Christ UMC Worship 12.22.2024

4th Sunday of Advent | Believe in the Promise

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

OPENING MUSIC Dr. Johnathan Vest

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sung response:

Come, Lord Jesus, come Come, Lord Jesus, come Come into our lives and into our hearts. Come, Lord Jesus, come Come, Lord Jesus, come

Composer: Gene Cotton. Used with permission.

Spoken response: Believe in the promise.

*OPENING HYMN "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" 240 (Red hymnal)

**Congregation

1 Hark! the herald angels sing:
Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing: Glory to the new-born King.

2 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 the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel. Refrain
3 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 man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. Refrain

Text: Charles Wesley (public domain)

*OPENING PRAYER

ACT OF PRAISE "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Manor

Celebration Singers

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GOD SPEAKS THE WORD TO US

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the scriptures are read and your word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Micah 5:2-5a Scott Heard

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Aimee Cox

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:46b-55 Clara Wanczak

SERMON Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Mark Price

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.

OFFERING

"Be Born In Me (Mary)"

Annie Mitchell

Herms | Nordeman

Words and music by Bernie Herms and Nichole Nordeman. © 2011 Bernie Herms Music; Birdboy Songs; Birdwing Music; Capitol CMG Paragon. CCLI #11460403.

*DOXOLOGY 94 (Red hymnal)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts; praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts. Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit Alleluia! alleluia!

SILENT REFLECTION

WE ARE SENT TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE IN THE WORLD

CLOSING SONG

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Congregation

230 (red hymnal)

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

- 2. For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

 O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth!
- 3. How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given; so God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.
- 4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Text: Phillips Brooks (public domain).

SENDING FORTH Rev. Dr. Chris Haynes

BLESSING SONG "Come, Lord Jesus, Come" Cotton

Come, Lord Jesus, come
Come, Lord Jesus, come
Come into our lives and into our hearts.
Come, Lord Jesus, come
Come, Lord Jesus, come

Composer: Gene Cotton. Used with permission.

CLOSING MUSIC Dr. Johnathan Vest

Prayer List

New Prayer Concerns

Linda Cotton and Family following the death of her husband, Ray Nancy Brown and Family following the death of her sister-in-law, Barbara Smith Norman Tiedemann

Oliver Loft

Shanelle Rauh

Sravanthi and Sujitha Nutalapati

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Jean Beshears

Friends and Family of Peggy Bowling following her death

Velma Bradley

Dave Bradley

Don Campbell

Gavin Partee Christianson

Dave Edmunds

Katie Embody

Margaret Fortney

Mary Fredenhagen

John Geer

Brent Greene

Olivia Haight

Karen Kiappes

Jerry Kirk

Caroline Lantz

Linda Mallory

Sue Mueller

Bob Munn

Chuck Neighbors

Terry Paradise

Peace in the Middle East

Marshall Price

Judson Randolph

Amy Saffell

Saucier/Kohler Family following the death of Thelma Ann Saucier

Bradly Thomas

Leslie Tiedemann

Sulaiman Tunkara and Family

Ukraine

Steve White and Mandy Jones following the death of their mother, Cynthia White

John Wigant

Terri Wildman