



University Presbyterian Church
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

December 24, 2019
Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m.

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Gary, Megan, Monty, Hudson, and Bo Crunkleton

We light the candle of Hope because hope is hard to hold on to.

Christ be our hope.

We light the candle of Peace because Peace is fragile—in our homes and around the world.

Christ be our peace.

We light the candle of Joy because Joy is deeper than happiness... it lives in that place where nobody can take it away from you.

Christ be our joy.

We light the candle of Love because Love is who we are and Love is how we do.

Christ be our love.

Finally—we light the candle in the center of the wreath for Jesus,
born long ago and born in us anew this evening.

INTROIT

“How far is it to Bethlehem?” 16th C. English melody
Children’s Choir arr. David W. Music
Clara Sanford, *Soloist* b. 1949

How far is it to Bethlehem?
Not very far.
Shall we find the stable room
Lit by a star?
Can we see the little child,
Is he within?
If we lift the wooden latch,
May we go in?

May we stroke the creatures there,
Oxen or sheep?
May we peek like them
And see Jesus asleep?
If we touch his tiny hand
Will he awake?
Will he know we’ve come so far
Just for his sake?

Be near me, Lord Jesus,
I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever,
And love me. I pray;
Bless all the dear children
In Thy tender care,
And fit us for Heaven
To live with Thee there.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

He came as a baby in a manger.

O come, let us adore him.

He came in a lowly stable.

O come, let us adore him.

Shepherds brought their worship.

O come, let us adore him.

Angels sang his praise.

O come, let us adore him.

Magi brought their gifts.

O come, let us adore him.

What shall we do?

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

THE WORD

*CAROL

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Adeste Fideles



Children are invited to ring bells during the refrain.

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!

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!*

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!*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:8-20

p. 58

(Children’s Bible, p. 1184)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AN ANGEL VISITS MARY

CAROL

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

St. Louis

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.

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!

THE JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM AND BIRTH

CAROL

“Away in a Manger”

Mueller

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

SHEPHERDS SHOW UP

*CAROL

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn



Children are invited to ring bells during the refrain.

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 the 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 the virgin’s womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
Pleased in flesh with us 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!”

MEETING THE MAGI

*CAROL “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” *Go Tell It*



Children are invited to ring bells during the refrain.



*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.



*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.



*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.



*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

THE THANKSGIVING

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

“Come, ye people of every nation” Dan R. Edwards

b. 1951

Junior Choir

Ella Kavanaugh, *Violin*

Carter Lovelady, *Percussion*

Come, ye people of every nation, hear the wondrous news we bring:
On this day is born Messiah, blessed Savior, Lord and King.
Sing Alleluia!

Ancient prophets spoke of his coming to the people in their day;
Now that promised One is sleeping in a manger filled with hay.
Sing Alleluia!

Come, ye faithful, let us adore Him, join with the angels singing praise.
God’s great love to us transcended on this blessed holy day.
Sing Alleluia!

CHRISTMAS 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE SENDING

*CAROL

“Joy to the World”

Antioch



Children are invited to ring bells during the refrain.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room,



*and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains



*repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow



*far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.*

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,



and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

**You are invited to stand, in body or in spirit.*

Worship Notes

AS A COURTESY TO OTHERS, please turn off or silence all cellular phones, pagers, and other electronic devices for the duration of worship.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP TODAY: Meg Peery McLaughlin, Co-Pastor; Jarrett McLaughlin, Co-Pastor; Kim McNeill, Staff Associate for Youth Ministries; Nancy Myer, Staff Associate for Children’s Ministries; Kathleen Jasinskas, Director of Children’s and Youth Choirs; Brad and Leslie Clark (Joseph and Mary), Davis Clark (Baby Jesus); Thomas Brown, Minister of Music.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY: *Ushers*: Joe Buckner (captain), Lee Ann Buck, Scott Buck, Janet McDowell, Maggie and Lewis Morris.

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A WORD ABOUT TODAY’S OFFERING: The Christmas Eve Offering, as designated by the Session, will be divided to support the following ministries. The **Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Fund**: In recent years, this fund has helped give dozens of scholarship awards to students from Chapel Hill high schools. The recipients are students whose character and activities exemplify Dr. King’s legacy of community-building. Awards are given by a university/ community foundation to students regardless of gender, race, or economic status. **The Pastors’ Discretionary Fund**: This fund is used by the church program staff to provide assistance to individuals and families in crisis, usually in collaboration with other local helping agencies.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNALS and portable hearing devices are available in the narthex.