

Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—December 14, 2025



And His Name Shall be Called

Our Advent theme this year will feature the four prophetic names of Jesus given by the prophet Isaiah 9:6 – Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace – and experience the inspiration they provided for the English language oratorio composed in 1741 in London England by George Frideric Handel that we know as Handel's *Messiah*.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

inspired by Isaiah 9 & Colossians 1

Leader: We proclaim the redemption of Israel and all creation in the "Everlasting Father."

People: **Sing praise to God!**

Leader: For by Christ all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible ... all things were created through him and for him.

People: **Behold the wonder of God's creation!**

Leader: And Christ is before all things, and in him all things hold together!

People: **Rejoice in the Maker of heaven and earth!**

*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)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed* #881

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Universal

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 80: 3, 7 & 19 (NIV)

³ Restore us, God Almighty;
make your face shine on us,
that we may be saved.

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

Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—December 14, 2025

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

SINGING OUR FAVORITE HYMNS—8:20AM

TIME WITH THE 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.)

CELEBRATION OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM—9:40am



Reid Lee Cooke

Son of James & Lauren Cooke

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that this child, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Adapted from *The National Council of Churches for Christ*

Father, we know that we have broken your laws, and our sins have separated us from you and one another.
May we know that you are ever faithful and wonderful... [silent prayer]

We are truly sorry, and now we want to turn away from our past sinful life and once again turn toward you. Please forgive us. **May we know that you are ever faithful and wonderful...** [silent prayer]

We believe that your Son, Jesus Christ, died for the sins of the whole world, was resurrected from the dead, is alive, and hears our prayer. We invite Jesus to become the Lord of our life, to rule and reign in our hearts from this day forward. **May we know that you are ever faithful and wonderful...** [silent prayer]

Please send your Holy Spirit to lead us in obedience and to do Your will. We pray all of these things through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray, 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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Offer the peace of Christ by saying:

The peace of Christ be with you.

Respond: 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.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 11:2-6 (NRSVUE)

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

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

MESSAGE *Hearing from Prison*
Rev. David W. Brown

Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—December 14, 2025

*HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem
#230 UMH

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 on 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.

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!

Text: Phillips Brooks (ca. 1868)
& Music: Lewis H. Redner (1868)

BENEDICTION

Loving Father, the greatness of Your eternal majesty is only equaled by Your gracious love and support to Your children. Thank You that You are our refuge and strength amidst all the storms of life. Uphold us with Your righteous hand, and may we find rest for our souls in Your everlasting arms.

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

*POSTLUDE

**Stand in body or in spirit*

Liturgist at 8:20 – Carol Ney

Lighting the Advent Candle at 8:20 – David & Christina Valentine

Liturgist at 9:40 – Shelley Bamberger

Lighting the Advent Candle at 9:40 – Chester Imhausen & Jane Florer

Greeters at 9:40 – Charlene Pfingstag Lewis and Martha and Gary Steier

Armstrong Bell Choir at 9:40 – directed by Chester Imhausen

<i>Prelude</i>	<i>Angel Songs</i>	<i>-Larson</i>
<i>Offertory</i>	<i>Lullay, Thou Son of Mary</i>	<i>-Shenenberger</i>
	<i>Sofia Karacostas, Flute Soloist</i>	

The Bell Choir will play at 4:00pm this afternoon at the Twin Lakes Chapel.

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



REGISTER YOUR
ATTENDANCE



ONLINE
GIVING



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

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

Armstrong Chapel Worship Resource—December 14, 2025



Holiday Concert

Armstrong Chancel Choir & Local Musicians

December 21

at 7:00 PM
Main Sanctuary

Handel's
Messiah Part I

Share as this group brings to life one of the most cherished and timeless musical celebrations of faith. This special performance captures the wonder of the season and the story of Christ's birth through glorious harmonies and uplifting orchestration.

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors for an unforgettable evening filled with the beauty and hope.

FREE Concert!

More Information: www.armstrongchapel.org

IPM Food Pantry's **CHRISTMAS TOY STORE**



Help our mission partner, Inter Parish Ministry, this Holiday season as they give toys and gifts to 500 families in need!

New, unopened toys and gifts should be brought in by TODAY. The first set of Atrium doors are always open – you may place items between the doors through tonight.



RIVER'S EDGE
BRASS BAND

Monday **DECEMBER 15** 7:00 pm



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

And His Name Shall be Called...Isaiah 9:6

All services will be filled with carols and candlelight as we share in the celebration of the birth of Christ.

Tuesday, December 23

7:00pm in the Worship Center

Wednesday, December 24

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

11:00pm in the Old Chapel

The 8pm service will be livestreamed on our website.
Childcare provided for ages 4 and under at 5pm.