

Order of Worship

December 27th 2020 ~ First Sunday After Christmas

Prelude

“Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella” – Traditional

“Coventry Carol” Traditional English Melody with words by Robert Croo

“I Cannot Tell Why He” Traditional Irish Melody – Londonderry Air with words by William Y Fullerton

Welcome, Announcements, and Peace

Call to Worship

I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:
to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,
who is the Messiah, the Lord.

**Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom He favors!**

Amen.

Hymn of Praise

The First Noel

Verse 1

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping
their sheep
On a cold winter's night that
was so deep

Chorus

Noel Noel Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel

Verse 2

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond
them far
And to the earth it gave great
light
And so it continued both day
and night

Chorus

Noel Noel Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel

Verse 4

This star drew nigh to the
northwest
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest
And there it did both stop and
stay
Right over the place where
Jesus lay

Chorus

Noel Noel Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel

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Opening Prayer

Open our hearts, merciful God,
to the sparks of your presence in this world.
Open our eyes,
that we might behold your presence in the least likely of places,
and among the least likely of people.
God With Us,
kindle your spark within us,
that together we may shine forth your light,
we might banish the shadows of this world,
we might be the continuation of the Christmas miracle:
Emmanuel is in this world,
God is with us, now and evermore. **Amen.**

– written by Rev. Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy

Special Music

Do You Hear What I Hear

Noel Regney & Gloria Shayne

Scripture Reading

Ian Sanderson, Reader

Luke 2:22-40

2:22 When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord
2:23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”),
2:24 and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”
2:25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him.
2:26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.
2:27 Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law,
2:28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,
2:29 “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;
2:30 for my eyes have seen your salvation,
2:31 which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
2:32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”
2:33 And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.
2:34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed
2:35 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”
2:36 There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage,
2:37 then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day.

2:38 At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

2:39 When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

2:40 The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Title

Associate Pastor, Charla Belinksi

Pastoral Prayer

Prayers of the People

Debbie Shore, Reader

Offertory

Carol of the Tiny Child

Don Besig & Nancy Price

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Him all creatures here below

Praise Him above ye heav'nly host

Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

Amen

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Thomas Ken

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Communion

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion Hymn

What Child Is This (Greensleeves)

Verse 1

What Child is this who laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping
Whom angels greet with anthems
sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping
This this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels
sing
Haste haste to bring Him laud
The Babe the Son of Mary

Verse 2

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding
Good Christian fear for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading
This this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels
sing
Haste haste to bring Him laud
The Babe the Son of Mary
(Instrument interlude)
This this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels
sing

Haste haste to bring Him laud
The Babe the Son of Mary

Verse 3

So bring Him incense gold and myrrh
Come peasant king to own Him
The King of kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone Him
This this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels
sing
Haste haste to bring Him laud
The Babe the Son of Mary

CCLI Song # 30983

Unknown | William Chatterton Dix

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Back Talk

Closing Prayer

May this holy season be for each of us
a time of moving beyond what is “reasonable”
and toward the star of wonder;
moving beyond grasping tight to what we have
to unclenching our hands and letting go,
following the Light where it leads;
moving beyond competition toward cooperation,
seeing that all humans are sisters and brothers;
moving beyond the anxiety of small concerns
towards the joys of justice and peace.
May we always be open to the unexpected flash of Grace,
to the showing forth of that Love that embraces us all. **Amen.**

– Adapted from “Blessings and Benedictionse,” by W.L. Wallace

Blessing

Postlude

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen

Our love in action now begins...

Our Sunday School is next...

This Sunday's Special Music is brought to you by Michael Schoepe.