

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

*The Lord's Day, December 22, 2024*

## Welcome and Announcements

**Fourth Advent Reading:** Isaiah 12; Luke 2:15-21 – Swick Family (Erron, Sara, Silas, Ellie, and Matthew)

**\*God Calls Us to Worship Him:** Responsive Reading of Isaiah 40:3-5

**Pastor:** A voice cries: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;

**Congregation:** Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**Pastor:** Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;

**Congregation:** the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

**Pastor:** And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,

**Congregation:** and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

**\* We Sing in Response:** #218 Red Hymnal *“Angels from the Realms of Glory”*

## \* We Seek God's Presence in Prayer

**We Confess Our Sins Together** : Merciful Lord, we confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in you there is the fullness of righteousness and abundance of mercy. We are spiritually poor, but you are rich and in Jesus Christ came to be merciful to the poor. Strengthen our faith and trust in you. We are empty vessels that need to be filled; fill us. We are weak in faith; strengthen us. We are cold in love; warm us and make our hearts fervent for you that our love may go out to one another and to our neighbors. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## We Pray Silent Prayers of Confession

**God Assures Us We Are Forgiven:** Isaiah 41:10

**\* We Sing In Response to God's Forgiveness:** #237 Black Hymnal *“Joy Has Dawned”*

**\* We Confess Our Faith Together:** Westminster Confession of Faith 8.2

**Pastor:** *How do the Scriptures reveal Jesus as “the Son of God” and only “Mediator” between God and man?*

**Congregation:** The Son of God, the second person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance, and equal with the Father, did, when the fullness of time came, take upon Him man's nature, with all the essential properties and common infirmities thereof; yet without sin: being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the Virgin Mary, of her substance. So that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion. Which person is very God and very man, yet one Christ, the only mediator between God and man.

**We Read From God's Word:** 1 Timothy 3

**We Pray For The Congregation and Community**

**We Memorize God's Word:** John 1:18 "No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known."

**We Present Our Tithes & Offerings In Worship**

**We Worship Through the Music of Offertory**

\* **We Sing the Doxology:** #731 Red Hymnal "Doxology"

\* **We Give Thanks to the Lord**

\* **We Sing In Preparation for the Word:** #230 Black Hymnal "What Child Is This?"

*Children ages 4 through kindergarten dismissed to Children's Worship. Parents, please pick up your child in the lobby on your way to the Lord's Supper.*

**Pastor Reads the Sermon Text:** Acts 6:1-7

**Pastor Preaches God's Word:** "Faithful Leaders for the Sake of Flourishing in Faith"  
– Pastor Wes James

**We Celebrate the Lord's Supper**

\* **We Sing In Response to the Word:** #224 Black Hymnal "Joy to the World"

\* **The Lord Sends Us Out (Benediction)**

**Sermon Outline**  
**Acts 6:1-7**  
***“Faithful Leaders for the Sake of Flourishing in Faith”***  
**12-22-24**

**Proposition:** The people of God flourish in faith when led by men who are filled with the Holy Spirit and devoted to ministries of mercy in the means of grace.

**Main Point One: The Occasion**

Sub Point One: The Growth of the Early Church

Sub Point Two: The Hellenists’ Complaint

Sub Point Three: A Congregational Meeting

Sub Point Four: The Necessity of Preaching

**Main Point Two: The Solution**

Sub Point One: The Seven “Appointed”

Sub Point Two: Their Character

Sub Point Three: The Apostles’ Devotion

**Main Point Three: The Result**

Sub Point One: The Congregation’s Approval

Sub Point Two: The Word of God Increased

Sub Point Three: Multiplicative Growth