



Glory To God in the Highest
and on earth PEACE to men

ADVENT MIDWEEK - DECEMBER 1ST, 2021

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with us today.
Please sign the guest register in the entry
as you leave the church today.

TODAY'S SERVICE

December 1st, 2021

Speaker:

Pastor Matthew Ude

Pianist:

Vanessa Ude

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PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 24

The earth is the LORD'S, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell therein. ² For He has founded it upon the seas, And established it upon the waters. ³ Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? ⁴ He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully. ⁵ He shall receive blessing from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation. ⁶ This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him, Who seek Your face. Selah ⁷ Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. ⁸ Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle. ⁹ Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. ¹⁰ Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory. Selah

SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING PRAYER

P Heavenly Father, Your Son comes in human flesh that by His cross He might create peace between us and You. Cause that peace to manifest in our lives that we would live in peace toward all people; for You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#647 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

by Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

1. 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 darkness shineth
The everlasting Light; The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

2. For Christ is born of Mary, And fathered 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 men on earth.

3. 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.

4. 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:
Oh, come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!

INVOCATION

p In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

P Who is this King of glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle!

C **Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

P God's Son is born a child to He reconciles us to the Father. Confident in the reconciliation that Christ has won for us, let us confess our sins to God and receive His forgiveness.

C **Gracious heavenly Father, we have alienated ourselves from You and from one another. In our sin, we have neglected You and our neighbor. By the**

merit of Your Son, draw near to us and forgive us. Through Him, reconcile us to Yourself and to one another.

P The angels came to announce great joy and glad tidings to the shepherds. Their message is for the whole world and for you. God's own Son is born a child; God the Father is reconciled. Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

READINGS

Genesis 12:1-3 Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. ² I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

1 John 4:9-14 ⁹ In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. ¹³ By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son *as* Savior of the world.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

#702 As Angels Joyed with One Accord

Author: Werner H. Franzmann

1. As angels joyed with one accord
Upon the advent of our Lord,
So laud we all and bless the name
Of him who from the Father came.
2. He came, not clothed in majesty
Nor pow'r that suits his deity.
In lowly state he walked till he
In dying set us captives free.

3. This done, he soared to God's right hand,
Yet orphaned not his chosen band,
For he, not bound in grace and pow'r,
Attends his own each day and hour.

SERMON

Luke 2:8-20 ⁸ Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. ¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹ "For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² "And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, 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, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" ¹⁵ So it was, when the angels had gone

away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. ¹⁷ Now when they had seen *Him*, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. ¹⁸ And all those who heard *it* marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. ¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things and pondered *them* in her heart. ²⁰ Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

FEAR NOT

MAGNIFICAT LUKE 1:46–55

- P My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has looked on the humble estate of His servant.
- C For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for He who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His name.
- P And His mercy is for those who fear Him from generation to generation.
- C He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; He has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty.
- P He has helped His servant Israel, in remembrance of His mercy, as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord Jesus, whom shepherds once came praising,

C grant us mouths that join the shepherds in praising
You by word and deed that all might know You.

P Lord Jesus, whose angels awed the shepherds,

C grant us awe not only in the breadth and depth of
Your provision for our needs, but all the more in
Your forgiveness of our sin.

P Lord Jesus, whose angel news cheered the shep-
herds,

C grant us great joy in this season and always by vir-
tue of Your work on our behalf.

P Lord Jesus, King of Glory,

C grant us faith to trust in You amid all the troubles
of this life in full confidence that You reign forever.

P Lord Jesus, whose birth brings great joy for all the world,

C **grant Your blessing to all missionaries that they proclaim You and Your salvation to all.**

P Lord Jesus, born so that the Father is reconciled,

C **grant us peace not only with the Father but with all people as well.**

P Hear us as we pray in Your name and as You have taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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 and ever. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

p The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen

#653 "Now the Light Has Gone Away"

by Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

1. Now the light has gone away;
Father, listen while I pray,
Asking Thee to watch and keep
And to send me quiet sleep.

2. Jesus, Savior, wash away
All that has been wrong today;
Help me every day to be
Good and gentle, more like Thee.

3. Let my near and dear ones be
Always near and dear to Thee.
Oh, bring me and all I love
To Thy happy home above.

4. Now my evening praise I give;
Thou didst die that I might live.
All my blessings come from Thee;
Oh, how good Thou art to me!

5. Thou, my best and kindest Friend,
Thou wilt love me to the end.
Let me love Thee more and more,
Always better than before.



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