

**To our Visitors**

We welcome you and hope our worship enables you to draw near to God through Christ Jesus; may you feel welcome among us. Please sign our guest book in the Narthex, and we welcome you for join us for snacks.

**Pray always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:17**

**In Need of Prayer**

Rosie, Linda’s daughter, deep grieving  
Brenda, for health and demanding job  
Pat, Brenda’s co-worker, 12 hour days  
Ed, for mobility, back pain  
Nancy, health and sustaining grace  
Maureen, dear friend of Lisa  
Kay, continued faith, poor prognosis  
Pray for caregivers of those who are ill  
College students, for continuing faith  
Jennet family, illness and deaths  
Linda S, breathing concerns  
Janet Evans, confusion (in AZ)  
Marie, employment and comfort  
Donna’s family, Dan, recent heart surgery  
Jen, healing of ankle, new surgery, pain  
Sue Rojek, complications after eye surg.  
Jean, friend of Cheri, breast cancer  
Homeless, for shelters

**In Need of Prayer**

Bunny Rector, recent fall with injuries, weakness  
Bryan, nephew of Terras family, cancer diagnosis  
Lisa, Pastor’s niece, newly discovered cancer  
Glad, in rehab, pray for increased strength  
Benita, prayer for normal blood counts, and encouragement  
Sean’s uncle in hospice, aunt very tired  
Judy V. and family in Florida  
Lance, brother-in-law of Isles family  
Sue, sister-in-law of Isles family  
Pastor Scott McKee, serious cancer  
Willy, 76, needs Jesus  
Krystal’s friend, Lolita, with esophageal cancer  
Our Military: Andrew, son of Craig M, deployed to Qatar  
Mary, friend of Karen, back surgery, lives alone  
Shiv, for rest and peace  
Noah, age 14, grandson of Isles, extended family conflict  
Ray Boone, painful treatment to face  
Emilee, needs job  
Marcus Liew, for God to restore his vision

**Beginning a New Year:**

**Giving: January 7: \$1,945**

Please continue to pray for the ministries of Tim North and Rob & Joyce Hamd in areas being threatened by war. Pray for their safety , for ways to continue to impact the people near them with the Gospel.

**Heidelberg Catechism Q 8. But are we so corrupt that we are totally unable to do any good and inclined toward all evil?**

**A. Yes, unless we are born again, by the Spirit of God.**



CHRIST

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**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**JANUARY 14, 2024**

**Gathering Song: Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending (bulletin page 6)**

**† Call to Worship (from Psalm 46)**

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble.

**People: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way, and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.**

Pastor: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

**People: He says, “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth.”**

**Unison: The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

**† Hymn: At the Name of Jesus (page 7)**

**† Invocation and the Lord’s Prayer**

**† Standing as you are able**

## First Scripture Readings

Today's Reader: Carolyn Sharpe

### Daniel 11:36—12:3 Responsive

<sup>36</sup> “The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place.

<sup>37</sup> He will show no regard for the gods of his ancestors or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exalt himself above them all. <sup>38</sup> Instead of them, he will honor a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his ancestors he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts.

<sup>39</sup> He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god and will greatly honor those who acknowledge him. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price.

<sup>40</sup> “At the time of the end the king of the South will engage him in battle, and the king of the North will storm out against him with chariots and cavalry and a great fleet of ships. He will invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood.

<sup>41</sup> He will also invade the Beautiful Land. Many countries will fall, but Edom, Moab and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand. <sup>42</sup> He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape. <sup>43</sup> He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Cushites in submission.

<sup>44</sup> But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many. <sup>45</sup> He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him.

12:1 “At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people—everyone whose name is found written in the book—will be delivered.

<sup>2</sup> Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup> Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.

### Matthew 24:3-25 Responsive

<sup>3</sup> As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately. “Tell us,” they said, “when will this happen, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?”

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## Tuesday Bible Studay

**This Bible study group has resumed meeting on Tuesday mornings at 10 o'clock They are studying the book of Daniel. If you would like to join the study, please call Judy Dellinger at 734-386-6449.**

## Offering Envelopes

**If you have not yet picked up your offering envelopes, you will find them in the Narthex. They are in alphabetical order. If you wish to have envelopes, but cannot locate yours, please speak to Bev Thompson after the service.**

## O That Will Be Glory

<sup>4</sup> Jesus answered: **“Watch out that no one deceives you. <sup>5</sup> For many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will deceive many.**

<sup>6</sup> You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. <sup>7</sup> Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. <sup>8</sup> All these are the beginning of birth pains.

<sup>9</sup> **“Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. <sup>10</sup> At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, <sup>11</sup> and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people.**

<sup>12</sup> Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, <sup>13</sup> but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. <sup>14</sup> And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

<sup>15</sup> **“So when you see standing in the holy place ‘the abomination that causes desolation,’ spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand— <sup>16</sup> then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.**

<sup>17</sup> Let no one on the housetop go down to take anything out of the house. <sup>18</sup> Let no one in the field go back to get their cloak. <sup>19</sup> How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers!

<sup>20</sup> **Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. <sup>21</sup> For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again.**

<sup>22</sup> “If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened. <sup>23</sup> At that time if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Messiah!’ or, ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. <sup>24</sup> For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

<sup>25</sup> **See, I have told you ahead of time.**

This is the Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

### **Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and every shall be.  
World without end. Amen. Amen.

† Hymn: What If It Were Today? (page 8-9)

### Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

arr: Yuta Sugano

### † Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### Second Scripture Readings

#### 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Responsive

<sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

<sup>15</sup> **According to the Lord’s word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.**

<sup>17</sup> After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words.

#### 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 Responsive

<sup>1</sup> Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers and sisters, <sup>2</sup> not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by the teaching allegedly from us—whether by a prophecy or by word of mouth or by letter—asserting that the day of the Lord has already come.

<sup>3</sup> **Don’t let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. <sup>4</sup> He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God’s temple, proclaiming himself to be God.**

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## What If It Were Today1-1

<sup>5</sup> Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? <sup>6</sup> And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. <sup>7</sup> For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.

<sup>8</sup> **And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming. <sup>9</sup> The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, <sup>10</sup> and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing.**

They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. <sup>11</sup> For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie <sup>12</sup> and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.

This is the Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

### **Sermon: The Lawless One**

Dr. James N. McGuire

### **Pastoral Prayer**

### **† Hymn: O That Will Be Glory (page 10)**

### **† Responsive Litany (Romans 5:1-5)**

Pastor: Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

**People: through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.**

Pastor: And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

**People: Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.**

**Unison: And hope does not disappoint us because God has poured out his love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.**

### **Benediction**

### **Welcome, Announcements, and Prayer**

**Dr. James N. McGuire, Pastor**

**Yuta Sugano, Musician**

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**Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending**

**At the Name of Jesus**