serving St. Cyprian's; and for all ordained and lay ministers;

**People: *For all who serve God in the Church.***

Leader: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*The people may add their own petitions aloud, or in the silence of their hearts*

Leader: Hear us, Lord;

**People: *For your mercy is great.***

Leader: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*The people may add their own thanksgivings aloud, or in the silence of their hearts*

Leader: We will exalt you, O God our King;

**People: *And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

Leader: We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*The people may add their own prayers aloud, or in the silence of their hearts*

Leader: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**People: *Who put their trust in you.***

Leader: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**People: *Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you eternal life.  
**Amen.**

## THE PEACE

**Priest:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# OFFERTORY HYMN "While We Are Waiting, Come"

1 While we are wait - ing, come;  
2 With power and glo - ry, come;  
3 Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come;

while we are wait - ing, come.  
with power and glo - ry, come.  
come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come.

Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el,

while we are wait - ing, come.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



*Celebrant*

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

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

*The Celebrant continues*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with blessed Cyprian and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Priest:* We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

*People:* ***Therefore let us keep the feast.***

*Priest* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Feed on them in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

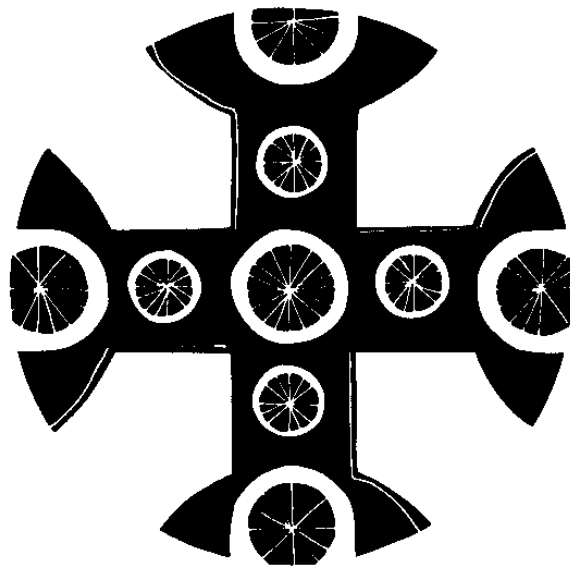
**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

# BLESSING

Live without fear.  
Your Creator has made you holy,  
has always protected you,  
and loves you with a power and a presence  
that is stronger than death.

May God's blessing be with you,  
Christ's peace be with you,  
and the Spirit's outpouring be with you,  
now and always.

**Amen.**



# CLOSING HYMN "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night"

1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom-ise are.  
2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high-er yet that star as-cends.  
3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn-ing seems to dawn.

Trav-eler, what a won-drous sight: see that glo-ry-beam-ing star.  
Trav-eler, bless-ed-ness and light, peace and truth its course por-tends.  
Trav-eler, shad-ows take their flight; doubt and ter-ror are with-drawn.

Watch-man, does its beau-teous ray news of joy or hope fore-tell?  
Watch-man, will its beams a-lone gild the spot that gave them birth?  
Watch-man, you may go your way; has-ten to your qui-et home.

Trav-eler, yes; it brings the day, prom-ised day of Is-ra-el.  
Trav-eler, a-ges are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.  
Trav-eler, we re-joice to-day, for Em-man-u-el has come!

## DISMISSAL

*Priest:* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of God's Spirit.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

## About Our Worship Booklet

The worship in this booklet follows the form of **Holy Eucharist: Rite II** in the **Book of Common Prayer**. The **Declaration of Faith** is from the **Moravian Book of Worship**. The **Eucharistic Prayer** is **Prayer 2** from **Enriching Our Worship**. The readings from Holy Scripture are from **Lectionary Year B** using the **New Revised Standard Version** of the Bible.

## Prayer List

We pray for those known to the people of St. Cyprian's who are ill or who have asked for our prayers: The Brisbois family, Sam McIlrath, Bill Wall, Karen & Bruce Cudworth, Margie Costas, Adelaide and Anastasia, Matt Shirer, Benedetta & Family, Elise Osako, Geordy Maish, Pat Laurencelle, Charlie Schwab, Elizabeth McGuinness, Tom Lutton, Annette Cappella, Jon Wiles, Jim Colee, Jim Lofquist, Kevin Cash and Beth.

We pray also for Ervin Bullock, Janine, Steven Piroch, Kim, Linda Parker, Nancy, Jeanette Webster, Skip Hutton, Marnie, Jeff, Johnathon Edwards, Dennis O'Neill, George Libonate, Patti Morrissey, Amanda & Jim Pasnik, Janet Sowers, Bonnie Wahiba, Violet Drayton, Shirley Jones, Foster Swann, Peter Ripley, Garrison Williams, Jonathan Bruce, Debbie Gagnon, Irma Brooks, Julie Forker, Kelli Ann Dishmon, Jim Bullock, Kris Phillips, Nancy Skadden, Ted D., Allison Paisley, Carrie C., Susie & Jeff, Catherine Martin, Liza Aston, Nury, Bill & Mary Jo Dudley.

**About the Prayer List** – If you would like to add someone to our Prayer List please use the form you'll find on the table near the door. And, please let us know when to take someone's name off our Prayer List.

## Announcements

The Church is Open Daily for Prayer 9–4:30

Please be Mindful of Social Distancing

## Dining With Dignity

Many thanks to all who contributed food, clothing, or funds for the December DWD. We distributed food to 69 people. In addition to grab and go bags, we also handed out blankets, jackets, new hats, socks and 14–15 new sweatshirts. Weather was clear but in the 40s. Our next Dining With Dignity is scheduled for this Tuesday, January 5

Please watch the announcements in the Voice as we make our plans during this Covid-19 coronavirus crisis.

## Ecumenical Food Pantry

The Ecumenical Food Pantry is now open five days a week during this Covid-19 coronavirus crisis, and the need for food is extremely high. If you want to bring food contributions for the Ecumenical Food Pantry, the church is open for prayer daily from 9am until 4:30pm, and the food basket is just inside the door. If you would like to make a monetary contribution (each \$1 buys 5lbs. of food), please mail the check to the church and put Food Pantry in the memo line.

## Zoom Meetings

Racism Book Study – *To Continue in January* – MONDAYS AT 11AM

Virtual Coffee Hour – *To Continue in January* – WEDNESDAYS AT 10AM

Centering Prayer – WEDNESDAYS AT 4:30PM

Weekly Lectionary Study – *Reading Between the Lines* – THURSDAYS AT 10AM  
*Beginning January 7*

## Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 20 at 5pm  
Live-Streamed

## Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24 at 5pm  
Live-Streamed