

CAROLS:  
A CANTATA FOR CHRISTMAS

PRESENTED BY:  
THE MORNING GLORY CHORUS



DECEMBER 7, 2025  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



# Traditional Worship

8:15 am Sanctuary

*\*Please stand or lift your heart*

## WELCOME

Rev. Jonathan Jonas



*Please use either this QR code or a card in the pew for attendance and prayer requests that you would like shared with staff. You may place cards in the offering plate.*

## OPENING PRAYER

## PRELUDE

*Angel Songs*

arr. Bill Ingram

Evensong Handbells; Dr. Jenny Anderson, conductor

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

PEACE

Larry and Diane

Cochran

## RESPONSE

*from I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

HOUSTON

In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

## CAROLS

Heather Sorenson

Morning Glory Chorus; Dr. Dwight Dockery, conductor

## LITANY 1

Rev. Jonathan Jonas and Rev. Don Jones

## CAROL (congregation join vv. 1-2)

*Joy to the World*

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground.  
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

## LITANY 2

### CAROL

*Away in a Manger*  
Jessie Giles, solo

## LITANY 3

### CAROL (congregation join v. 3)

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant.  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation.  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest.  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning.  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given.  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord, Christ the Lord.

## LITANY 4

### CAROL

*God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*  
Gregg Parker, tenor

## LITANY 5

### CAROL (congregation join v. 3)

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
Rocky Rochelle, baritone

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 street 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.

**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.**

O come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:8-18

**8** Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. **9** Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. **10** But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: **11** to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. **12** This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." **13** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, **14** "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

**15** When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." **16** So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. **17** When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, **18** and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

*LEADER:* All scripture is inspired by God.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## CAROL

*The First Noel*

## TIME OF PRAYER

## OFFERING MOMENT

## OFFERTORY

*People, Look East*  
arr. Rachel Chapin

**\*DOXOLOGY No. 94**     *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*  
THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God, above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
born is the King of Israel.

## \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## \*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.

## LITANY 6

### CAROL

Silent Night

## LITANY 7

*LEADER:* Lord, as we exit this morning, we will see celebrations of you everywhere. When we see the Christmas lights blinking on the trees and on the houses, we will rejoice

***ALL: For you are the Light!***

*LEADER:* When we feast on our Christmas meal and all the confectionaries, we will give thanks

***ALL: For you are the Bread of Life.***

*LEADER:* As we leave with these carols in our hearts and on our lips,

***ALL: We will sing with the angels,***

*LEADER 1:* In the car, in our homes, during the mundane tasks of life, making each moment sacred. And so, we end today in the same way we began:

*LEADER 2:* Joy to the world! Our Lord has come!

***ALL: We receive you as our King!***

### CAROL (congregation joins)

*Joy to the World*

**He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.**

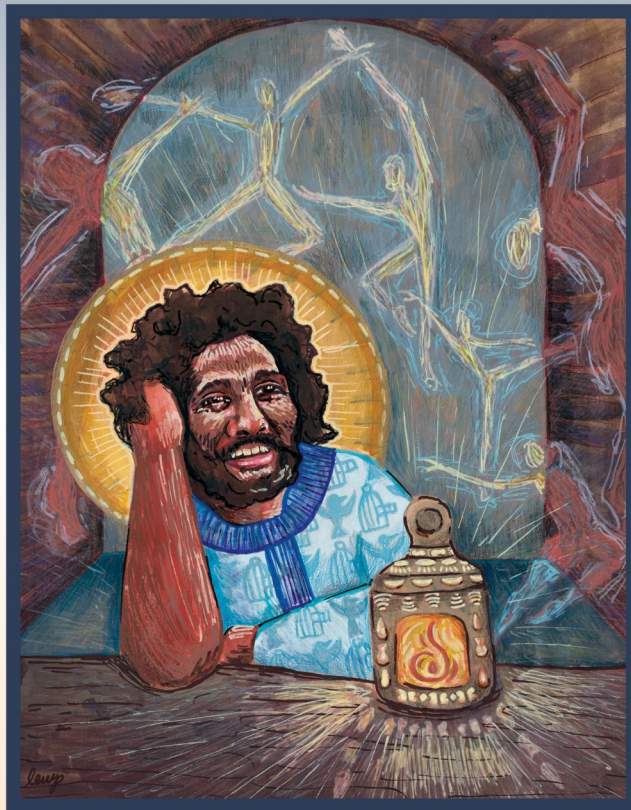
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*POSTLUDE

*I Saw Three Ships*  
arr. Terry D. Wilson

Do Not Be Afraid  
Insisting on Hope



December 7th, 2025  
Second Sunday of Advent

# Traditional Worship

10:30 Sanctuary

*\*Please stand or lift your heart*

## WELCOME

Rev. Jonathan Jonas



*Please use either this QR code or a card in the pew for attendance and prayer requests that you would like shared with staff. You may place cards in the offering plate.*

## OPENING PRAYER

## BRINGING OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Piper Tillman, acolyte  
Finleigh Tillman, acolyte

## PRELUDE

*Angel Songs*  
arr. Bill Ingram  
Evensong Handbells; Dr. Jenny Anderson, conductor

## \*HYMN No. 203

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*  
ELLACOMBE

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

PEACE  
The Rose Family

## RESPONSE

*from I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*  
HOUSTON

In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

## CHILDREN DISMISSED TO KIDS OWN WORSHIP

Children **age 3 through 1st grade** may follow a member of our ministry team to Kids Own Worship. For new 1st Kids children, please complete the child information card in the pew and send with your child to help us better serve your child. Please meet them on the lower level following the worship service.

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 11:1-11 (NRSV)

**1** Now when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and proclaim his message in their cities. **2** When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples **3** and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" **4** Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: **5** the 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. **6** And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

**7** As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? **8** What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. **9** What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. **10** This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' **11** "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Isaiah 43:19-21 (NRSV)

**19** I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. **20** The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, **21** the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

*LEADER:* All scripture is inspired by God.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Rev. Jonas

"Insisting on Hope When God Works in Ways We Cannot See"

**TIME OF PRAYER**

Rev. Don Jones

**OFFERING MOMENT**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** *Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain*

Carolyn Jennings

Youth and Chancel Choirs; Dr. Dwight Dockery, conductor

Climb to the top of the highest mountain,  
joyous tidings proclaim to the world.

Lift up your voice, shout the good news:  
behold, your Lord comes to you.

He will feed the flock like a shepherd,  
he will carry the lambs in his arms,  
he will ever keep them safe from harm.  
Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He, who made the stars in the heaven,  
he, who fashioned the earth and the sea,  
from time eternal, he was Alpha and Omega, he.  
Behold, your Lord! He will come in power and glory.  
He will rule with mercy and truth,  
hope of all the nations, Light of all the world.

He will love the little children,  
he will hold them in his arms.  
Love him and trust him as a little child,  
behold, your Lord comes to you.  
Love him as a child.



**\*DOXOLOGY No. 94**      *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*  
THE FIRST NOEL

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God, above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
born is the King of Israel.

**CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Invitation UMH 7  
Confession & Pardon UMH 8  
The Great Thanksgiving UMH 15  
The Lord's Prayer  
Sharing the Bread and Cup  
Prayer of Thanksgiving UMH 11

**\*HYMN No. 206**      *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*  
HOUSTON

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**      *Give to the Winds Thy Fears*  
William H. Walter

Give to the winds thy fears; hope and be undismayed.  
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears, God shall lift up thy head.

**\*POSTLUDE**      *I Saw Three Ships*  
arr. Terry D. Wilson

# Contemporary Worship

10:30 am | Asbury Hall

## WELCOME MUSIC

The Band

*Angels We Have Heard on High*  
Travis Cottrell

## WELCOME

Ralph Jeffers



Please use either this QR code or a card in the chair for attendance and prayer requests that you would like shared with staff. You may place cards in the offering plate.

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

PEACE

Steven Hlatky and Jarrett Milam

## WORSHIP

*It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*  
MercyMe

*I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*  
Casting Crowns

## DISMISSAL TO KIDS OWN WORSHIP

Children **age 3 through 1st grade** may follow a member of our children's ministry team to Kids Own Worship. For new 1st Kids children, please complete the child information card and send with them to KOW to help us better serve your child. Please meet them on the lower level at the end of the worship service.

## TIME OF PRAYER

Rev. Sarah Slack

## OFFERING

*Glorious*  
We the Kingdom

## SCRIPTURE

Matthew 11:1-11  
Isaiah 43:19-21

## SERMON

Rev. Slack

"Insisting on Hope When God Works in Ways We Cannot See"

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

## CLOSING WORSHIP

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*  
Katy Nichole

*Glory*  
Matt Maher

## BENEDICTION

**TODAY AT 4:30 PM** IN THE SANCTUARY

1st KIDS MUSIC MINISTRY PRESENTS:  
**A DAY IN A MANGER**



[ChristmasInMaryville.com](http://ChristmasInMaryville.com)

This special musical presentation centers around a family that has just moved to a new city and how through unpacking the boxes, discover the Christmas Spirit that had eluded them.



**CHRISTMAS**  
IN MARYVILLE



Families are invited downstairs to enjoy, pizza, snacks and Christmas Crafting following the presentation!



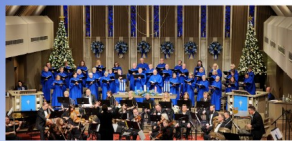
presents:

*in*  
**THESE  
DARK  
STREETS**

**Wednesday, December 10th**  
**6:30 pm**  
**Asbury Hall (lower level)**

Dinner at 5:30 pm  
Celebrate Recovery Share Groups at 7:40 pm

**CHRISTMAS**  
IN MARYVILLE



The 10:30 presentation will be recorded for airing later on TV.

**NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th**  
**10:30 am & 7:00 pm**

Experience the sounds of the season  
as the 1<sup>st</sup> UMC Chancel Choir &  
Orchestra present:

**JESUS, LORD, AT THY BIRTH**  
**A CHRISTMAS CANTATA**

[CHRISTMASINMARYVILLE.COM](http://CHRISTMASINMARYVILLE.COM)



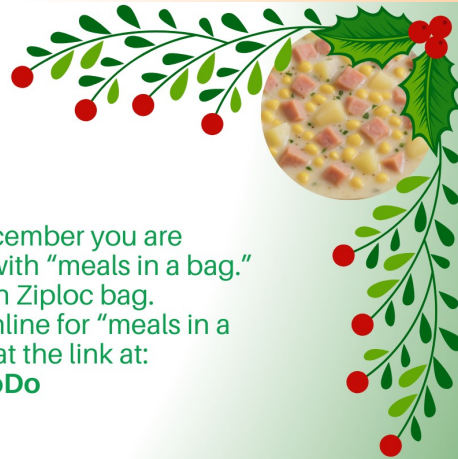
**Bless the Blessing Box**

Throughout the month of December you are encouraged to fill the Blessing Box with "meals in a bag."

All items should fit in a gallon Ziploc bag.

You can get ideas by searching online for "meals in a bag." You'll also find ideas at the link at:

[1stchurch.org/GoDo](http://1stchurch.org/GoDo)



You can bring the meals to the Blessing Box at any time or bring them to the church office. 1<sup>st</sup> Kids Ministries will also be collecting them **tonight** during the 1<sup>st</sup> Kids Christmas Celebration.



[1STCHURCH.ORG](http://1STCHURCH.ORG)

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*The art work on the cover, titled "Hope Like a Dancer",  
was created by Lauren Wright Pittman.*