

Miami – Prelude & Ringing of the Church Bell	“O Little Town of Bethlehem”-arr. C.F. Schalk	Gail Jones
Osawatomie Prelude	“Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming”-J Kriebel	Gail Jones
Paola Prelude	“Angels, We Have Heard on High”-arr A. Page	Gail Jones

Janet Bucher, Pianist

Announcements

Osawatomie – Ringing the Chimes

Lighting the Candle of Love

Glory to God Hymn #137 – He Came Down (Verse 1 only – using ‘Love’)

Call to Worship

Leader: Keep watch! For the One who brings peace is coming.

People: We wait in anticipation for Christ.

Leader: We wait for God’s revealing of joy. Remain alert!

All: Love is coming to dwell among us. Hope draws near.

✠ **Glory to God Hymn #121 – O Little Town of Bethlehem**

We are called to confess

In our waiting and preparation, we come to rest, again, at the foot of the cross. Even in this season of anticipation, we see the fullness of God’s promised redemption in the waters of baptism. As those who are fully known and redeemed, we confess our sin before God and one another.

We confess our sins to God and one another

O God, giver of all good gifts, we come before you as children in need of your wisdom and grace. Our fears and our hopes are braided together in the rhythm of daily life. Our visions of the future depend on our own hands and ability. Our expectations remain reasonable and within our control. Break into this tangle of fear and hope, bringing peace to our souls. Break into our vision of the future, returning us to your hands. Break into our expectations, awakening us with curiosity and wonder; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Time for silent, personal confession

We receive the assurance of pardon

Christ’s coming is certain. God’s promise is true. Trust in the transformational power of God’s forgiveness and receive the gift of God’s love. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God.

✠ **Glori Patri**

Passing the Peace

Message for the Young at Heart

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S GOOD NEWS

We Pray Together, the Prayer of the Day

Mighty and merciful God, we rejoice and give thanks that you look upon us with favor and bless us with grace. Transform this weary world according to your promise—giving power to the weak, justice to the oppressed, and food to the hungry, so that all may sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Today's Scripture Reading:

Micah 5:2–5a

Luke 1:39–55

Liturgist

Pastor Paul

Reflecting on Scripture –

“Leaping for Love”

Pastor Paul

Special Music

Miami

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”-Mendelssohn arr CF Schalk

Gail Jones

Osawatomie

“Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming”-J Kriebel (VI Adagio)

Gail Jones

Paola

“The First Nowell” – arr A. Page

Gail Jones

Janet Bucher, Pianist

Prayers of the People/The Lord's Prayer (Please use debts and debtors)

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in heaven. Give us, this day, our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

Amen.

Call to stewardship

Jesus came not to be served but to serve. Let us follow this example and share our gifts so that we may also experience the joys and challenges of serving.

We ask for blessings on our tithes and offerings

Parent God, may this offering assist us in continuing Christ's work in the world to heal the grief, transgressions, and illnesses that oppress and harm your creation. Amen.

† **Doxology**

WE RESPOND AND GO IN GOD'S NAME

† **Glory to God Hymn #187 – Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us**

Charge & Benediction (Unison)

Triumphant one! Mighty one! Toppling-expectations-one! Send us forth in love to bear your hope, peace, joy and justice into the world. Halleluiah! Amen!

Closing Response

“Go ye now in peace and know that the love of God will guide you...Feel his presence here beside you, showing you the way...go ye now in peace, go ye now in peace.”

Postlude -

Miami

“Angels We Have Heard on High”-arr. K. Kosche

Gail Jones

Osawatomie

“Noel Angevin” by Cesar Franck

Gail Jones

Paola.

“In Dulci Jubilo”-arr. A. Pajo

Gail Jones

Janet Bucher, Pianist