WELCOME

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE:  
Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus  
by Charles Wesley  
Mr. Benjamin Knight

CALL TO WORSHIP:  
Rev. Glen Shedlock

L:  We know joy; but when we hear the laughter of a child, joy suddenly overflows. We know love; but when we reach out to touch each other, hold hands, and make holy connections, suddenly, love overflows. We know God; but when we choose to show compassion and mercy, when we forgive, when we choose to love unconditionally, when we lift each other up, hold each other in prayerful concern, suddenly, God is overflowing. So, let us worship Holy God together, as a reminder that God is here; God has always been with us; God will always be with us. We will never be alone. This is community. This is the body of Christ. Welcome home.

PRAYER:

L:  Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day. We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us. We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom. We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. To you we say, “Come Lord Jesus!”

SONG:  
What Child is This  
Words by:  William Chatterton Dix  
Music by:  Henry Ramsden Bramley & Sir John Stainer

WE LIGHT THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE – LOVE:  
Our thanks to Josh and Emily Clark for lighting today’s advent candle.

RESPONSE:  
One Candle Is Lit  
Pianist:  Mr. Benjamin Knight  
Vocalist:  Ms. Kim Brenstuhl

SONG:  
We Three Kings  
arr. Shackley  
Pianist:  Mr. Benjamin Knight
When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a
city in Galilee, to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant
of David’s house. The virgin’s name was Mary. She was confused by these words and
wondered what kind of greeting this might be. The angel said, “Don’t be afraid, Mary.
God is honoring you. Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will
name him Jesus. He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The
Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. He will rule over Jacob’s house
forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom.”

Then Mary said to the angel, “How will this happen since I haven’t had sexual
relations with a man?”

The angel replied, “The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High
will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be
called God’s Son. Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has conceived a
son. This woman who was labeled ‘unable to conceive’ is now six months pregnant.
Nothing is impossible for God.”

Then Mary said, “I am the Lord’s servant. Let it be with me just as you have said.”
Then the angel left her.

A BITE OF SOUL FOOD: Christ-Born Reader: Missi Shedlock
Rev. Steve Garnaas-Holmes, retired

TODAY’S MESSAGE: Embody Love Rev. Glen Shedlock

MUSIC VIDEO: See the Love The Brilliance

BENEDICTION: Rev. Glen Shedlock

POSTLUDE: Sing We Now of Christmas Brass Quartet

Thank you to The Brass Quartet Members:
Evan Foltz – Trumpet
Matthew Garrett – Trumpet
Kierstin Silverman – French Horn
Chris Wortman – Trombone
In honor of
Rev. Glen Shedlock & wife, Melissa.
Dan & Kelly Gerstenberger

In loving memory of my husband
Ron.
Jackie Wanclovic & son, Ronnie

In honor of
Mr. Benjamin Knight & fiancée, Ms. Kim Brenstuhl.
Dan & Kelly Gerstenberger