Teach me your way, O Lord,
give me an undivided heart
that I may walk in your truth;
to revere your name.

-PSALM 86:11

Nassau Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2023  10:00 AM

ADVENT IV
Gathering

Prelude  
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming  
Johannes Brahms

• Call to Worship  
Let us praise our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia! Jesus is coming!  
At Christmas, Jesus came as a baby.  
Alleluia! Jesus is coming!  
He came to be like us because God loves us.  
Alleluia! Jesus is coming!  
Jesus came to bring hope, joy, peace, and love.  
Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

• Opening Hymn  
Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates  
Red Hymnal 93

Prayer of Confession  
Gracious God, forgive us when we are caught up in appearances,  
when we focus on grievances and grudges,  
when we live in apathy and indifference.  
Forgive us and have mercy upon us.  
Open us to your Advent joy.  
Prepare our hearts for your coming salvation and  
illumine our souls for these holy days.  
We pray in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness  
Friends in Christ, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel.  
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.
Anthem

Resonet in laudibus
cum jucundis plaudibus
Sion cum fidelibus:
apparuit quem genuit Maria.
Sunt impleta, quae praedixit Gabriel.
Eia, eia!
Virgo Deum genuit,
quem divina voluit clementia.
Hodie apparuit in Israel,
ex Maria Virgine est natus Rex.

Resonet in Laudibus

Let praises resound in Zion
with the joyful acclaim
of the faithful.
He has appeared whom Mary bore.
The prophecies of Gabriel are fulfilled.
O joy, O joy!
The Virgin gave birth to God,
which divine mercy willed.
Today a King has appeared in Israel,
born of the Virgin Mary.

Proclaiming the Word

Time With Children

Lighting of the Advent Candles

- Response

While We Are Waiting, Come

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Children age three to grade one may go to a Bible story/craft time in Room 07 (lower level).
Childcare is available in the Nursery (lower level).
Words of Welcome
We invite you to fill out the fellowship pads you will find in the pews. If you are watching the livestream we invite you to fill out the virtual fellowship pad: nassauchurch.org/check-in.

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, our hope and strength,  
by the power of your Spirit  
prepare the way in our hearts  
for the coming of your Word,  
so that we may see the glorious signs  
of your promise fulfilled;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Scripture Lesson  John 1:1-16  pg 91

Second Scripture Lesson  Psalm 89:1-4  pg 545

Sermon  The Poetry of God's Glory  David A. Davis

Thanksgiving

Sermon Hymn  Of the Father’s Love Begotten  Red Hymnal 108
verse 1 - choir  verse 2 - all  
verse 3 - higher voices  verse 4 - lower voices  
verse 5 - all

Affirmation of Faith  Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,  
the firstborn of all creation;  
in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,  
things visible and invisible.  
All things have been created through him and for him.  
He himself is before all things,  
and in him all things hold together.
He is head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.

Offertory  
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming  
Hugo Distler

Lo, how a rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse’s lineage coming, as prophets long have sung, it came a Floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah ‘twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind. To show God’s love aright, she bore to us a Savior when half-spent was the night.

This Flower whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere. True man, yet very God! From sin and death He saves us and lightens every load.

Doxology  
Of the Father's Love Begotten  
Red Hymnal 108  
verse 6

Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee, 
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be. Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore! Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer
• Closing Hymn
  Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
  Red Hymnal 132

• Benediction

• Response
  Make Way
  Graham Kendrick

Postlude
  Prelude on "Resonet in Laudibus
  Colin Mawby

Preacher
  David A. Davis

Liturgist
  Lauren J. McFeaters

Time with Children
  Carol Wehrheim

Musicians
  Adult Choir
    Noel Werner,
    director & organist
  Michael Cooney,
    prelude organist

Sound Engineer
  Nick Mastalesz

Livestream
  Ian Lewono
  Tom Coogan

Cover Art
  by Austin Boland-Ferguson.
  Based on Psalm 86 NRSV.
### The Week Ahead

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, December 25</td>
<td>Office closed - Christmas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 26</td>
<td>Office closed - Christmas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 27</td>
<td>Office closed - Christmas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 28</td>
<td>Office closed - Christmas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, December 29</td>
<td>Office closed - Christmas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, December 30</td>
<td>NO EVENTS SCHEDULED</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sunday, December 31**

- **10:00 AM** *Worship*
  - Sanctuary & Livestream

- **10:15 AM** *Bible Story and Craft Time*
  - Room 07

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Welcome to Nassau Church

Children are always welcome in our services of worship.

Beginning again on Jan. 7, childcare is available for infants and toddlers in the Nursery (Lower Level), 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM.

Church School takes place during the 9:15 AM service. Classes for grades 6 to 12 begin at 9:15 AM. Preschoolers to grade 5 participate in the first part of the service and are then dismissed to their classes. All classes conclude at 10:30 AM.

Worship Explorers is a child-focused alternative worship setting during 11:00 AM worship for children age 3 to grade 3. Children attend the first part of the service and are then dismissed to Room 302 (Third Floor).

Order CDs of the service. Stop by the sound room.

Livestream Worship. Livestream worship can be found at NassauChurch.org/livestream-worship. If you are worshiping with us in person, please be aware that you may be visible on camera at any time.

Connect to our online community life. Visit nassauchurch.org for information and join our Facebook group for community life. Follow our Facebook page and Instagram feeds (@nassauchurch) for news, recaps of events, and snapshots of life at Nassau.

Connect to pastors or staff. Contact the office.

Online giving. See “Give Now” on the website or give via the Church Life app.

Accessibility. The church lot has reserved parking, and there are six reserved street spaces on Sundays. Ramp access to the building is from the parking lot. Ask an usher for an assistive hearing device, a large-print bulletin or hymnal, an accessible pew, or a wheelchair. Ushers can also direct you to the elevator to access other floors.