## SERVICE OF THE WORD | THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT **First Houston United Methodist Church** December 14, 2025 | 11:00 a.m.

**PRELUDE Three Traditional Carols** Copyright 1967, Harold Flammer, Inc. arr. Richard Ellsasser

\*CALL TO WORSHIP I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, v. 3;Refrain UMH 206 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,

We shall know the joy of Jesus.

Refrain: 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.

\*WELCOME Rev. Amanda Davis

\*CAROL OF WELCOME Angels We Have Heard on High

**UMH 238** 

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply **Echoing their joyous strains.** 

Refrain: 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 heavenly song?

Repeat Refrain

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing, Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Repeat Refrain

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

Repeat Refrain

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Kimery & Raymond McKaskle

SUNG RESPONSE I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, Refrain

**UMH 206** 

Refrain: 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.

OFFERING PRAYER Dr. Brant Wallace

MINISTRY IN MUSIC Personent Hodie arr. Mark Haves Copyright 2014, Heritage Music Press, a Division of Lorenz Corporation Sanctuary Choir

Personent hodie voces puerule, (The voices of children today) Laudentes iucunde (Praise loudly) Qui nobis est natus, (He who is born to us) Suma Deo datus. (Praise be to God)

Ideo, O, O, Ideo, O, O, Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo! (Glory to God in the highest!) On this day children sing, full of joy, earth shall ring. Love has come to everything. Sing we alleluia! Sing we alleluia!

Ideo, O, O, Ideo, O, O, Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo! (Glory to God in the highest!) Gloria, Gloria, Gloria In excelsis Deo, Gloria, Gloria! (Glory to God in the highest!) Lift you voice, sing noel. Let the glad tidings swell. Strike the harp, ring the bell. Glory in the highest!

Ideo, O, O, Ideo, O, O, Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo! (Glory to God in the highest!) Gloria, Gloria, Gloria In excelsis Deo, Gloria, Gloria! (Glory to God in the highest!)

\*OFFERING RESPONSE - Angels We Have Heard on High, Refrain **UMH 238** Refrain: Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

TIME FOR CHILDREN **Courtney Hutchins** 

\*Carol of Preparation The First Noel, vs. 1, 2, Alt. **UMH 245** 

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.

Repeat Refrain

Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heavenly Lord Who hath made heaven and earth of naught, And with His blood our lives hath bought!

Repeat Refrain

\*SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-20 Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE Light of the World: Jesus, You, and Me Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Dr. Brant Wallace

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SPOKEN) **UMH 895** 

Dr. Brant Wallace

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. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE ALTAR Rev. Amanda Davis

\*CAROL OF BLESSING What Child Is This **UMH 219** 

What child is this who. laid to rest. On Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christians, fear, for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.

Repeat Refrain

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh, Come, peasant, king, to own Him; The King of kings salvation brings, Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Repeat Refrain

STEP FORWARD IN FAITH Rev. Amanda Davis

\*BENEDICTION Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE What Child is This, Refrain Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the Son of Mary.

POSTLUDE Swiss Noel Louis Claude D'Aquin

\*Please stand as you are able.

## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and to commemorate 115 years of service to Christ at Main and Clay on December 18th, by Ellen and Gary Hickman.

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**SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:** 

**ORGANIST EXECUTIVE PASTOR** ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC **SENIOR PASTOR DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC** ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD CHAIR **PIANIST** 

**Paul Butt** Rev. Amanda Davis Cynthia Douglas Rev. Lindsay Kirkpatrick Dr. Terry Morris Dr. Brant Wallace Jeremy Wood

UMH 219

## Our Mission:

Transforming lives and communities by putting God's love into action.

Sermon Notes:	
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