

# THE WORSHIP OF THE LORD

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

## GATHERING MUSIC

### CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

Worship begins with the Voluntary. Please use this time to enjoy the sacred music and to prepare your heart and mind for an encounter with God.

### VOLUNTARY

*Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne*.....arr. Fred Bock  
Clyde Patterson

### WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Rev. J. Kenneth Byrd, Jr.

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us begin this day by rejoicing! The Lord has done such wonderful things for us. Let us be glad! The day before us is uncertain. We know not what we will encounter on our way. Wherever we go, we go forth as people of the living God, and we go forth to touch the lives of all with his healing touch. Let us begin this day with rejoicing, and return to our homes with gladness! **Amen!**

### THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Randy & Brenda Viverette

### \*RESPONSE

The Candle of Joy

### \*CAROL OF PRAISE NO. 85

*The First Nowell*.....THE FIRST NOWELL

### Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Ross Strickland

### INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*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.*

### \*OFFERTORY CAROL NO. 83

*Arise, Your Light Is Come*.....FESTAL SONG

### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Linda Cooper

### \*A DOXOLOGY NO. 253.....THE FIRST NOWELL

### A TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Byrd

### CONGREGATIONAL CHORUS NO. 106

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*.....W ZLOBIE LEZY

### JOYS/CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Byrd

### GOSPEL READING: Luke 1:46b-55 (The Magnificat)

### A CALL TO PRAYER AND PASTORAL PRAYER

Litany

Voice 1: Advent calls us to joyful anticipation of the Messiah, but sometimes joy is lacking.

**Voice 2: Restore us, O God.**

Voice 1: When our delight is overshadowed by worry and fear,

**Voice 2: Restore us, O God.**

Voice 1: When problems loom large and solutions are elusive,

**Voice 2: Restore us, O God.**

Voice 1: When relationships are painful and hurt results,

**Voice 2: Restore us, O God.**

Voice 1: When busyness and activity crowd out what is meaningful and important,

**Voice 2: Restore us, O God.**

Voice 1: When life feels tedious, and the waiting drags on,

**Voice 2: Restore us, O God.**

Voice 1: When disappointments mount and disillusionment descends,

**Voice 2: Restore us, O God.**

Voice 1: Joy to the world! The light of the world is coming!

**Voice 2: Restore to us, O God, the joy of your salvation!**

### WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC

*Cannon in D with Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*.....arr. Surles/Pittman  
Tim Surles and Blaine Pittman

### SHARING IN GOD'S WORD

***Time in a Bottle: A God of Restoration!***

*Psalm 126*

Rev. Byrd

### \*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO.524

*We're Marching to Zion (stanzas 1 and 4)*.....MARCHING TO ZION

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Be people of joy.

Let joy live in your heart and share the joy of Christ with all you meet.

Share joy by seeing the good in each other.

Share joy by remembering good times and hoping for good times to come.

Share joy by praying for our world.

In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share joy.

As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share joy, peace, and hope with those you meet.

**AMEN.**

### \*RESPONSE NO. 76

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel refrain*..... VENI EMMANUEL

### \*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

### \*POSTLUDE

*The First Nowell*.....THE FIRST NOWELL  
Karen Sawyer

*\*Congregation stands, who are able*

All scripture readings are from *The Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version.*

### The Ministry of Worship

Rev. J. Kenneth Byrd, Jr., Pastor

Blaine Pittman, Director of Music & Education

Clyde Patterson, Organist

Karen Sawyer, Church Musician

## Today

Deacons: Ross Strickland & Linda Cooper  
Children's Church: Kelle Joyner  
Nursery & Toddlers: Nancy Machuca

## 2023 Financial Summary for 50 Weeks

Financial information is not shared online.

## Member Prayer Request

Tim Bartholomew	Annie Jackson	Claudia Mull
Wilbur Batchelor	Eric Jeffreys	Donald Parker
Patsy Carty	Sue Jenkins	John Scheipers
Weedie Hayes	Dot Morris	Jeremy Winstead
Herbert Hopkins		

## Prayer on Behalf of Members

Ella Ames	Annette Carrico	Maryanne Davis Powell
Harrison Barnett	John Chamblee	Louise Ramsey
Mark Bruehl	Rudy Frazier	Family of
Gail Bunting	Joey Garrell	Macon Robertson
Gerald Butler	Gerald Hale	David Sawyer
Pam Butler	Kevin Hinsdale	Edith Skinner
John Byrd	Linda Jernigan	Janie Weaver
Veda Byrd	Family of John Joyce	Trudy Womack
Brenda Caldwell		

## Card Ministry to the Homebound



2024 Offering Envelopes  
are available now  
in the Fellowship Hall.

*The Nashville Baptist Church Music Ministry*  
*Presents the 3rd Annual*

# Christmas Worship Concert

This Evening | AT 6:00 PM

Join us for a night of worship through music as we celebrate Christ's birth. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

## NBC Angel Tree for Autumn Care

Gifts are due TODAY or make a financial donation towards purchasing gifts marked "Missions".

A photograph of a Christmas tree decorated with lights and ornaments, with a white angel figurine in the foreground.

A photograph of a white Christmas card with a red ribbon and the text "Merry Christmas!" on a gold background.

A graphic with a dark background and a gold circle containing the text "LONGEST Night SERVICE".

Thursday 12.21.23 6:00 p.m.

## Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 24, 2023 5:30 p.m.

An illustration of three white binder rings.

A photograph of a bar of soap and bottles of shampoo and body wash.

A photograph of a glass bottle with a gold alarm clock inside it, surrounded by a decorative border of holly leaves and berries.