

# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GAINESVILLE FLORIDA

1801 NW 5<sup>TH</sup> Avenue

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

Pastor John Glover



St. John the Baptist in Prison Visited by Two Disciples by Giovanni di Paolo (1455-60)

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## THE PRELUDE

## Of the Father's Love Begotten - Arr. Samuel Stokes

*(Please stand.)*

## THE WELCOME AND SHARING OF THE PEACE

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

**C: the light no darkness can overcome.**

P: Let Your light scatter the darkness

**C: and illumine Your Church.**

P: Let us pray.

O Lord, let the lighting of these candles signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### We Light the Advent Candle

#### Verse 1

We light the Advent candle  
And wait for Christ to come.  
With hope, we trust the promise  
That He will bring us home.  
Our hope is in our Savior  
Who wins for us God's favor.  
We wait with growing light  
Till God makes all things right!

#### Verse 2

We light the Advent candle  
And thank the Lord for rest.  
With peace, we know our Jesus  
Has come to be our guest.  
This peace beyond all knowing  
Within our hearts is glowing.  
We wait with growing light  
Till God makes all things right!

#### Verse 3

We light the Advent candle  
And sing with cheerful heart.  
With joy, we spread the message—  
A blessing to impart.  
Our joy is never ending;  
The Son to us is sending.  
We wait with growing light  
Till God makes all things right!

## THE INVOCATION

*LSB 184*

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C: who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*(Please kneel or continue standing.)*

## THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 184

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**


*(Please stand.)*

## THE GLORIA PATRI

LSB 186



☐ Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## THE KYRIE

LSB 186



☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

LSB 189



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P:** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen

*(Please be seated.)*

## THE FIRST READING

*Zephaniah 3:14–20*

- <sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;  
shout, O Israel!  
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter of Jerusalem!
- <sup>15</sup>The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;  
he has cleared away your enemies.  
The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall never again fear evil.
- <sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
“Fear not, O Zion;  
let not your hands grow weak.
- <sup>17</sup>The LORD your God is in your midst,  
a mighty one who will save;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
he will quiet you by his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing.
- <sup>18</sup>I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,  
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.
- <sup>19</sup>Behold, at that time I will deal  
with all your oppressors.  
And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.
- <sup>20</sup>At that time I will bring you in,

at the time when I gather you together;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes,” says the LORD.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## THE EPISTLE READING

*Philippians 4:4-7*

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand.)*

## THE ALLELUIA VERSE

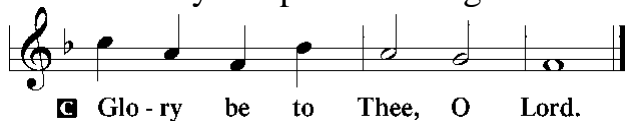
*LSB 190*



## THE HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 7:18-35*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.



<sup>18</sup>The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, <sup>19</sup>calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>20</sup>And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” <sup>21</sup>In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. <sup>22</sup>And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

<sup>24</sup>When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>25</sup>What then

did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. <sup>26</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup>This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.’

<sup>28</sup>I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.” <sup>29</sup>(When all the people heard this, and the tax collectors too, they declared God just, having been baptized with the baptism of John, <sup>30</sup>but the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.)

<sup>31</sup>“To what then shall I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like

<sup>32</sup>They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another,

“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.’

<sup>33</sup>For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon.’ <sup>34</sup>The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ <sup>35</sup>Yet wisdom is justified by all her children.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## THE NICENE CREED

*LSB 191*

**C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and Earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one Holy Christian and**

**Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\tau$  of the world to come. Amen.**

*(Please be seated.)*

**THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**Stephanie Karolus**

*(Please stand.)*

**A HYMN**

**Hail to the Lord's Anointed**

**LSB 398**

**Verse 1**

Hail to the Lord's anointed,  
Great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed,  
His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression  
And rule in equity.

**Verse 3**

He shall come down like showers  
Upon the fruitful earth;  
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,  
Spring in His path to birth.  
Before Him on the mountains  
Shall peace, the herald, go;  
And righteousness in fountains  
From hill to valley flow.

**Verse 5**

O'er ev'ry foe victorious,  
He on His throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious,  
All blessing and all-blest.  
The tide of time shall never  
His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand forever—  
That name to us is Love.

**Verse 2**

He comes with rescue speedy  
To those who suffer wrong,  
To help the poor and needy  
And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing,  
Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying,  
Were precious in His sight.

**Verse 4**

Kings shall fall down before Him  
And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore Him,  
His praise all people sing.  
To Him shall prayer unceasing  
And daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing,  
A kingdom without end.

*(Please be seated.)*

**THE SERMON**

**Pastor John Glover**

**Verse 1**

Praise the One who breaks the darkness  
With a liberating light;  
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,  
Turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,  
Healing ev'ry dread disease,  
Calming storms, and feeding thousands  
With the very Bread of peace.

**Verse 2**

Praise the One who blessed the children  
With a strong, yet gentle, word;  
Praise the One who drove out demons  
With the piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water  
To the desert's burning sand;  
From this Well comes living water,  
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

**Verse 3**

Let us praise the Word Incarnate,  
Christ, who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose victorious  
That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
Seeing what our God has done;  
Let us praise the true Redeemer,  
Praise the One who makes us one.

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**THE ANNOUNCEMENTS-** Prayer Requests may be texted to **352-448-7240**

*(Please stand.)*

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION FOR FOLKS AT HOME**

*LSB 202*

*(Please be seated.)*

**THE OFFERING**

**THE VOLUNTARY**

**Advent Carol - Arr. Hal Hopson**

*(Please stand.)*



## THE OFFERTORY

LSB 192



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

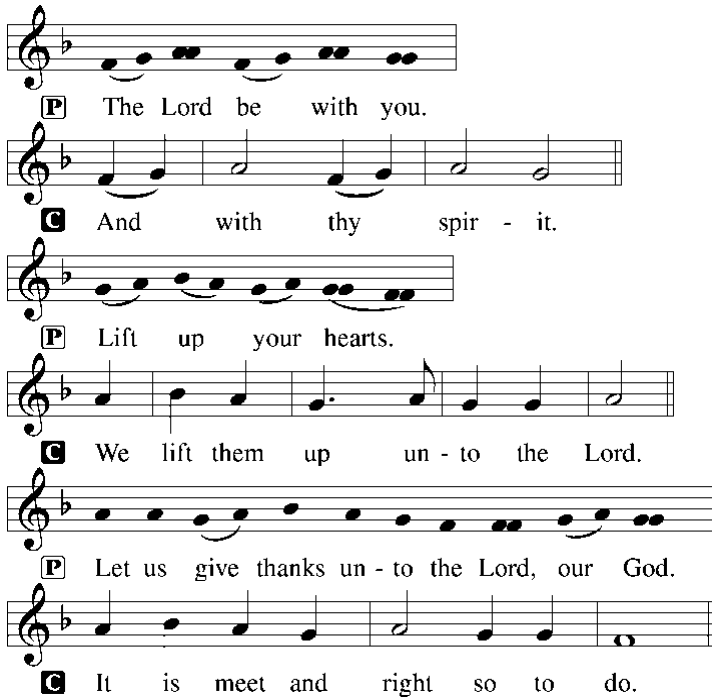
## THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Blessed are you.

C: **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to Your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that You have made, for the sake of Him who gave Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE PREFACE

LSB 194



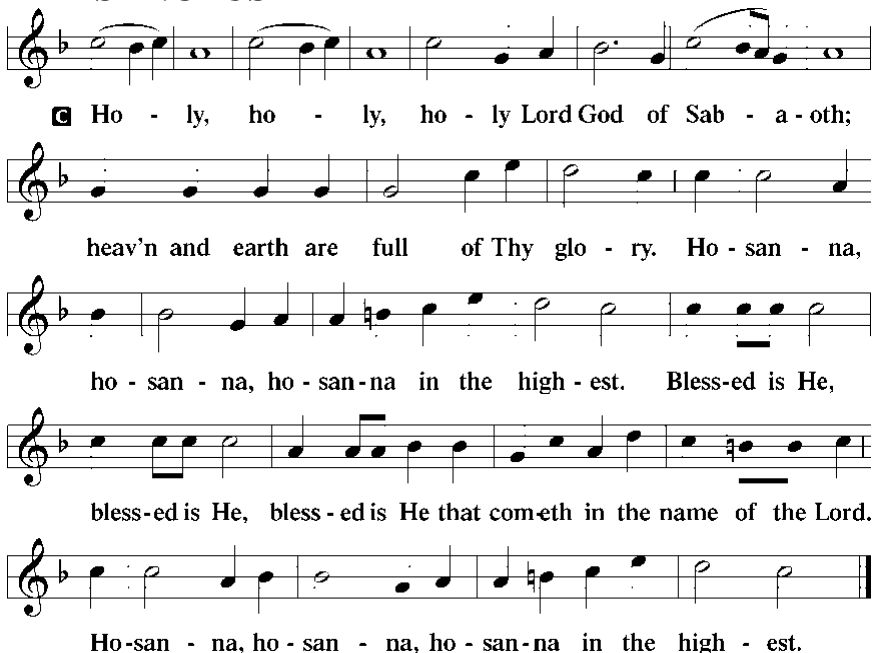
The Lord be with you.  
And with thy spir - it.  
Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them up un - to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.  
It is meet and right so to do.

## THE PROPER PREFACE

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## THE SANCTUS

*LSB 195*

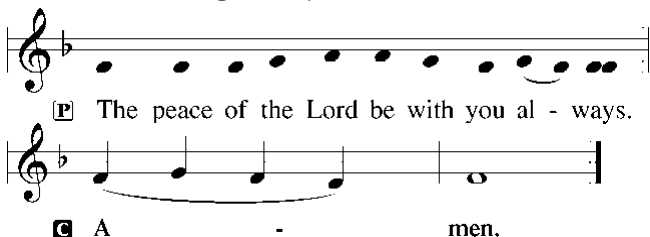


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,  
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE PAX DOMINI

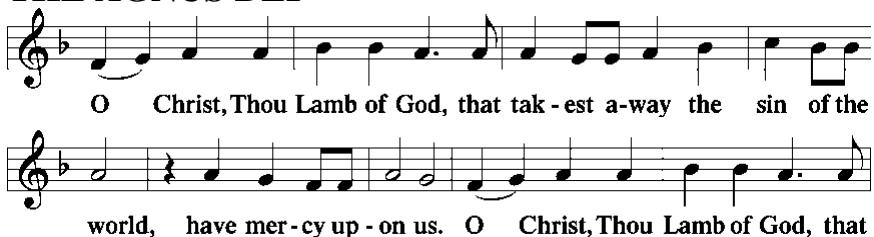
*LSB 197*



The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.  
A - men.

## THE AGNUS DEI

*LSB 198*



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the  
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
 world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

*(Please be seated.)*

## THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### THE COMMUNION MUSIC

- LSB 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding
- LSB 344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry
- LSB 343 Prepare the Royal Highway

*(Please stand.)*

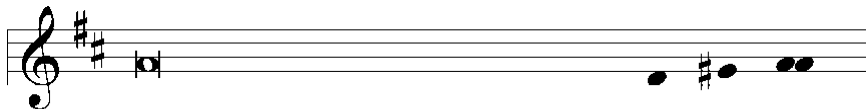
## THE NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-  
 cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
 peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A-men.

## THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

LSB 200



**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

## THE POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

LSB 201


P: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## THE SALUTATION


LSB 201



**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.

## THE BENEDICAMUS

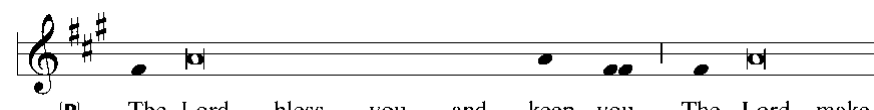
LSB 202



**A** Bless we the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## THE BENEDICTION

LSB 202



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make  
His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

■ A-men, a-men, a - men.

**POSTLUDE      Haf trones lampa färdig (Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers) Paul Manz**



## Information

**Pastor Ron Biel will have a special Adult Bible Study topic on December 19<sup>th</sup>. “St. Luke’s Christmas Story”**

**SUNDAY 12/12/2021**

College Lunch On Break

**Advent by Candlelight**

This evening at 5:00pm

**TUESDAY 12/14/2021**

LSF Bible Study at 7:00pm in the FHall

**SATURDAY 12/18/2021**

Youth Event at 3:30pm

Winter Wonderland Experience at

Ocala World Equestrian Center

**WEDNESDAY 12/15/2021**

Bell Choir Rehearsal at 5:30

Advent Evening Worship at 7:00pm

Adult Choir Rehearsal after Advent Service

**SUNDAY 12/19/2021**

Coffee & Donuts before and after Worship

Adult Bible Study at 8:45am

Youth Bible Study at 9:00am

Parent Bible Study at 9:00am

VPK-5<sup>th</sup> Sunday School at 9:00am

Worship with Holy Communion at 10:00am

College Lunch On Break

**Advent Service 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm**

**Christmas Eve Services are December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm no Holy Communion  
and 7:00pm with Holy Communion**

**Readings – Dec 19<sup>th</sup>**

First Reading – *Micah 5:2-5a*

Epistle Reading – *Hebrews 10:5-10*

Gospel Reading – *Luke 1:39-56*

**Birthdays this week**

Chloe Ebert 12/14

Marie Broling 12/14

Naomi Glover 12/15

**Flowers provided today by The Glover's in  
celebration of Naomi's birthday**

**Anniversary this week**

Brett & Sherri Higginbothams 12/10

Tom & Linda Wendling 12/13

Mark & Laura Hoyer 12/15

**Prayer Request Sheet available in the  
Narthex or contact the office.**

**Serving Today**

**Altar Guild**

Mary Brabham

Leeann Lee

**College Lunch**

On Break

**Lector**

Katherine Gross

**Production Team**

Jonathan Albertin

Jacob Behrendt

Susan Halbert

**Card Ministry**

Dottie Mounts

**Communion Assist**

Ken Dudeck

**Music**

Hye Jin Park,  
Pianist/Organist  
FLC Bell Choir

**Ushers**

Bruce Helling

John Holloway

Jared Partridge

Roberta Partridge

## First Lutheran Church Staff

**Pastor John Glover**  
Senior Pastor

**Stephanie Karolus**  
Director of Christian Education

**Hye Jin Park**  
Director of Music

**Angie Burr**  
Director of Open Arms Child Development

**Leeann Lee**  
Church Administrator

### INFORMATION FOR VISITORS

**Please stop and speak with Pastor John or DCE Stephanie**

\*The bold portions are the parts the congregation say together.

\*The Holy Gospel are the Words of Jesus and spoken by the Pastor

\*Creeds are our statements of faith.

\*Sanctus recalls the words of the prophet Isaiah.

\*Prayers of the Church are prayers for others throughout the world, family, and friends.

\*Confession and Absolution we confess our sins to God and Pastor grants us forgiveness

\*Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday

Baptized Christians who:

-come confessing their sins to God

-believe in Jesus Christ as the only Savior from sin

-desire to live a new life in Christ

-recognize the true bodily presence of the Lord

Jesus in and with the bread and the wine.

Young people may come forward with their parents for a blessing.

Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available.

Available in the Narthex

Cry Room

Children's Bags

Bathrooms



Scan with a QR reader on your smartphone to visit our website. [www.flcgainesville.org](http://www.flcgainesville.org)