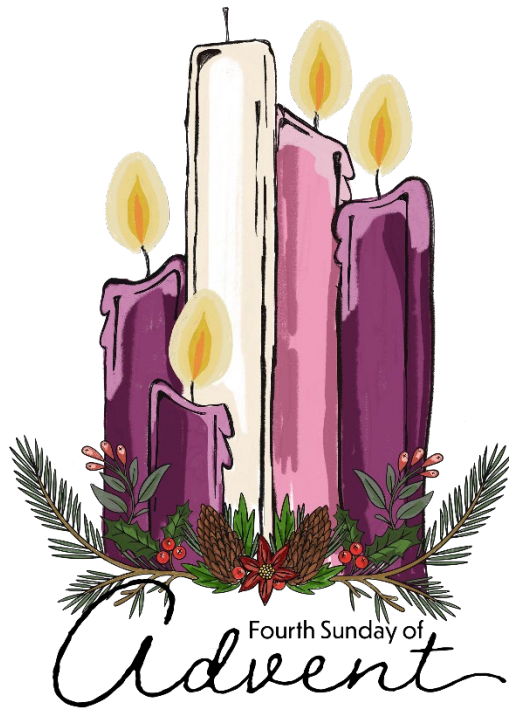


Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—December 22, 2024



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.

PRELUDE

Ding Dong! Merrily on High
Stacy Haney & Lynne Miller

CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from a writing by Rev Mindi

LEADER: By the tender mercy of our God,
PEOPLE: Give light to those who sit in darkness and
in the shadow of death.
LEADER: Guide our feet into the way of peace.
PEOPLE: Come, let us worship and be ready.

*HYMN

Angels from the Realms of Glory
#220, UMH

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o’er all the earth;
ye who sang creation’s story
now proclaim Messiah’s birth:

Refrain:

*Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.*

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o’er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light: [Refrain]

Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star: [Refrain]

Saints, before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear;
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear: [Refrain]

Text: James Montgomery (1816)

Music: Henry T. Smart (1867)

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 80:3-7 (NRSVUE)

³ Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

⁴ O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people’s prayers?

⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

⁶ You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

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

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

TIME SINGING OUR FAVORITE HYMNS—8:20am

TIME WITH CHILDREN—9:40am

HYMN

Emmanuel, Emmanuel
#204, UMH

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

Words & Music: Bob McGee (1976)

© 1976 C.A. Music (div. of Christian Artists Corp.)

PASTORAL PRAYER

Adapted from writings by Margaret Gay MacKinnon Godfrey and Laura Jaquith Bartlett

Trusting in the steadfast love of the Lord, let us pray
for the fulfillment of God’s promises, saying:
Emmanuel, come; O come and save us.

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We pray for the church...

Teach us to follow Christ our Lord, who offered himself as a sacrifice of praise and sought to do your will in all things.

Emmanuel, come; O come and save us.

We pray for the world...

Lift up those who are poor and vulnerable; cast down those who are mighty and proud. Show us all the power of your saving grace.

Emmanuel, come; O come and save us.

We pray for this community...

Help us to stand with those who are in trouble, feeding the hungry and strengthening the weak, so that all may live in peace and safety.

Emmanuel, come; O come and save us.

We pray for loved ones...

Look with love on all who need your care. Dry the tears of those who mourn and fill the empty with your blessing.

Emmanuel, come; O come and save us.

Come quickly, Emmanuel, in power and glory, to establish your realm of justice and peace; and make us ready, on the day of redemption, to stand before you, our Savior and Lord.

Hear our silent prayers... (silent prayers)

Teach us to pray:

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.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Share the good news with one another:

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

HYMN

Emmanuel, Emmanuel
#204, UMH

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

Words & Music: Bob McGee (1976)
© 1976 C.A. Music (div. of Christian Artists Corp.)

GIVING

*RESPONSE

#95, UMH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.



*It is by God's
will that we have
been sanctified
through the
offering of
the body of
Jesus Christ...*

Hebrews 10:10, NRSV

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 10:10 (NRSVUE)

¹⁰ And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Angel's Offering
Rev. David W. Brown

*HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High
#238, UMH

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

Refrain:

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song? (Refrain)

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Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)

See him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while our hearts in love we raise. (Refrain)

Text: Traditional French carol; trans. Crown of Jesus, 1852, alt.

Music: Edward Shippen Barnes (1937)

Harmonizer: Austin C. Lovelace (1964)

Harm. © 1964 Abingdon Press

BENEDICTION

Written by Rev. Mindi

The words from the angels ring true for us today. God continually enters our world and our lives because God desires reconciliation, reparation, and restoration. Hear this good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only One, the precious Son, so that whoever believes will have eternal life. Know this in your heart: you are loved. You are redeemed. You are worthy. You are the good news the world needs, because Christ lives in you. Go and share the good news.

In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.
AMEN

**Stand as you are able*

Liturgist at 8:20 – Greg Bailie

Lighting the Advent Candle at 8:20 – Alan & Susan Stuart

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given by the Thompson family in loving memory of Janice Hall Thompson for her birthday.

Liturgist at 9:40 – Beth Eberle

Lighting the Advent Candle at 9:40 – Jane Florer

Greeters at 9:40 – Dottie Wakefield, Victoria & Mark Rhodus

Choir at 9:40 – Away in a Manger; Christmas Daybreak



Gather for coffee and treats in the Atrium following the 9:40 service!

REGISTER YOUR
ATTENDANCE



ONLINE
GIVING



Tuesday, December 24

5:00pm & 8:00pm in the Sanctuary

11:00pm in the Old Chapel

Come behold the King of Angels! All services will be filled with carols and candlelight as we share in the celebration of the birth of Christ.

The 8pm service will be livestreamed.

Childcare for ages 4 and under at 5pm.

Combined Services at 10:00am only in the Sanctuary on December 29

No Children's Classes. Childcare provided for ages 4 and under.



A Welcoming Community Alive in Serving Christ

Stay connected with

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Follow us on...

armstrongchapel.org



Rev. David Brown, Lead Pastor

Amy Voss, Director of Preschool

Rev. Elizabeth Brown, Congregational Care Pastor