

Armstrong Chapel — December 24, 2024 — 8:00pm



Behold the King of Angels

Moment of Meditation:

Advent is a season of four weeks, which calls the community of faith to prepare once again to celebrate, by Word and Spirit, the birth of Christ. Advent is from the Latin "adventus," meaning "coming." Jesus is the King of Angels, born to set His people free and whose coming again in victory, we anticipate as a future reality of the fullness of God's Kingdom.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Once in Royal David's City -Ledger
Maddie Davis, Soloist

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

written by Rev. Nathan Decker

LEADER: Shepherds stood guard, marveled and said:

PEOPLE: **Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

Leader: Angels sang to calm your cries.

PEOPLE: **Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

LEADER: And all the world gave a great shout:

PEOPLE: **Welcome, Lord Jesus!**

*HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
#240

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 th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King!"

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 th' incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born 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 new born King!"

Words: Charles Wesley (1758)

Music: Felix Mendelssohn (1840)

Arranger: William H. Cummings (1856)

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Kent & Maureen Smith

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-20 (RSV)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day



... there was no room
for them in the inn.

Luke 2:7, KJV

Armstrong Chapel — December 24, 2024 — 8:00pm

in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe
wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

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 among all
with whom God is pleased!”

When the angels went away from them into heaven,
the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to
Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened,
which the Lord has made known to us.” And they
went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the
babe lying in a manger. And when they saw it they
made known the saying which had been told them
concerning this child; and all who heard it wondered
at what the shepherds told them. But Mary kept all
these things, pondering them in her heart. And the
shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all
they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

SPECIAL MUSIC *Ding Dong! Merrily on High* -Paulus



CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Brent L. White

Almighty God, our light shining in the darkness: we
give you our thanks and praise that the light of your
love came into the world in the person of your Son
Jesus—God from God, light from light, true God from
true God. Through your Son you created everything
that is, seen and unseen; through your Son you gave
us life; and through your Son you gave eternal life to
all who would believe in him. This is good news.
Indeed, this is “good news of great joy,” the best
news of all.

For those of us who have grown so familiar with this
news that it begins to sound like old news, stir within
our hearts a renewed sense of wonder. Astonish us
with the gift of your love. Kindle hearts that have
grown cold. Help us to feel within our innermost

being these “good tidings of great joy,” that unto us is
born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is
Christ the Lord.”

Humble us, like those shepherds abiding in the field.
We have nothing to offer you; we possess nothing
that you need; we have no gift to give you that pays
you back for the gift that you give us. We are standing
in need of your mercy, forgiveness, and grace. And
yet, you brought your good news to us; you invited us
to celebrate your coming; you made a way for us to
become your children.

Enable us to share this news with others through
word and deed, that the whole world may experience
this good news for themselves and be transformed by
it. We pray this in the name of the one whose coming
we celebrate and who taught us to pray in this way,
saying:

**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.**

SPECIAL MUSIC *Candlelight Carol* -Rutter

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 9:3, 6-7 (NRSVUE)

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined...

⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Great will be his authority,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

Armstrong Chapel — December 24, 2024 — 8:00pm

GIVING

Sussex Carol -arr Perry
Megan Schneider, soloist

RESPONSE

In the Bleak Midwinter
221, Vs 4

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Words: Christina G. Rossetti (1872)
Music: Gustav Holst (1906)

*AFFIRMATION OF CHRISTMAS

adapted from a writing by Bruce Prewer

**The one clear revelation of God
is Jesus Christ,
the Word of God incarnate,
in whom all things were made;
to whom the Holy Spirit bears witness;
through the Holy Scriptures,
which are received and obeyed;
the gift of God's grace;
our light and hope...**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Fum, Fum, Fum -Wilberg

MESSAGE

Angelic Night
Rev. David Brown

SPECIAL MUSIC

In Dulci Jubilo -Pearsall

PASSING OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

The ushers will share the light from the Christ Candle. Allow the person with the lit candle to hold theirs upright. Tip the unlit candle and receive the light. Following the last verse please extinguish the candles. Please assist children that are participating.



HYMNS

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks
#236, UMH

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around, and glory shone around.

"Fear not!" said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind.

"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to all of humankind, to all of humankind.

"To you, in David's town, this day
is born of David's line
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord,
and this shall be the sign, and this shall be the sign:

"The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid, and in a manger laid."

Author: Nahum Tate (1700)
Composer: G. F. Handel (1728)

Sing We Now of Christmas
#237, UMH

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel, sing we here!
Hear our grateful praises to the babe so dear.

Refrain:

Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

Angels called to shepherds,
"Leave your flocks at rest,
journey forth to Bethlehem, find the child so blest."
(Refrain)

In Bethlehem they found him;
Joseph and Mary mild,
seated by the manger, watching the holy child. (Refrain)
Text: Traditional French Carol
Music Harmonizer Martin Shaw (1928)

Silent Night, Holy Night
#239, UMH

Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin
mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!

Armstrong Chapel — December 24, 2024 — 8:00pm

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light;
radiant beams from thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night,
wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!

Words: Joseph Mohr, 1818
Music: Franz Gruber, 1818

... and you shall call his name
Jesus for he will save his
people from their sins.
Matthew 1:21, ESV



BENEDICTION

written by Jeanyne Slettom

Come to us, Lord Jesus,
Be born in us this night,
in our hearts, our minds, our lives.
May the songs of angels be kindled in us,
And lead us to the shining truth,
of God with us, God for us, God dwelling in us.
Amen.

**Stand as you are able*

Greeters: Jim and Molly Barber
Pastor: Rev. David Brown
Organist/Pianist: Stacy Haney
Choral Director: Ben Basone
Musicians: Ryan Donohue, cello
Morrigan O'Brien, flute

Peace
* on *
earth

SPECIAL MUSIC *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*-Kile


ATTENDANCE



GIVING



A Welcoming Community Alive in Serving Christ

Stay connected with  **Armstrong**
CHAPEL United Methodist Church
5125 Drake Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45243
513-561-4220
acumc@armstrongchapel.org

Follow us on...    **armstrongchapel.org**

Rev. David Brown, Lead Pastor
Amy Voss, Director of Preschool
Rev. Elizabeth Brown, Congregational Care Pastor
Shanon Rice, Director of Digital Communications

Armstrong Chapel — December 24, 2024 — 8:00pm



Poinsettias

IN MEMORY OF...

My Husband, Tom Ader given by Sandy Ader
Our Parents, Wayne and Virginia Brown, and Bud and Vinnie Ader given by Sandy Ader
Domenic and Lillian Affatato given by Andre and Jeanie Affatato
Our Parents: Ben and Dorcas Basone, and Jack and Mary Shiverdecker given by Ben and Darlene Basone
Our Parents given by Barbara Bell and Victor Rodriguez
Nancy H. Stafford, Barbara's Aunt; and Ernestine R. Guzman, Victor's Sister given by Barbara Bell and Victor Rodriguez
Parents, Johna and Pearl Brown, and Sarah and Rev. William Maher given by Pastors David and Elizabeth Brown
Gil and Anne Davies, Elizabeth's Grandparents given by Pastors David and Elizabeth Brown
Lisa's Parents, Frank and Doreene Cleveland given by Mike and Lisa Sylvester
Our Parents, Walter and Lillian Eberle and Charles Benishek given by Jim and Beth Eberle
My Parents and Grandparents given by Elizabeth Hackman
Corey Hamilton, Son; and George and Gladys Nickles, Parents given by Ann Hamilton
Mary Blair Hamm given by James, Vicki, Jim and Vera Hamm
My Husband, Dr. Ronald K. Irvin; and Our Parents given by Marlene Irvin
Hannah Asbury Krehbiel and Penelope Claire Krehbiel (Poppy), our dear granddaughters who will be forever in our hearts given by Dr. and Mrs. Richard Jackson
My Wife, Coleen Lowe given by G. Franklin Lowe, MD
Our Parents, Si and BJ Nielsen and Agnes Lucien given by Ted and Molly Lucien
Wayne McShay given by McShay Family
Greg Bailey given by McShay Family
Treva Miles given by Alan Miles
Parents and Grandparents given by Galen and Shannon Mills
Niki's Father, William Lundquist given by Bill and Niki Mitchell
Our Parents and Grandparents given by Chip and Robin Nielsen
My Mother, Becky Patterson given by Ginger Patterson
Nelle and Bob Quisno, Carol's Parents given by Jim and Carol Pearce
Louise and Jim Pearce, Sr., Jim's Parents given by Jim and Carol Pearce
Ralph F. Lewis, Husband given by Charlene Pfingstag Lewis
My Parents, Dr. Charles W. Simons DDS and Helen Simons given by Charlene Pfingstag Lewis
Jim Porter, Husband, Father and Grandfather given by Sue Porter and Family

Our Parents, Barbara and Joe Eveland and Eppa Rixey III; and Loved Ones given by Eppa and Buffie Rixey
Jim and Jill Sauter given by The Sauter Family
Irv Scharfenberger, Husband given by Shirley Scharfenberger
Jack and Ouida Scholtz given by John and Denise Scholtz
Our Parents, Virgil and Mary Steier, and Burt and Rita Lowe given by Gary and Martha Steier
Son, Michael Sylvester; and Granddaughter, Addy Sylvester given by Mike and Lisa Sylvester
Ronald F. Walker given by Brenda Walker
Wyatt and Behrle Families given by Brenda Walker
Karl and Lois Brown, Jan Warden, Tom and Rose Topping, and Ryan Barnes given by Jon and Karol Warden

IN HONOR OF...

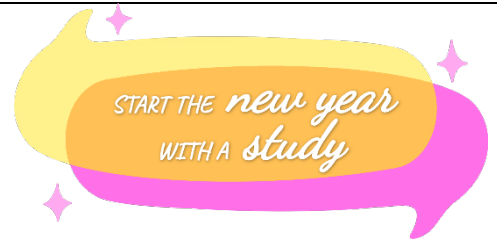
Tom and Ruth Brock given by Andre and Jeanie Affatato
Our Family given by Jim and Molly Barber
William H. Stafford and Kimbrough B. Polinsky, Barbara's Uncle and Niece given by Barbara Bell and Victor Rodriguez
My Children, Lauren, Trey, and Holly given by Lisa Dayton
Our Grandchildren: Lilly, Ben, Josie, Emmie, Jake, and Maggie Eberle given by Jim and Beth Eberle
Pastor David and our Church Staff given by Chris and Jennifer Hamilton
James L. Hamm given by Vicki, Jim and Vera Hamm
Our Children and Grandchildren given by Dr. and Mrs. Richard Jackson
Our Dedicated Pastors and Staff at Armstrong Chapel given by Dr. and Mrs. Richard Jackson
Our Children and Grandchildren, Mike, Janet, Vivi, Scott, Courtney, and Jay Lucien given by Ted and Molly Lucien
Loved Ones given by Galen and Shannon Mills
Our Children and Grandchildren given by Chip and Robin Nielsen
Our Dear Family: Carol, Ellie and Jack Sullivan; Sarah, JP, Caroline, Molly and Towner Pharr; Eppa (Quint), Maggie and Nancy Rixey; and Nancy Gottschalk and Loved Ones given by Eppa and Buffie Rixey
Our Beautiful Family Past and Present given by John and Denise Scholtz
Our Children and Grandchildren, Tyler, Heidi, Micah, Ryan, Emily, Wally, and Margot given by Gary and Martha Steier
Ella Brown Jordan given by Jon and Karol Warden
Our Grandchildren, Paul, Anna, and Grace Stanek given by Andy and Julie Webster
Ben Basone and the Armstrong Chapel Choir given by Andy and Julie Webster

Armstrong Chapel — December 24, 2024 — 8:00pm

WOMEN'S STUDIES

ArmstrongChapel.org/womenunited

- **Mondays at 9:30am** in the Armstrong Room. New study begins 1/13. *Untangling Faith—Reclaiming Hope in the Questions Jesus Asked*. Have you ever felt you struggled to find your faith footing? Author Amberly Neese explores the questions Jesus asked as a way to reclaim that faith. Chapters include our own questions like “Can God be trusted?” and “How can I grow in faith?” Led by Sue Porter and Serena Tsuang.
- **Mondays at 6:30pm** at Panera in Mariemont. New 12-week study begins 1/27. *Through the Desert: A Study on God's Faithfulness* by Lina AbuJamra helps us find water for our souls. Whether you're navigating through spiritual deserts or seeking a clearer understanding of God's faithfulness, this experience will awaken your Spirit and draw you closer to God. Join us as we journey through the desert with Abraham, the Israelites, John the Baptist, and Jesus. Along the way, we discover that our own deserts offer gifts of mercy, purpose, and spiritual abundance. Led by Victoria Rhodus. To get your book with video access, please call (513) 379-5187.
- **Tuesdays at 9:45am** at the home of Julie Holland. New Study begins 1/14.
- **Thursdays at 6:30am** in the Armstrong Room. Starting William Barclay's *Gospel of Mark*. Led by Jan Bell and Pam Westrup.



MEN'S STUDIES

ArmstrongChapel.org/men

- **Friday Morning Bible Study:** Verse-by-verse study of scripture (currently in 1 Timothy) led by Pastor David Brown. Fridays at 7:00am in the Armstrong Room and via Zoom.
- **Burgers, Brews & the Bible:** 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:00pm at 50 West Burger Bar. Continuing to study 1 Corinthians. Led by Gordon Miller. Arrive at 6:30 if you plan to eat.
- **715BC:** Breakfast Wednesdays at 7:15am at the National Exemplar in Mariemont. Led by Bill Woodward.

