



## Order of Worship

*Striving to be what Christ tells us through Scripture.*

December 21, 2025      **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent**      10 AM

*Welcome to our Annual Christmas Musicale!*

*We're so grateful to all of our participants who have worked very hard to prepare for this service.*

*Please refrain from applauding until the end of the service, when you'll be given an opportunity to express your appreciation.*

PRELUDE      *"What Child Is This?"*      arr. Smith/Hustaad  
Amy Duran, piano; Barbara Ciannella, organ

WELCOME      Pastor Waldis

### **Our Approach to God**

INTROIT      *"Te Deum—Prelude"*      Charpentier  
Kevin Alarcon, Patrick Trapp, trumpets

CALL TO WORSHIP      Psalm

Leader: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might, and come to save us!

**People: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

Leader: O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

**People: You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.**

Leader: The Lord watches over immigrants; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

**People: The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!**

\*HYMN      *"There's a Song in the Air"*      insert

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (responsive)  
Amy Duran, Barbara Ciannella      insert

CHANCEL CHOIR      *"Bring a Torch, Jeannette Isabella"*      arr. Larson

CHILDREN'S MOMENT      Pastor Waldis

ALLELUIA CHOIR      *"Sing Gloria, Sing Noel"*      arr. Raney  
A. J. Choffo, drums; Lori Anders, flute; Amy Duran, piano

PASSING OF THE PEACE

**The Word of God**

\*HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #245

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 7:10-16 p. 636 (OT)  
Matthew 1:18-25 p. 1 (NT)  
Justin Johnson, Liturgist

SERMON "The Birth of the Messiah" Pastor Waldis

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ON THE WORD

**Our Response to God**

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER #815

CHANCEL CHOIR "Angels from the Realms of Glory" Forrest  
Rhoda Tillack, violin; A. J. Choffo, drums  
Amy Duran, Barbara Ciannella, pianos

JOYS, THANKS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

THE GENERAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

\*HYMN "Good Christian Men, Rejoice" #273

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE "Halleluia! Joy to the World" arr. ill Galliford  
Amy Duran, piano; Barbara Ciannella, organ

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**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Anonymous; Roger Carman; Lauren Clarke; Harold Friedeman; Marilyn Hams; Janet Kosack; Nancy Lanzalotto; Craig Terjanian; Sue Wood.

**UNITY PRAYER:** Dear Jesus, as we light the candles on the Advent wreath, may the light of your birth and presence bring joy to our hearts and peace to our communities and your creation, and may you bless those who are in need this Christmas season.

**A GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to our guest musicians this morning—Barbara Ciannella, organ and piano; A. J. Choffo, drums; Kevin Alarcon and Patrick Trapp, trumpet; Rhoda Tillack, violin; and soprano, Gabrielle Stanowski.

**Wednesday, December 24, 2025—Christmas Eve**

3:30—Luminary Set-Up

4:30—Luminary Lighting

5:00 PM – Family Candlelight Service

11:00—Traditional Candlelight Service

**Sunday, December 28, 2025**

10:00 AM -- Worship

**CHRISTMAS ENVELOPES** are available in the pews and on the table in the narthex for your convenience in making special Christmas donations to CCHP. Make your checks payable to Community Church.

**YOUR 2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES are in the narthex.** Please take them home with you today. If you don't see envelopes with your name on them, please email [cchp@verizon.net](mailto:cchp@verizon.net) or tell Lori Anders, and she will issue you envelopes.

**THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE** invites you to help set up luminaries on Christmas Eve at 3:30. They will be lit at 4:30 for the 5:00 service. Then volunteers will need to change the candles for the 11 PM service and help clean up after. Please sign up in the narthex.

**YOUR OUTREACH COMMITTEE** has set up a Giving Tree in the Narthex to benefit New Hope, one of the missions we support, which was featured in last month's Courier. Please take an ornament, purchase what's on it, and bring it back to the Christmas Tree. Thank you!

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS** – Wish your church family a Merry Christmas by placing a Christmas card on the bulletin board at the Spring Street entrance. A box of blank cards will be available if needed.

**THE 2026 FLOWER CALENDAR** is on the bulletin board. Sign up to donate flowers for worship to memorialize a loved one or celebrate an occasion. The cost is \$25 per bouquet; make your checks payable to Guild for Christian Service; fill out a dedication slip; place it in the offering plate or on Lori's desk in the church office. Please—no more than 2 bouquets per Sunday.

**ACCORDING TO THE BOOK OF CHURCH ORDER**, consistories are required to publish the names of persons elected as elders and deacons preceding their installation in order that "any legitimate objections may be presented to the Board of Elders for its judgment." Those elected at our congregational meeting and scheduled for installation on January 11<sup>th</sup> are listed below. Please speak to Les Cox or Zach Waldis if you have any questions.

**Class of 2027 – Deacons: Alison Campbell, Keith Michels, Steve Tillack Elder – Craig Budinich**

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 21, 2025

Amy Duran, Barbara Ciannella

Leader: When Mary was engaged to Joseph, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be according to your word."

*From Luke 1*

People: **AN ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO JOSEPH IN A DREAM AND SAID, "DO NOT BE AFRAID TO TAKE MARY AS YOUR WIFE, FOR THE CHILD CONCEIVED IN HER IS FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT."**

*From Matthew 1*

Leader: She will bear a Son and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

*Light a purple candle.*

Leader: As we light the fourth candle, may we follow with hearts and minds set on the LOVE of God, open to the impossible becoming possible.

Leader: Let us pray:

**ALL: GRACIOUS GOD, YOU CLAIM US AS YOURS AND YOU BRING US TO THIS SEASON WITH HEARTS WAITING TO AGAIN HEAR AND SEE YOUR GOOD NEWS. HOLD US IN YOUR LOVE AS WE MARVEL AT THE WORKS OF YOUR HAND. WE PRAY IN THE NAME OF THE CHRIST-CHILD, WHO COMES TO BRING YOUR LOVE TO ALL FLESH. AMEN.**

There's a Song in the Air!

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Josiah G. Holland, 1872

CHRISTMAS SONG: 6. 6. 6. 6. 12. 12.  
Karl P. Harrington, 1904

1. There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky! There's a moth-er's deep  
2. There's a tu-mult of joy O'er the won-der-ful birth, For the Vir-gin's sweet  
3. In the light of that star Lie the a-ges im-pearled; And that song from a-  
4. We re-joice in the light, And we ech-o the song That comes down through the

prayer And a ba-by's low cry! And the star rains its fire while the  
boy Is the Lord of the earth. Ay! the star rains its fire while the  
far Has swept o-ver the world. Ev-ery hearth is a-flame, and the  
night From the heav-en-ly throng. Ay! we shout to the love-ly e-

beau-ti-ful sing, For the man-ger of Beth-le-hem cra-dles a King!  
beau-ti-ful sing, For the man-ger of Beth-le-hem cra-dles a King!  
beau-ti-ful sing In the homes of the na-tions that Je-sus is King!  
van-gel they bring, And we greet in His cra-dle our Sav-iour and King! A-MEN.

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# ADVENT

***Welcome to the Community Church in Harrington Park!***

*We are glad you are here today. Here are a few things that might be helpful to you.*

*Large print hymnals are available, as well as hearing assistive devices. Please speak to an usher.*

*Restrooms are just outside the sanctuary in the main hallway opposite the office.*

*It would be a big help to us if you would either fill out one of the white pew cards in front of you and place it in the offering plate or sign the guest book on your way out.*

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**Rev. Zach Waldis, Pastor**