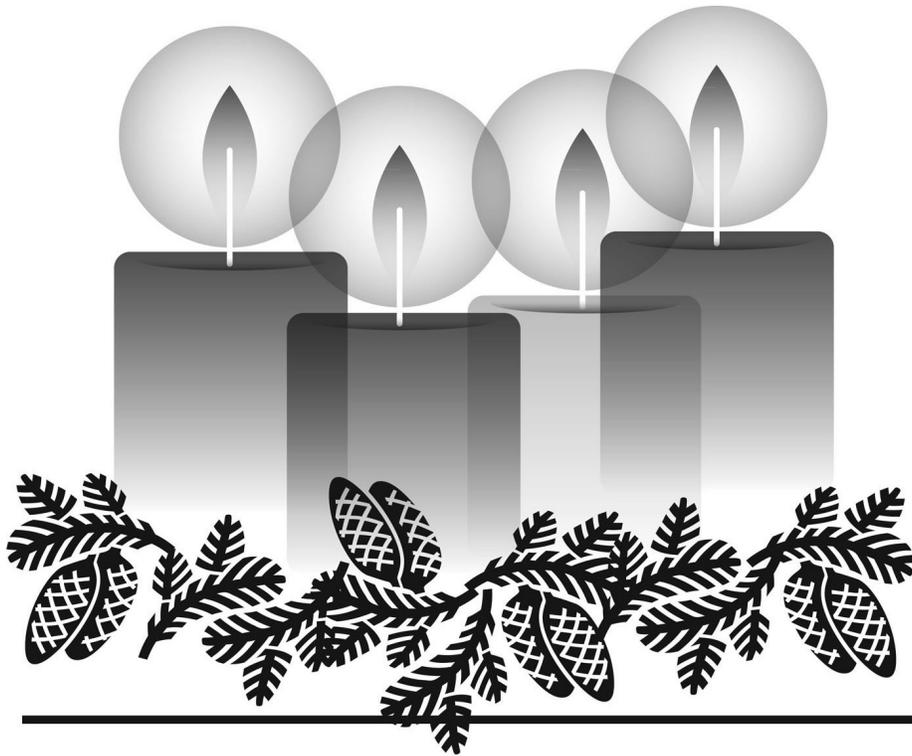


Fourth Sunday of Advent



December 18, 2022
8:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Announcements

Prelude “Gesù Bambino (The Infant Jesus)” MaryAnn Hubbard/Deb McClure
*By Pietro Yon, arr. by Karen Smith and David Snyder © 2007 Karen Smith and David Snyder.
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Entrance/Lighting of the Advent Candle

Hymn “This little light of mine”

This little light of LOVE, I’m gonna let it shine
This little light of LOVE, I’m gonna let it shine
This little light of LOVE, I’m gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Traditional. This selection is in the public domain.

Leader Today we light the first, second, third, and fourth candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, the third candle is JOY, and the fourth candle is LOVE.

The candles are lit.

Scripture: John 13:34 – Jesus said to them, I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

All Loving God, your mercy and compassion endure forever. Open our hearts, that we may receive your love; and following the example of your Son, spread that love to a love-starved world; Through Jesus Christ, who loved us to the end. Amen.

Joseph and Mary figures are placed on a window shelf.

Leader Lord, we remember their anxious journey to Bethlehem, their worry of finding a room; the excitement and fear at the forthcoming birth; their hopeful longing for your coming; and their love for you and each other. We remember, in this Advent season, those who are anxious and fearful, who long for your hope and loving comfort to come into their lives.

All Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

The complete text begins on page 355 of The Book of Common Prayer.

Priest Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All sing this Song of Praise

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -
mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God,
Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy
up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

The Collect of the Day

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

Priest Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Re - store us, O God of hosts; show the
light of your coun-ten-ance, and we shall be saved.

From *A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition* © 2007 by Carl P. Daw, Jr. and Kevin R. Hackett. Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us. **Refrain**
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn. **Refrain**

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name. **Refrain**

Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Deacon (or Priest) The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glorify to you, Lord Christ.**

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 with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss 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 conceive and bear 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 borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Deacon (or Priest) The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon The Rev. Mark Rutenbar (8 a.m.)
The Pageant “Oh Come Let Us Adore Him” (11 a.m.)

Congregational Hymns During Pageant:

“O come, all ye faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him (*repeat twice*), Christ the Lord.

Words and music: John F. Wade. This selection is in the public domain.

“O come, O come, Emmanuel”

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Words: Latin 9th Cent.; Music: adapt. Thomas Helmore. This selection is in the public domain.

“Angels we have heard on high”

Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

*Words: French carol, tr. James Chadwick; music: French carol, arr. Edward S. Barnes.
This selection is in the public domain.*

“O little town of Bethlehem”

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Words: Phillips Brooks; Music Lewis H. Redner. This selection is in the public domain.

“We three kings of Orient are”

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Words and Music: John H. Hopkins, Jr. This selection is in the public domain.

100 “Joy to the world! the Lord is come”

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Words: James Watts; Music: George F. Handel, adapt. And arr. Lowell Mason. This selection is in the public domain.

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For our presiding Bishop Michael, Bishop Provisional Prince, and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray especially for Bruce, Ruth, Mary, Sue, Maggie, Matthew, Bob, Curtis, Daryl, Jim, Mike, and Andrew. Are there others?

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.
We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The People may then greet one another with a sign of peace.

Offertory “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” (with “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”) MaryAnn Hubbard/Bryнна Smith
Arr. Stan Pethel ©2003 Hal Leonard Corporation.
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Doxology (*Old Hundredth, Hymn 380 v. 3*)

**Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow!
Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low,
Praise God above, ye heav-’nly host;
Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The complete text begins on p. 367, BCP

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Priest It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Then the Priest continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Priest is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection
We await his coming in glory;**

The Priest continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with [_____ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

As our Savior Christ
has taught us,
we now pray,

Priest and People

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Bread is broken and silence is kept. Then may be said

Priest Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Invitation to Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Optional Prayer for those who cannot receive

Beloved Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you. Let me never be separated from you in this life or in the life to come. Amen.

Hymns During Communion

497 “How bright appears the Morning Star”

How bright appears the Morning Star, with mercy beaming from afar;
the host of heaven rejoices; O righteous Branch, O Jesse’s Rod!
Thou Son of Man and Son of God! We, too, will lift our voices:
Jesus, Jesus! Holy, holy, yet most lowly,
draw thou near us; great Emmanuel, come and hear us.

Though circled by the hosts on high, he deigned to cast a pitying eye
upon his helpless creature; the whole creation’s Head and Lord,
by highest seraphim adored, assumed our very nature;
Jesus, grant us, through thy merit, to inherit
thy salvation; hear, O hear our supplication.

Rejoice, ye heavens; thou earth, reply; with praise, ye sinners, fill the sky,
for this his Incarnation. Incarnate God, put forth thy power,
ride on, ride on, great Conqueror, till all know thy salvation.
Amen, amen! Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise be given evermore, by earth and heaven.

*Words: William Mercer; Music: melody att. Philipp Nicolai, harm. J. S. Bach.
This selection is in the public domain.*

68 “Rejoice! Rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear!”

Rejoice! rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear!
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising, and soon he will draw nigh;
up, watch in expectation! at midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning, replenish them with oil;
look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil.
The marriage-feast is waiting, the gates wide open stand;
rise up, ye heirs of glory, the Bridegroom is at hand!

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this darkened sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth’s redemption, and ever be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti, tr. Sarah B. Findlater. This selection is in the public domain.

Celebrant and People

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the
spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our
Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of
your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work
you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful
witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Priest bestows the blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness
from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father,
the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you
always. **Amen.**

Closing 436 “Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates” (vs. 1 & 4)

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits!
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee: here, Lord, abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel: thy grace and love in me reveal.

*Words: Georg Weissel, tr. Catherine Winkworth; Music: harm. Lowell Mason.
This selection is in the public domain.*

The Deacon (or if no Deacon, the Priest) dismisses the People.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

The Flowers at the Altar and at the Font

Given to the Glory of God
and
In Memory
of
Ralph Klann
by
His Family

In Our Prayers

LARCC: World Peace/First Congregational UCC

For Healing & Convalescing: Bruce Connon, Ruth Kapala, Mary Hartman, Sue Linke, Maggie Lamb, Matthew Van Zetten, Bob Hanna, Curtis Carr, Daryl Hebert, Jim Tanner, Mike Tanner, and Andrew.

Homebound: Shirley Carr

Birthdays: Shirley Carr (21)

Military: Ashley Alexander, Tyler Ferrier, Joshua Gapske, Isaac Graham, John Hartman

Cycles of Prayer: Diocesan: St. Paul’s, Flint; Trinity Church, Grand Ledge; and Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan; Anglican: the Anglican Church of Korea

Announcements

THANK YOU

Thank you to the Rev. Mark Rutenbar for being here today and leading us in worship.

TODAY'S PAGEANT PARTICIPANTS

Narrator - Dominic Losano Narrator - Kaylee Krupnek
Prophet Isaiah - Bill Powell Prophet Micah - Ted Rockwell
Angel Gabriel - Annie French Mary - Maddie Wilson
Joseph - Jayce Losano
Shepherds: Harper Woolman, Lucy Duthler
Sheep: Max Wilson, Felix Duthler, PJ Wilkinson
Angels: Cailyn Adams, Sophie Wilkinson
Wisemen: Dominic Losano, Cody Krupnek, Jackson French
Pageant Director: Tina Wilson with assistants
Cheryl Lemke and Bronwyn Woolman

COME HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH

You are invited to help decorate the church for Christmas on December 21 at 3 p.m. This is a fairly large task and we NEED your help. No experience necessary; just show up prepared to enjoy working with your fellow church members.

WORSHIP CENTER WILL NOT MEET ON DECEMBER 25 AND JANUARY 1

We will resume on January 8, 2023. The teachers wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Future Worship Schedule

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve
5 pm Festal Eucharist/Rev. Bruce Michaud

Sunday, December 25
11 am - Holy Eucharist/Rev. Bruce Michaud

Sunday, January 1
11 am - Service of Lessons & Carols
(only one service today)

Sunday, January 8
8 am - Holy Eucharist/Rev. LaRae Rutenbar
11 am - Holy Eucharist/Rev. LaRae Rutenbar

Wednesdays, December 21, 28 and January 4, 11, 18, 25
12:05 pm - Holy Eucharist/Rev. Bruce Michaud
1:00 pm - Bible Study/Rev. Bruce Michaud

The Church Office will be closed:

Monday, December 12

Friday, December 16

Monday, December 19

Thursday, December 22 - Monday, January 2, 2023

Readings for December 25

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalm 98

Hebrews 1:1-4[5-12]

John 1:1-14

Masks are encouraged for all indoors and for those who are not vaccinated or especially vulnerable. We are encouraging worshippers to mask when singing and to refrain from singing (or hum) if unmasked.

Trinity Episcopal Church

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The Rev. Dr. Daniel Maxwell, Deacon

Mobile: (248) 568-7115

✠

Kat Tomaszewski, Music Director

Peggy Tomaszewski, Office Manager

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