Gathering and Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.
Let us worship God.

Hymn No. 240  “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  MENDELSSOHN
(stand as directed)

Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, off-spring of the Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! hail th’incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with man to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

Mild he lays his glory by born that man no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Ris’n with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,
hail, the Sun of Righteousness! hail,
the heav’n born Prince of Peace!
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!

Lighting the Third Advent Candle of Joy (remain standing)
John & Sarah Inzetta

The wilderness will dance
and the dry places will sing praises to God.

When we see the glory of the Lord revealed,
we will be strengthened and saved!
God’s peace opens our eyes.
God’s gift of hope opens our hearts.

With joy, we will praise the promised Savior of the world!
Let us – with joy – kindle the light of the Lord.

Reading  Jim Crisp
Ave Maria

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum. 
Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus. 
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus, nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. 
Blessed art thou among women 
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus 
Holy Mary, Mother of God, 
Pray for us sinners 
Now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

Reading

Jim Crisp

Lo, How a Rose e’er Blooming/The Rose

Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung.
Some say love, it is a river that drowns the tender reed;
Of Jesse’s lineage coming as men of old have sung.
Some say love, it is a razor that leaves your soul to bleed;
It came, a Flow’r’t bright, 
Some say love, it is a hunger, an endless aching need;
Amid the cold of winter
I say love, it is a flower, and you, its only seed.

When half-spent was the night.
It’s the heart afraid of breaking that never learns to dance;
It’s the dream afraid of waking that never takes the chance;
It’s the one who won’t be taken who cannot seem to give;
And the soul afraid of dying that never learns to live.

This Flow’r’, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
When the night has been too lonely and the road has been too long;
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev’rywhere.
And you think that love is only for the lucky and the strong;
True Man, yet very God,
Just remember in the winter far beneath the bitter snow;
From sin and death He saves us
Lies the seed that with the sun’s love, in the spring becomes the rose.
And lightens ev’ry load.

Reading

Jim Crisp

Gloria

Glória in excélsis Deo
et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adorámus te, glorificámus te,
gratias ágimus tibi propter magnam glóriam tuam,
Dómine Deus, Rex cæléstis, Deus Pater omnipotens.
Dómine Fili unigéntis, Jesu Christe, Dómine Deus, Agnus Dei, Fílius Patris, qui tollis peccáta mundi, miserére nobis;
qui tollis peccáta mundi, súscipe deprecatiónem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dextéram Patris, miserére nobis.

Glory to God in the highest, 
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, 
we give you thanks for your great glory, 
Lord God, heavenly King, 
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, 
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; 
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. 
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. 
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, 
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.
Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
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 heav’nly song?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

See Him in a manger laid, Whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, While our hearts in love we raise.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Offertory Anthem “My Jesus, I Love thee” arr. Dan Forrest

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine.
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, ‘tis now.

I’ll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death.
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath;
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, ‘tis now.

In mansions of glory, and endless delight,
I’ll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright.
I’ll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, ‘tis now.

Reading Jim Crisp

We Have Seen His Glory Dan Goeller

We have seen his glory, the Prince of Peace has come:
He left his heav’nly throne above and made this world His home.
We have seen the glory of the Father’s only Son;
Whose vict’ry rescues us from death, the curse of sin undone.
God the Father, rich in mercy, reaches down from heav’n above.
To offer us salvation by virtue of His love.
Jesus Christ, the Word Incarnate, hero of redemption’s story.
We worship and adore Him, for we have seen His glory.

We have seen His glory, raise your voice in one accord.
Let every tongue His name confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!
God the Father, rich in mercy, reaches down from heav’n above.
To offer us salvation by virtue of His love.
Jesus Christ, the Word Incarnate, hero of redemption’s story.
We worship and adore Him, for we have seen His glory.
The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep:

Refrain:
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel!

They looked up and saw a star,
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth, it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night:

Refrain

And by the light of that same star,
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went:

Refrain

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav’nly Lord,
That hath made heav’n and earth of naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought:

Refrain

Benediction (please remain standing for the Benediction)

Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor
Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor
Rev. Bill Culpepper, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministries
Cam Bishop, Director of Music/Organist
Dr. David Keith, Conductor
Ainsworth Choir
Jim Crisp, Reader
Micah Johnston, Lead Acolyte
Ames Jamison, Crucifer
Graham Johnston & Matt Newberry, Candlelighters
Instrumentalists
Harry Ward, Violin  Dustin Wilkes Kim, Violin
Charissa Leung, Violin  Leslie Conner, Violin
Alexander Locke, Viola  Lukas Shrou, Viola
Erik Binkhuyson, Viola  Julia Swain, Viola
Atticus Mealor, Cello  Zhihou Wu, Cello
Reed Tucker, Bass
Paul Poovey, Trumpet  Alex Rodiek, Trumpet
Mark Fucito, Trumpet  Jacob Greifinger, Trumpet
Kristen Arvold, Horn  Jay Hanselman, Horn
Carl Maragos, Trombone  Keith Fitzgerald, Trombone
Vince Jackson, Tuba  Caleb Harron, Timpani
Chris Gravely, Percussion
Arrangement in Sanctuary

The arrangement in the sanctuary is given to the glory of God and in honor of the Ainsworth Memorial Choir by the Flower Guild.

The rose on the altar is in honor of the birth of Hattaway “Hattie” Elizabeth Vaughn
daughter of Ben and Kris Vaughn
born on December 3, 2016.

Welcome All Visitors

We welcome you to Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.

Please make sure you sign the Attendance Register as it is passed.

Nursery Care is provided for children under 4 years of age.

Please ask an usher for directions to the Nursery.
Advent & Christmas at Mulberry

Sunday, December 11
Family Caroling
4:00 pm

Sunday, December 18
NewRoom Brunch
(immediately following 10:00 am service at the Library Ballroom)
Children’s Nativity
11:00 am Worship

Saturday, December 24
3:00 pm Family Christmas Communion Service/Sanctuary
4:30 pm Music of the Season/Sanctuary
5:00 pm Christmas Eve Communion Service/Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25
9:30 am Sweet Rolls in Fellowship Hall
10:00-10:30 am Worship Service/Sanctuary