



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ

Worship ~ 2nd Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 5, 2021

Pastor: Bruce Farrell
Ministers: All the Faithful Members

1588 Mount Zion Road, Lebanon, PA 17046 717-865-3286 www.ziongosherts.org

The Children's Christmas Program

Opening Prayer

Pastor Farrell

THE MEANING OF THIS SERVICE

Family: Cameron and Kaydon

O Come All You Faithful

**O come all you faithful, joyful and triumphant. O come you, O come you 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 you citizens of heav'n 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.

For You alone are worthy. For You alone are worthy. For You alone are worthy, Christ the Lord.

We'll praise Your Name forever. We'll praise Your Name forever. We'll praise Your Name forever, Christ the Lord.
(Sing the last stanza twice: first time a cappella.)

LESSONS OF CHRISTMAS

Family: Myla and Kelcy

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

**Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all you nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**

Refrain: *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. [Refrain]**

SANCTUARY EVERGREENS

Family: Jack and Harper and Jason (guitar)

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Refrain: **Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills, and ev'rywhere;
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. [Refrain]**

**The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. [Refrain]**

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

THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Family: Jeremiah and Juliette, Jason and Jessica

O Christmas Tree

**O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, how green Your branches ever!
You still are green when summer wanes and wintry winds sweep o'er the plains.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree, how green Your branches ever!**

**O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree! You have a wondrous message:
You do proclaim the Savior's birth, good will to all and peace on earth.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree! You have a wondrous message.**

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA

Family: Joanna and Jeannie

Beautiful Star of Bethlehem

**¹ O beautiful Star of Bethlehem shining afar through shadows dim,
Giving a light for those who long have gone and guiding the wise men on their way
Unto the place where Jesus lay. Beautiful Star of Bethlehem shine on.**

Chorus **O beautiful Star of Bethlehem shine upon us until the glory dawn.
O give us Thy light to light the way into the land of perfect day.
Beautiful Star of Bethlehem shine on.**

**² O beautiful Star, the hope of light, guiding the pilgrim through the night
Over the mountain 'til the break of dawn and into the light of perfect day
It will give out a lovely ray. Beautiful Star of Bethlehem shine on.** *Chorus*

**³ O beautiful Star, the hope of rest for the redeemed, the good and blest,
Yonder in glory when the crown is won for Jesus is now that Star divine
Brighter and brighter He will shine. Beautiful Star of Bethlehem shine on.** *Chorus*

THE PARAMENTS: ADVENT COLORS

Family: Kacy and Tracy

Dance: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

THE ADVENT WREATH

Family: Bill and Betty

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

**Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown, when Thou camest to earth for me;
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room for Thy holy nativity.
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for Thee.**

**When the heavens shall ring and the angels sing, at Thy coming to victory,
Let Thy voice call me home, saying "Yet there is room, there is room at My side for thee."
My heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus, when Thou comest and callest for me.**

THE NATIVITY

Family: Blake and Trevor, Kevin and Amanda

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.**

**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 GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS

Family: Tim and Hailey

We Three Kings

Men's Trio

The children bring gifts to put under the tree

THE BELLS OF CHRISTMAS

Family: Josh and Owen, Brian and Rebecca

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

**I heard the bells on Christmas day – their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat of “Peace on earth, good-will to men”.**

**And in despair I bowed my head, "There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good-will to men.**

**Then pealed the bells more loud and deep, "God is not dead, nor does He sleep";
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on earth, good-will to men.**

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Family: Olly and Mara, Joe and Rachel

Angels We Have Heard on High ~ carolers in the congregation

**Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.**

Refrain: ***Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!***

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say, What may the tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?" [Refrain]**

**Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing.
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King. [Refrain]**

THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS

Family: Madison and Michelle

ADVENT CREDO

Leader: Gloria

Leader: It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss –

People: This is true: For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.

Leader: It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction.

People: This is true: I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.

Leader: It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, that war and destruction rule forever –

People: This is true: unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder. His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of Peace.

Leader: It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world –

People: This is true: To Me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo, I am with you, even until the end of the world.

Leader: It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the Church before we can be peacemakers –

People: This is true: I will pour out My spirit on all flesh, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions and your old men shall have dreams.

Leader: It is not true that our hopes for liberation of humankind, of justice, of human dignity of peace are not meant for this earth and for this history –

People: This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that the true worshipers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.

Pastor: So, let us spend Advent in hope, even hope against hope. Let us see visions of love and peace and justice. Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage: Jesus Christ – the life of the world.

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

**¹ Lift up your heads, O mighty gates: behold, the King of Glory waits!
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.**

**² Fling wide the portals of your heart: make it a temple set apart
from earthly use for heav'n's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.**

**³ Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to You: here, Lord, abide!
Let me Your inner presence feel: Your grace and love in me reveal.**

**⁴ So come, my Sovereign, enter in! Let new and nobler life begin!
Your Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.**

CLOSING PRAYER and BLESSING

Pastor Farrell

When the set time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman ...
that we might receive adoption as His children.
Because you are His children, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts,
the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."
So you are no longer a slave, but God's child;
and since you are His child, God has made you also an heir.

Galatians 4:4-7

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE

Thanks

Many thanks to Gloria who coordinated this year's Children's Christmas Program.

Citations for Worship 2021.12.5

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Bratcher, Dennis. **Hangin' of the Christmas Green ~ A Service for the Beginning of Advent** © 2018 CRI/VOICE Institute.

Boesak, Allan. Advent Credo found in *Walking on Thorns*. Eerdmans, 2004.

John 3:16, 10:10; Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 28:18-20; Joel 2:28/Acts 2:17; John 4:23

O Come All Ye Faithful. Words and TUNE: ADESTES FIDELES John Frances Wade (1743).

Hark the Herald Angels Sing. Words: Charles Wesley. TUNE: MENDELSSOHN (51171) Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1840).

Go Tell it on the Mountain. African American Spiritual.

O Christmas Tree. Words: H. Brueckner (1926). TUNE: O TANNENBAUM Traditional German melody.

Beautiful Star of Bethlehem. Adger McDavid Pace | R. Fisher Boyce. Words and music: © 1940. Renewed 1967 James D. Vaughan, Music Publisher (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.). CCLI Song # 128709. CCLI License # 2731364. Streaming Plus license # 21073347

O Come, O Come Emmanuel. Words: Latin, 2nd century. Tr: J.M. Neale (1851). TUNE: VENI EMMANUEL French professional 15th century.

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne. Words: Emily S. Elliot (1864). TUNE MARGARET Timothy R. Matthews (1876).

O Little Town of Bethlehem. Words: Phillips Brooks (1868). TUNE: ST. LOUIS Lewis H. Redner (1868).

We Three Kings. Words and TUNE: KINGS OF ORIENT. John H. Hopkins.

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day. Words: Henry W. Longfellow (1864). TUNE; WALTHAM John Baptiste Calkin (1872).

Angels We Have Heard on High. GLORIA: Traditional French Carol 18th century.

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates. Words: Psalm 24: 7-10, George Weissel (c. 1625), Tr. Catherine Winkworth (1860). TUNE: TRURO Thomas Williams Psalmodia Evangelica (1789).