



Heritage United Methodist Church

DEC 18, 2022, THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Maria Campbell

Opening Prayer

Liturgist—Lee Herring

Almighty God, Light of the World, you caused light to shine out of darkness in the advent of Jesus our Christ; you constantly open to us the ways we are to prepare. We confess our unwillingness to see the light and to walk in your ways. We have not always opened our eyes to the needs of others, and our feet have wandered from the paths of justice and peace. We ask that the Spirit of Christ be born anew within us, that our hearts be stirred to glorify the nativity with acts of compassion and service. Amen.

Song of Praise

Hark the Herald Angels Sing v 1,2,3

#240 UMH

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting

Mattie Webster & Joyce Collier

Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful v 1,3

#234 UMH

Children's Moment Bells

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Centering Song

O Come All Ye Faithful v 6

#234 UMH

Scripture

Isaiah 7:10-16

Liturgist—Lee Herring

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Anthem **Still, Still, Still** (*arr. Luboff*) Advent Choir

Scripture **Matthew 1:18-25** Rev. Maria Campbell

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Message **A Sign** Rev. Maria Campbell

Offertory **Shepherd's Joy** (*Hayes*) Friends of Faith

Doxology **Angels We Have Heard on High** v 1 #238 UMH

Dedication of Offering Liturgist—Lee Herring

Generous God, as we bring our gifts to you this day. In this season of preparation, we ask you to help us live in a new way, to walk a new highway, to set ourselves on the path that leads to a closer walk with Jesus. May this be the season when he finds the highways to our hearts prepared for his coming. In the name that is above all, we pray. Amen.

Closing Song **Angels from The Realm of Glory** v 1,2,4 #220 UMH

Blessing

Postlude

Pianist—Jenny Memmott Organist—Margaret Cinotto Worship Song Leader—Jacob Eppel

Thank you to all our musicians, singers, readers & volunteers helping in worship today.

Worship Songs Sunday 12.18.22

Hark the Herald Angels Sing v 1,2,3 #240 UMH

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;

with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;

late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,

pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,

born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

O Come All Ye Faithful v 1,3 #234 UMH

O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.

Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;

O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

O Come All Ye Faithful v 6 #234 UMH

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,

Jesus, to thee be all glory given.

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Angels We Have Heard on High v 1 (Doxology) #238 UMH

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing

o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply

echoing their joyous strains. *Glo - - - - ri - a, in*

excelsis Deo! Glo - - - - ri - a, in excelsis Deo!

Angels from The Realm of Glory v 1,2,4 #220 UMH

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight

o'er all the earth;

ye who sang creation's story now proclaim

Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,

God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;

suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.



Advent Devotion - Joy

Gentleness To All: Experience JOY Through the Celebration of Christmas

As we approach Christmas, what does it mean? Sometimes our behavior takes over and we may become frustrated with schedules, events, and family celebrations; panic may overtake our emotions; and, we may have regrets about things in the past. Why not take control of your behavior by asking yourself these questions.

What JOY did you feel when you first met Jesus?

How did this JOY change your life?

Is the JOY still there?

Let your gentleness be evident to all! The Lord is near (Philippians 4:5) Rejoice in the Lord (Philippians 4:4) and experience the JOY of celebrating Christmas through "thanksgiving present your request to God (Philippians 4:6)". Control your behavior by experiencing JOY during this very special time.

Rejoice With Joy That Is Inexpressible

In the 1970's, a professor in the College of Education at the University of Utah gave a lecture on the "joy" of being a part of the education profession. As part of this lecture, he listed numerous ways that happiness and joy could be found in teaching and helping people of all ages. His lecture ended with this statement, "do not enter this profession, if you are not going to be happy every day and feel the "joy" of helping others."

Two years later, I was in a church service and the minister gave a message on the "joy of helping people". His sermon ended "Shout for joy to the Lord" and know that the Lord is God (Psalm 100: 1-3). Joy from the Lord will keep you in love with your life and work. These two messages have been with me 50 plus years as I loved my work in education and felt the joy of helping people every day thanks to the word of God. There is nothing more important than receiving the JOY from celebrating Christmas and keeping Jesus in your heart and mind. Rejoice in the Lord always (Philippians 4:4).

-Written by Leon Greene

Pre-Worship JAM Songs

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Said the night wind to the little lamb
Do you see what I see
Way up in the sky little lamb
Do you see what I see
A star, a star dancing in the night
with a tail as big as a kite
with a tail as big as a kite.

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear
Ringing through the sky shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear
A song, a song high above the trees
with a voice as big as the sea
with a voice as big as the sea.

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king
Do you know what I know
In your palace warm mighty king
Do you know what I know
A child, a child shivers in the cold
Let us bring him silver and gold
Let us bring him silver and gold.

Said the king to the people everywhere
Listen to what I say
Pray for peace people everywhere
Listen to what I say
The child, the child sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light
He will bring us goodness and light.

He Is Born #228 UMH

He is born, the holy Child,
play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!
He is born, the holy Child,
sing we all of the Savior mild.

Through long ages of the past,
prophets have foretold his coming;
through long ages of the past,
now the time has come at last!

He is born, the holy Child,
play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!
He is born, the holy Child,
sing we all of the Savior mild.

O how lovely, O how pure,
is this perfect child of heaven
O how lovely, O how pure,
gracious gift to humankind!

He is born, the holy Child,
play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!
He is born, the holy Child,
sing we all of the Savior mild.

Jesus, Lord of all the world,
coming as a child among us,
Jesus, Lord of all the world,
grant to us thy heavenly peace.

He is born, the holy Child,
play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!
He is born, the holy Child,
sing we all of the Savior mild.

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice #224 UMH

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
News, news! Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.

Christ is born today,
Christ is born today!

**Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
News, news! Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door,
and ye are blest forevermore.**

**Christ was born for this,
Christ was born for this!**

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
News, news! Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save,
Christ was born to save!

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year.

**Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
Good tiding of Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

Oh, bring us a figgy pudding
Oh, bring us a figgy pudding
Oh, bring us a figgy pudding
and a cup of good cheer.

**Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
Good tiding of Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

We won't go until we get some
We won't go until we get some
We won't go until we get some
so bring some out here.

**Good tidings we bring to you and your kin
Good tiding of Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

Go Tell It on the Mountain (Zach Williams)

While shepherds kept their watching
over silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light

**I say go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born**

The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo above the Earth
Rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth

Down in a lowly manger
our humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
On that blessed Christmas morn

**I say go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born**

I was a lonely seeker
I sought both night and day
I asked the Lord to help me
And he showed me the way
He made me a watchman Upon a city wall
And if I am a Christian I am the least of all

**I say go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born**

**Go tell it
Go tell it
Go tell it
Go on and tell it!**