

**Glen Echo Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
December 12, 2021**

Prelude

Patty Bellus

Welcome and Announcements

Kathleen

Opening Music

Patty Bellus

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: God has done great things for us!

All: God's love is heralded in the promise of Christ.

One: Holy is God's name!

All: God's promises are fulfilled in the coming of Christ.

***HYMN OF PRAISE "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"**

**Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
You who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:**

Refrain:

**Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.**

**Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
Here among us shall appear: [Refrain]**

***INVOCATION**

***GLORY TO GOD**

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

ADVENT WREATH

**Pastor Dawn, Reader
Julie, Lighter**

PRAYER HYMN**“Lo, How a Rose, E'er Blooming”**

**Lo, how a rose, e'er blooming, from tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming by faithful prophets sung;
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter
When half-spent was the night.**

**Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright she bore to us a Savior
When half-spent was the night.**

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER (debts)**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 3:7-16

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.” And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

SERMON

“Saved by Patience”

Pastor Dawn

HYMN OF PREPARATION “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us, our God, Emmanuel.**

Invitation to Commune

Rosemarie

Communion Sentences

One: God spoke through prophets such as John the Baptist and invited Creation to love and follow God. When we come to the table, we encounter evidence of God’s love. Jesus Christ is the gift of love that God gave to Creation.

All: **When we receive communion, we accept God’s great gift.**

Prayer of Consecration

(Please partake of the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation.)

***HYMN OF INVITATION AND DEDICATION**

“How Great Our Joy”

**While by the sheep we watched at night,
Lo, there appeared an angel bright:
How great our joy! Great our joy!
Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy!
Glory to God who reigns on high!
Glory to God who reigns on high!**

***BENEDICTION**

***Benediction Response “How Great Our Joy”**

**And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.
How great our joy! Great our joy!
Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy!
Glory to God who reigns on high!
Glory to God who reigns on high!**

POSTLUDE **Please stand if you are comfortably able to do so.*

(Please place your offerings in the basket on the stand
at the back of the sanctuary.)

Portions of this service were adapted from:

Everlasting Light: A Resource for Advent Worship, by Sandy Dixon

A Surprising God: Advent Devotions for an Uncertain Time, by
Thomas G. Long and Donyelle C. McCray

Ministry Matters: Public Prayers for Advent & Christmas 3, by
Steve Langhofer

*“May the Angels of Light.” Praying with the Earth: A Prayerbook for
Peace*, by John Philip Newell

NEWS IN THE PEWS

- * The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held after church today. We will vote on the 2022 Budget and Slate of Servants for Glen Echo.
- * Please add your name to the list on the bulletin board if you would like to participate in the 7:30 PM Christmas Eve Service. Rehearsal will be held at 10:00 AM this Saturday, December 18th, followed by costume fittings downstairs. It's an inclusive Christmas pageant, and folks are welcome to play any role they desire.
- * You are invited to bring children's hats and mittens to the church and place them on the Christmas tree in the church entryway. The Outreach Committee will take the items to a local school after Christmas.
- * We will feature different flowers of Christmas each week during Advent. This week's focus is the rose.
- * Bells are on the small table at the back of the sanctuary. Please feel free to ring them during the carols.
- * The Christmas Offering is being received today and next Sunday, December 19th. All of the funds stay in our Region to support ministries in the Upper Midwest.
- * Cool-Aid is complete! Thank you to everyone who planned the capital campaign and donated funds for the new air conditioning units!
- * Please wear masks when you are in the building.

EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK
DECEMBER 12-18, 2021

Today	Worship All-Congregational Meeting	10:15 AM After church
Wednesday	Encouraging Echoes	7:30 PM
Thursday	Contemplative Prayer	2:00 PM
Friday	Deacon Callers	10:00 AM
Saturday	Christmas Eve Rehearsal Costume Fitting	10:00 AM 11:00 AM

Today's Serving Schedule

Accompanist:	Patty Bellus
Deacon:	Kathy
Elder:	Rosemarie
Guest Minister:	The Reverend Dawn Ingram
Videographer:	David
Worship Leader:	Kathleen

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