



## The Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday, December 20, 2020

**Invitation to Worship** ..... Christian Johns, Youth Minister

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

~Luke 2:13-14

**Instrumental Prelude** ..... Kathleen Wilkins & Joseph Fuller

### *Lighting the Fourth Candle of Advent*

Jim & Eddie Nelson

#### ***Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming***

Suzanne Gregory, Soloist

**Morning Prayer**

**Song of Joy**

#### ***It Came Upon the Midnight Clear***

It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth,  
To touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
From heaven's all gracious King,”  
The world in solemn stillness lay,  
To hear the angels sing.

All ye, beneath life's crushing load,  
Whose forms are bending low,  
Who toil along the climbing way,  
With painful steps and slow,  
Look now! for glad and golden hours  
Come swiftly on the wing:  
O rest beside the weary road,  
And hear the angels sing.

For lo! The days are hastening on,  
By prophet bards foretold,  
When with the ever-circling years  
Comes round the age of gold;  
When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendors fling,

And the whole world give back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

**Words of Welcome**..... Greg Stahl, Assoc Pastor for Worship & Music

**Choral Worship** ..... ROBC Choral Ensemble

***Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child***

Traditional spiritual arranged by Lloyd Larson

**Carols of Celebration**

**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**

Good Christian friends, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ was 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:  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door,  
And we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

***He Is Born***

***Chorus:***

He is born, the divine Christ Child;  
Play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!  
He is born, the divine Christ 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!

***Chorus***

Jesus, Lord of all the world,  
Coming as a Child among us;  
Jesus, Lord of all the world,

Grant to us Thy heavenly peace.

**Chorus**

***Away in a Manger***

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 Baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky  
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.

**Pastoral Prayer** ..... Dr. Brian Brewer, Interim Pastor

**Song of Hope**

***O Little Town of Bethlehem***

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.

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 the earth!

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.

**Message in Song** ..... Gabrielle Reed, Soloist

***Gesu Bambino***

**Sermon** ..... Dr. Brian Brewer, Interim Pastor

***The Christmas Surprise***

**Luke 2:1-14**

**Closing Song**

***Emmanuel***

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel;  
God with us, revealed in us; His name is called Emmanuel.

**Benediction** ..... Dr. Brewer