





Mary's Yes | Lisle Gwynn Garrity Photography with digital drawing

## CALL TO WORSHIP

On Sundays and Mondays,

**on good days and bad days,**  
early in the morning and very late at night,  
**here in this room, and out in**  
**the world, God, we long for**  
**you to break in.**

Meet us in this space.

**Surprise us with your**  
**presence.**

Fill this room with your good news.

**With hope, we sing,**  
**we worship, we pray.**  
**Amen!**

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Speed  
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## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

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## PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us offer signs of Christ's peace to  
one another.

## OPENING HYMN

In the Time of Herod  
To the tune of In the Bleak Midwinter  
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## CHILDREN'S TIME

Children and youth are dismissed.

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### HEBREW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

*Lamentations 3:55-57*  
I called on your name, O Lord,  
from the depths of the pit;  
you heard my plea,  
“Do not close your ear  
to my cry for help, but give me relief!”  
You came near when I called on you;  
you said, “Do not fear!”

## GREEK TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

*Luke 1:5-13*

In the days of King Herod of Judea,  
there was a priest named Zechariah,  
who belonged to the priestly order of  
Abijah. His wife was descended from  
the daughters of Aaron, and her  
name was Elizabeth. Both of them  
were righteous before God, living  
blamelessly according to all the  
commandments and regulations of  
the Lord. But they had no children  
because Elizabeth was barren, and  
both were getting on in years.  
Once when he was serving as priest  
before God during his section's turn  
of duty, he was chosen by lot,  
according to the custom of the  
priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of  
the Lord to offer incense. Now at the  
time of the incense offering, the  
whole assembly of the people was  
praying people was praying outside.  
Then there appeared to him an angel  
of the Lord, standing at the right side  
of the altar of incense. When  
Zechariah saw him, he was terrified,  
and fear overwhelmed him. But the  
angel said to him, “Do not be afraid,  
Zechariah, for your prayer has been  
heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear  
you a son, and you will name him  
John.

## SERMON

*What Do You Fear?*  
*In the time of Herod, we long to break in.*  
Rev Karin Kennedy Hejmanowski

## RESPONSIVE HYMN

#88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
(vs. 1, 2, and 5)

## CORPORATE PRAYER

## OFFERTORY

Preludio from Partita No. 3  
for solo Violin in E major  
by J.S. Bach

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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We have seen the valley.  
We have seen a sky without stars.  
We have seen the longest night,  
and still we believe.  
We believe in a with-us God.  
We believe in the hope of tomorrow.  
So even when our knees shake,  
even when our voice trembles,  
even when fear is all around us,  
we will hold onto that good news.  
We will reach for each other.  
We will look for God in our midst.  
We will sing songs of joy.  
We will proclaim:  
Unto us, love is born.  
We have seen the longest night,  
and we have seen  
unimaginable love.  
So still, we believe.  
Amen.

## CLOSING SONG

Goodness of God

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Body and Soul by Johnny Green

## FELLOWSHIP