

Traditional Service

11:00 a.m.

Prelude

Noel

(Composer: Louis-Claude Daquin)

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy

Hymn #69

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Responsive Reading

Mary's Song

Luke 1:46-55

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

For he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

ALL: He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of salvation, in Christ you have done great things— our hearts are filled with joy. By your power you lifted us out of the wasteland of sin and brought us with joy and laughter into your kingdom. Salvation is your gift to us. But we confess that often we try to replace your gift with our own efforts. We try to complete what is already perfect; we try to add to what is already full; we try to earn what we already have. Forgive us for our foolishness. Help us to focus on your grace. Help us to live grateful lives in return.

(People silently offer their personal confessions to God.)

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Pastor: Friends, believe the Good News:

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Hymn #961

Glory be to the Father

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

Passing the Peace

Hymn #71

Creator of the Stars of Night

(verses 1-3)

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-38

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

Sermon

Mary – The One Who Surrendered

The Women of the Christmas Story

Musical Reflection

Mary Had a Baby

(Composer: Spiritual/arr.Dawson)

Hymn #965

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.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Hymn #59

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Benediction

Postlude

In Dulci Jubilo

(Composer: Dale Wood)

Worship Participants

Announcements & Prayers	Spencer Lundgaard
Sermon	Greg Buell
Worship Leader	Luke Stoner
Praise Music	Village Church Worship Band
Advent Candle Lighters	The Gosser Family
Scripture Reader	Jill Nevil (9:30)
	Missy Lundgaard (11:00)
Prayer Leader	Lois Morris (9:30)
Hymn Leader	Elaine Holmquist (11:00)
Director of Music	Jonathan Kim (11:00)
Organist	Sharon Peterson (11:00)
Choral Music	Village Church Choir (11:00)

Music done by permission CCLI license #5601671

Contemporary Service

9:30 a.m.

Questions for Discussion

Welcome and Call to Worship

Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy

Praise and Prayer

My Soul Magnifies the Lord

Firm Foundation (He Won't)

Prayer of Confession

What a Beautiful Name

Prayers of the People

Passing of the Peace

Announcements

(Offerings are received weekly via mail and online giving at <https://villagechurchnorthbrook.org/give/>. Those attending live worship can leave their donations in the offering plates at the back of the sanctuary.)

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-38; 46-55

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon

Mary – The One Who Surrendered
The Women of the Christmas Story

Closing Song

Mary Did You Know?

Blessing

Read: Luke 1:26-38

Opening Discussion:

1. Why do you think Mary was chosen to be the mother of the Messiah?

Digging Deeper:

1. Why do you think verses 26-27 are so specific with details about who the angel Gabriel visited? What do we learn about Mary in these verses? Why do you think Luke included this information?
2. Gabriel's greeting to Mary literally means "Rejoice you who are highly favored!" Why would she be "much perplexed" by these words? (v.29)
3. Why does Gabriel tell Mary not to be afraid? What great news does Gabriel have to share with Mary in verses 30-31?
4. What announcement does the angel make about Jesus in verses 32-33, and why would this be important to Mary and her people?
5. What was Mary's initial response to this news? (v.34)
6. How was Jesus' birth going to happen according to the angel? (v.35-36)
7. What promise does Gabriel make about God's word in verse 37?
8. What was Mary's final response? What did she have to give up in order to surrender to God's will for her life?

Application for Life

1. To what degree do you believe yourself to be favored by God, and why?
2. How are you living out your life for the kingdom of God? How have you seen God using you in the past and what might God be calling you to do in the future?
3. What steps can you take to more fully submit to God's plan for your life?

Prayer Concerns & Closing Prayer



4th Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2024

Scan the QR code for our Connect Form, Weekly Newsletter,
Realm Connect and more!



Program Staff

Spencer Lundgaard, Senior Pastor

Greg Buell, Associate Pastor for Discipleship & Caring Ministries

Ed Burton, Minister of Family Ministries

Luke Stoner, Minister of Contemporary Worship/Sr. High Youth

Jonathan Kim, Director of Music



The Village Church

1300 Shermer Road, Northbrook, Illinois 60062-4577

villagechurchnorthbrook.org

847-272-0900