

MORNING WORSHIP

December 9, 2018, 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *Christmas Medley* Richard Purvis
John Gearhart, Organist

INTROIT *On Christmas Night* Dan Forrest
Sanctuary Choir, Brass Ensemble
Dr. Terry Morris, Director of Traditional Music
*On Christmas night, all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring:
News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.
The King of kings to us is given, the Lord of earth and King of heaven.
Heaven and earth with joy may sing all for to see the newborn King.
Then why should we on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad,
When from our sin He set us free, all for to gain our liberty?
All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God, and peace to men, now and forevermore. Amen!"*

THE GATHERING 8:45 Dr. Brant Wallace
11:00 Rev. Andy Nixon

*GREETING

*HYMN OF WELCOME *Festival First Nowell* arr. Dan Forrest
**The first Nowell the angels 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
**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

WOMEN
**They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far;**

MEN
**And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.**

ALL
Repeat Refrain
**Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord
That hath made heav'n and earth of nought,
And with His blood mankind hath bought;**
Repeat Refrain

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE *Candle of Love*
8:45 The Hamilton Family
11:00 The Santos Rivas Family

Reader: Love means abiding comfort, unending forgiveness, sacrificial actions, and deep commitment. Love means making a way when it seems as though there is no way.

All: Love is for those who know its dangers all too well, who have been hurt and rejected, excluded and alone.

Reader: Love is for those who have done the hurting and the rejecting, the excluding and the casting aside.

All: Love is for those willing to take the risk.

Reader: Love is for those who are too scared to be vulnerable. Do you have love?

All: We are a people of love!

Reader: We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Love, for whom we are preparing the way.

All: We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Love, whose love makes our love possible.

SUNG RESPONSE *The First Noel* #245
Refrain

**Noel, noel, noel noel.
Born is the king of Israel.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Jim Hamilton
I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and 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, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI #70
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Ann Spears

SPECIAL MUSIC *Unto Us a Son is Born* arr. Trevor Manor
Sanctuary Choir, Brass Ensemble
*Unto us a Son is born; "Welcome holy Stranger!"
Let us go this happy morn and see Him in the manger. Unto us a Son is born.
How can He be born on earth yet Lord of all creation?
Still the oxen know His worth and kneel in adoration!
Round the stable angels sing, and shepherds thrill to hear it!
Mary treasures all these things within a humble spirit.
When this Child becomes a man He'll teach and heal the nation,
Then fulfill His Father's plan, to die for our salvation.
Though He bears our sin and strife, now hear the gospel story:
Christ shall rise again to life, and lead us up to glory!
Alpha and Omega He! All heaven and earth rejoices!
Let us sing out merrily and join the angel voices! Unto us a Son is born!*

*THE WORD IN SCRIPTURE Isaiah 40:1-11
This is the Word of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE 8:45 Dr. Brant Wallace
Think Again: Do You Have Love? 11:00 Rev. Andy Nixon

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN OF REFLECTION *Once in Royal David's City* arr. Victor Johnson
**Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed;
Mary, loving mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.
He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall;
With the poor the mean and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.**

Choir Only
*Jesus is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us He grew;
He was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feels for all our sadness, and He shares in all our gladness.*

**And our eyes at last shall see Him through His own redeeming love,
For that Child, so dear and gentle, is our Lord in heav'n above;
And He leads His children on to that place where He is gone.**

Choir Only
To that place where He is gone.

FAITHFUL GIVING Ron Sledge

OFFERTORY *O, Come Rejoicing* Dan Forrest
Sanctuary Choir, Brass Ensemble
*O, come rejoicing, Bethlehem, rejoice ye! For of a virgin, God is born unto thee!
Truly He cometh, Christ our salvation; Angels are voicing their jubilation;
Shepherds come to praise Him, oxen kneel before Him, What a wonder God has given!
Mary is singing songs for Thee, dear Jesus; Joseph is watching over the Son so glorious,
Truly He cometh, Christ our salvation; Angels are voicing their jubilation;
Shepherds come to praise Him, oxen kneel before Him, What a wonder God has given!*

INVITATION 8:45 Dr. Brant Wallace
11:00 Rev. Andy Nixon

*HYMN OF BLESSING *Joy to the World!* arr. Dan Forrest
**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.**

**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.**

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

**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.**

Choir Only
Joy to the world! The Lord is come!

SENDING FORTH Ruthie Estes

POSTLUDE *Masters in this Hall* arr. Mark Hayes
John Gearhart, Organist; Brass Ensemble

* *Please stand, as you are able.*

BRASS ENSEMBLE
Trumpet Theresa Hanebury
Michael Vasquez
Trombone Matthew Dickson
Richard Reeves

Horn Nancy Goodearl
Timpani Zach Luftop

Percussion
Christina Carroll