

WONDER

NOVEMBER 28, 2021 10:30 AM

WELCOME

Heather Harriss

God of Advent hope, we come to this place seeking your peace.
May it be so. Amen.

PRELUDE

Prepare the Way, O Zion

arr. Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

J. S. Bach

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, and usher in the morning;
O shepherds, shrink not with afright, but hear the angel's warning.
This Child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be,
the power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COLORS

Mark 1

†HYMN NO. 203

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

ELLACOMBE

**Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.**

**He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.**

**He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Before him on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.**

**To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever; that name to us is love.**

PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

Do Not Find Me Sleeping

Martin/Anna Laura Paige

Do not find me sleeping, Lord, when the Christ-child comes to Earth.
Make me like a shepherd boy on the evening of His birth.
Prepare my ears so I can hear the gentle rush of wings.
Do not find me sleeping, Lord, when the angels start to sing.
Do not find me sleeping, Lord, when the Christ-child comes tonight.
Make me like an eastern king who searches evening skies.
Prepare my eyes so I can see the promise in the sign.
Do not find me sleeping, Lord, when the star begins to shine.
Do not find me sleeping, Lord, when the Christ-child comes to call.

Make me like the one who shares a simple cattle stall.
Prepare my heart so I can hold the savior safe within.
I will not be sleeping, Lord, I will let the Savior in. I will let Him in.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Matthew 5:14-16

**O Holy God of Bethlehem,
help us to keep awake and be ready for your birth in our world and in our hearts. Amen.**

(singing)

**Come surely, Lord Jesus, as dawn follows night,
our hearts long to greet you, as roses, the light.
Salvation, draw near us, our vision engage.
One candle is lit for the hope of the age.**

CRADLE SONG

NATIVITY SCENE

Luke 2

**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.
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!**

POINSETTIA

Matthew 6

**O Holy God of Bethlehem,
help us to keep awake and be ready for your birth in our world and in our hearts. Amen.**

CHRISMON TREE

Deuteronomy 6

**O Holy God of Bethlehem,
help us to keep awake and be ready for your birth in our world and in our hearts. Amen.**

(singing)

**I want to walk as a child of the light, I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.
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.**

REFLECTION

Practicing Wonder

Paul Purdue

OFFERING

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

arr. John Carter

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†DOXOLOGY

HYFRYDOL

**Longing for a hope to live by, yearning for a peace that's fair.
Wanting joy that ends all outcry, wanting love to banish fear.
We bring gifts to set before you, trusting that your advent brings
life in all abundant fullness, hope that soars on eagle's wings.**

†THE EVERGREENS

Isaiah 60:13

**O Holy God of Bethlehem,
help us to keep awake and be ready for your birth in our world and in our hearts. Amen.**

**Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!**

**Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.**

**Redeemer, come, with us abide; our hearts to thee we open wide;
let us thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in us reveal.**

**Thy Holy Spirit lead us on until our glorious goal is won;
eternal praise, eternal fame be offered, Savior, to thy name!**

†HANGING THE GREENS

How shall we prepare this house for the birth of Jesus?

With branches of cedar, the tree of excellence and strength.

How shall we prepare this house for the eternal Christ?

With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

How shall we prepare this house for the prophet of Galilee?

With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death and resurrection.

How shall we prepare our hearts for this revelation of God?

By hearing again the words of the prophets and the promises of God.

For in the story of Jesus we see revealed the transforming power of God.

We are reminded anew of God's vision of wholeness, justice,
and peace for all of creation.

Thanks be to God.

†CHORAL BLESSING

Keep Your Lamps

André Thomas

†BENEDICTION

†You are invited to stand as you are able.

ADDITIONAL WORSHIP LEADERS

Robbie Jones, organist

Gayle Sullivan, Director of Music Ministries

Sanctuary Choir; Ned Henry, violin

Kim Sheehan and Bill Haire, readers

Caroline Cramer, Natalia Del Pino, Emma Anne Stephens, parament bearers

Lindsay and Keith Sheehan, Nativity bearers

Bruce Williams, Worship/Tech Coordinator; Larry Beasley, Jimmy Bowland,

Cindy Caldwell, Mike Graves, David Henry, Kate Henry, Marty McClearen, media team

Wreaths used to adorn Belmont UMC's exterior doors are given:

In memory of:

Nena & James Bagwell
Gordon Brown
Jean & Bob Dean
Erlene & John Gore
Dick Gould
Honey, Roy, & Bud Kennedy
Penny McWhirt

Aileen & Jack Rogers
Jack Shaw
Sally Simpkins
Daly Thompson
Nancy Wahl
Hugh Wright

Sunday PM Covenant Group

In honor of:

Bea Budstick
Tessa & Jerome Del Pino
Jon Haber
Max Haber
Emily & Rob Mays
BUMC staff
Music Ministry
WDS directors, teachers, & children

Given by:

Bagwell family
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Gore family
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Sarah, Clay, & Frances McWhirt-Toler
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Velma Shaw
June & Ed Batsel
Carolyn Primm
Betty Jane & Larry Taylor
Sally Wright,
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Nancy, Gawain, Atticus, & Grady Gilkey
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Mary Jane & Phil Duke
Joyce & Jerome Del Pino
Martha & Richard Hooper
Martha & Richard Hooper
Martha & Richard Hooper

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