

# SOUTHSIDE FELLOWSHIP

Creating brave spaces that nurture and inspire the human spirit

*3rd Sunday of Advent ~ How will we know? What's next?*

*December 17th, 2023*

BC:AD by U.A. Fanthorpe

This was the moment when even energetic Romans  
Could find nothing better to do  
Than counting heads in remote provinces.

## GATHERING

**Welcome**

**Centering music**

**Call to Worship**

**Leader:** The Spirit of the Divine is upon God's anointed One.

**High voices:**

*The One sent to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted;*

**Low voices:**

*the One sent to proclaim liberty to the captive,  
release the prisoners, and to comfort all who mourn.*

**Leader:** The Spirit of the Divine is upon all of us.

**High voices:**

*My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God, for  
God's mercy and strength are promised from generation to generation.*

**All: May those who go out weeping return home with shouts of joy.**

**Hymn** *Hark! The glad sound* **VT 217**

## LISTENING FOR THE WORD

**The Poet's Word** What the Body Knows by Jean Janzen

**A Time for All God's Children**

**Offering**

**Scripture** Luke 1:46b-55

**Hymn** *My soul proclaims with wonder* **VT 222**

**Sermon**

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**Hymn** *Savior of the Nations, Come!* **VT 214**

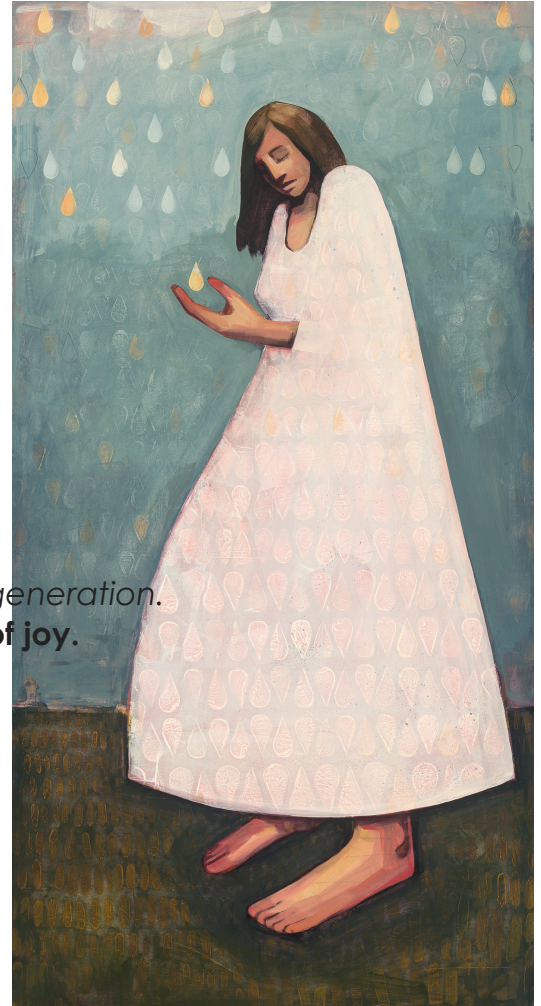
**Sharing our lives and our prayers**

**Praying in the Way of Jesus**

## THE WORD IN THE WORLD

**Hymn** *My soul cries out* **VT 412**

**Benediction**



Caitlin Connolly (American, 1986–),  
*the heavens wept with me, 2018.*  
Oil on canvas.

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*Southside Fellowship is an inclusive Anabaptist/Mennonite congregation that understands faith as a journey. At the core of our community is the boundless love of God, the justice-centered life of Jesus, and the mystery of the Spirit. We welcome all people to join us, including those who have been excluded elsewhere because of gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, ability, economic status, marital status, age, or religious uncertainty.*