

\*Benediction

Postlude

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**Serving in Worship Today**

Rev. Ann Marie Quigley-Swanson

Becky Graham, Liturgist

Mary Beth Thomas, Chancel Choir Director

Andy Phillips, Pianist

Lynne Puckett, Organist

Angela Grover, Time with Young Disciples

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**LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE**  
Sunday, December 15, 6:30 p.m.  
Sanctuary.



**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**  
December 24, 5:00pm. Family Worship  
December 24, 7:00pm. Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service with  
Communion.



**St. Mark Presbyterian Church**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**  
**December 15, 2024**

**Prelude**

Lynn Puckett

*Partita on "Lo How a Rose"*  
Arr. John Krlebel

**Welcome**  
**Congregational Life**

Rev. Ann Marie Quigley-Swanson

**Introit**

Chancel Choir

*Bring Joy!*  
Joseph M. Martin

**\*Call to Worship**

Becky Graham

One: Come, hope,  
**All: Lift us from despair.**  
One: Come, peace,  
**All: Ease our frantic worry.**  
One: Come, joy,  
**All: Lighten our spirits.**  
One: Come, love,  
**All: Shine in all we do.**  
One: Come, Jesus,  
**All: Be born in us.**  
One: Come, Holy Spirit,  
**All: Live in us.**  
One: Come, God,  
**All: Set us free to love you and others!**

**\*Hymn** (*Stanzas 1, 6, 7*) #88  
*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

**Advent Candle Lighting** The Klein Family

One: Let us pray,

**All:** Dear God, we pray for the joy that is in Christ to come into our lives in a new way. Help us to live our lives trusting in your Son, who came that we would have abundant life and joy to the full. We ask in the name of Jesus who offers us joy. Amen.

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

**Time with Young Disciples** Angela Grover

**Anthem** *Prepare the Way of the King*  
*GLOUCESTERSHIRE* / Joseph M. Martin

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Reading** Luke 1:39-45

**Sermon** Rev. Ann Marie Quigley-Swanson  
*Let Joy Break Through*

**\*Hymn of Response** #146  
*Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

I BELIEVE that Christmas is more than a time for parties and ornaments; it is a time for remembering Christ and the incarnation of God's love in human flesh.

I BELIEVE there are gifts more important than the ones under the Christmas tree, the things we teach our children, the way we share ourselves with friends, and the work with which we set about reshaping the world in our time.

I BELIEVE that the finest carols are often sung by the poorest voices; from hearts made warm by the wonder of the season.

I BELIEVE in the angel's message that we should not be afraid—that the Child of Bethlehem is able to overcome all anxieties and insecurities.

I BELIEVE in prayer and quietness as a way of appropriating Christmas—that if I wait in silence, I will experience the presence of the one born in the manger, for he lives today as surely as he lived then.

I BELIEVE in going away from Christmas as the wise men went: "another way." I want to be different when these days are past—more centered, more thoughtful, more caring.

**AND I BELIEVE God will help me. Amen**

**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**

**Offering**

**Call for the Offering**

**Offertory**

*Cataluna*  
Norberto Guinaldo

**\*Doxology**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Closing Hymn**

*Joy to the World*

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