



Traditional Service Bulletin



HOLY FAMILY:
Preparation & Provision
Luke 1:35-38;
Luke 1:46-55; Matthew
1:20-25

December 4, 2022

Journey to the Manger

2nd Sunday of Advent - PEACE

Prelude "Unto Us a Time Has Come" by Hans-Andre' Stamm

Ruthie Brannen (organ)

Celebration of Community

- For visitors and members, we have QR codes that will take you directly to our visitor information, online bulletin, upcoming events/news and giving page. Just open your camera and scan the QR code, no app necessary. There are also paper visitor forms if you would like to fill those in and drop them off in the baskets as you leave the service.

- Love-A-Family deadline to return gifts has been extended to December 11. Many tags are still available. Please pickup tags on the Christmas trees in the Narthex or Light House Atrium. If you would like to get a name but are unable to come to Saxe Gotha, please call the office and we will email you one of the tags.

- Advent Devotionals are available in the Narthex and Light House Atrium (limited supplies available) and an online version is available. To download it, go to saxegotha.org/christmas.

- This year's Christmas Cantata is "A Festival of Lessons & Carols." Come and be part of the celebration on Saturday, December 10th at 7:00 pm or Sunday, December 11th at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary. The Next Generation Ministry would like to invite everyone to join us for a time of fellowship before the Cantata from 9-10 in the Gym.

- The Friendship Dinner will be held on December 16 at 6:00 pm in the Gym. This dinner is for our local friends who are dealing with mental illnesses. Volunteers are needed beginning at 4:00 pm. To Volunteer, please go to saxegotha.org/christmas.

Introit "Who Would Send a Baby?" by Mary Kay Beall

Worship Vocal Team or Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano), and Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ).

We Gather to Worship

Advent Reading and Prayer

8:30 AM:

11:00 AM: Brian and Miki Keisler & family

READER:

Every year we light candles as we prepare for the coming of Christ.
More and more candles, more and more light,
as we watch and wait for Jesus, the Light of the World.

ALL:

God of Promise, come into our darkness.
Renew your hope and your peace in us,
for you alone bring life out of death.

READER:

Receive God's promise of peace from Psalm 4:
Know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;
The LORD will hear when we call to him.

ALL:

Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.
We will lie down and sleep in peace,
For you alone, O LORD, make us dwell in safety.

Light the candles of hope and peace

*** Opening Advent Hymn #251 "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" (vs. 1, 2, & 4) [CH]**

Worship Vocal Team or Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano), Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ), and
CONGREGATION.

Prayer of Confession

O God, you bring us life in ways we do not even realize,
in forms we do not always understand.
Often we cannot see what is right in front of us.
we are asleep, even when awake.
We think we are too busy for you.
But you, God, still choose us.
You take our struggles and turn them into strengths,
calling us apostles, making us friends.
Forgive us, God, for our distractions.
Slow our stride and calm our souls.
Remind our busy brains
that there is nothing we have to do
to be loved by you,
nothing we have to make or even be.
For your new life is coming even now,
awaiting to make us whole. Amen.

Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Romans 1

To the weak and the strong, Christ comes.

To the old and young, Christ appears.

To the lost and the found, Christ arrives.

Christ makes us apostles and offers us grace.

Christ makes us friends with each other and with him.

He makes us family and welcomes us home.

Sisters & Brothers, believe in the Good News of the Gospel. Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

* Affirmation of Faith

We are elect in Christ to become members of the community of the new covenant. This covenant, which God Himself guarantees, unites us to God and to one another. Already in the creation, we discover that we are made to live in relationships to others, male and female, created together in God's image. In Christ, we are adopted into the family of God and find our new identity as brothers and sisters of one another, since we now share one Father. Our faith requires our active participation in that covenant community. (From ECO Essential Tenets)

* Doxology for Advent - CAROL - #N/A

Worship Vocal Team or Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano), Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ), and CONGREGATION.

Children's Message

Passing of the Peace

Grace to you, and peace from God, our creator, and from Jesus, the Christ. Please stand as you are able to share such greetings of grace and peace with one another.

One: Peace be with you.

ALL: and also with you.

* Hymn #286 "Once in Royal David's City" (vs. 1, 2, & 4) [CH]

Offertory Prayer

Anthem

8:30 AM - "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" by George F. Handel Cathy McGill (piano)

11:00 AM - "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" arr. by Timothy Shaw | Sanctuary Choir and Cathy McGill (piano)

We Hear God's Word

Bumper Video

Message

HOLY FAMILY: Preparation & Provision (Luke 1:35-38, Luke 1:46-55, Matthew 1:20-25) - Helen Harrison Ham

We Respond to God's Word

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Invitation and Benediction

Closing Hymn #12 "People, Look East" (vs. 1, 4, & 5) [PH]

Pocket Anthem "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" by George F. Handel

Cathy McGill (piano)

Postlude "Watchet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" by Hans-Andre' Stamm

Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

*Congregation is asked to stand if able.

