

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

December 14, 2025

Continuing God's Story Together

"Let this little message be but a reminder,
and I will continue with the story."

2 Maccabees 6:17

Worship Participants

Deacon: Michelle Reynolds
Welcomers: Midge Horn, Merry Sue Ahlgren
Reader: Gina Poole
Announcer: Merry Sue Ahlgren

*Third Sunday of Advent***Prelude****Welcome****Rev. Tina Walker-Morin****Opening Song***Every Moment Emmanuel***Opening Prayer (unison)****Deacon**

God of Joy,
shine your light into our lives this day.
Open our hearts to your presence,
and help us to trust the story you are still writing in us and in our world.
Fill us with the joy that comes from your promise of hope,
that we may worship you with grateful and open spirits.
Amen.

Song*I've Got the Joy***Advent Wreath Lighting ~ Joy****One:** Today we light the candle of **Joy**.Advent reminds us that God's story is still unfolding,
and that we are invited to take our place within it.**All:** **We rejoice that God works through ordinary lives—
including ours.****One:** Like Mary, whose joy rose from trusting God's promise,
we open our hearts to the story God is writing today.**All:** **May this light remind us that joy grows whenever we say "yes" to God's work in the
world. Amen****Sung Response**

*Every moment, Emmanuel
Every heartbreak, Emmanuel
Every nightfall, Emmanuel
God is still speaking, God is still here*

Scripture:**Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSVUE)****Gina Poole**

Today's reading is from Matthew 1:18-25:

Now 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 pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But 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. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

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

May God bless this reading and our understanding.

God's Stories	Rev. Jennie Valentine
Message for All Ages	Rev. Jennie Valentine
Sermon	Rev. Tina Walker-Morin
Song	<i>Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i> Hymn #150
Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer	Rev. Tina Walker-Morin

**Our Father/Mother/Creator,
who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen**

Offering		
Invitation		
Song	<i>Emmanuel, Emmanuel</i>	Hymn #134
Dedication		
Send Forth Song	<i>Joy to the World (unspeakable Joy)</i>	
Benediction		Rev. Tina Walker-Morin
Announcements		
Postlude		