



November 27, 2022—8:30 am and 9:45 am
Sanctuary

Today marks the first Sunday in Advent, a season of hope and anticipation, where Christians wait eagerly for the birth of Christ. For thousands of years, the prophets foretold the birth of the Messiah, the Anointed One, who would redeem God's people from the darkness of their sins. No matter how great the darkness, we find our hope in the Word Made Flesh, who promises the Light of His presence.

Prelude *Savior of the Nations, Come* (The King's Ringers) arr. Cathy Moglebust

Community Life Update and Welcome

Call to Worship Psalm 130:5-8

Leader: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.
**All: O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Hope

*Hymn of Entrance

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, who orders all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show and teach us in her ways to go.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind.
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill all the world with heaven's peace.

Words: Trad. Latin, 12th c., Music: Plainsong, 13th c.

*Advent Affirmation of Faith

We believe in one God, whose almighty word brought forth the universe, who speaks to us by his Spirit through what he has created and through what has been written for us in Holy Scripture.

We believe that at the right moment in time, God's Word became flesh in the life of Jesus of Nazareth, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary.

We believe that this good news of great joy which heralded Jesus' birth also points us to the cross on which Jesus died, and to his empty tomb. There the angel's message "He is risen!" heralded the glorious good news of Christ's resurrection.

We believe that this same Jesus is alive to meet us every day, and to offer us new and abundant life. We rejoice in the knowledge that he will one day return to rule in righteousness, to renew the earth, and to claim us as God's own.

** Please stand if you are able.*

*Hymn of Praise

Hymnal, 162

Of the Father's love begotten, e'er the worlds began to be;
He is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessèd, when the virgin full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bare the Savior of our race;
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer, First revealed His sacred face,
Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heav'n adore Him; angel hosts, His praises sing;
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him, and extol our God and King!
Let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice in concert sing,
Evermore and evermore!

*Words: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 4th cent.; Tr. John Mason Neal (1854), Henry Baker (1859);
Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, Plainsong, 10th cent.; arr. Trevor Manor; © 2014*

*Prayer of Adoration

Ancient Prophecies Fulfilled Through Christ's Coming Matthew 12:9-21, quoting Isaiah 42:1-14

Leader: This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God!**

Choral Meditation

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God, to earth descending, comes our homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood;
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood.
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the hosts of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descending from the realms of endless day,
Comes the powers of hell to vanquish, as the darkness clears away!

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!"

*Words: Liturgy of St. James, tr. Girarde Moultrie; Music: PICARDY, 12th century French carol;
arr. Craig Courtney; © 2013, Beckenhurst Press*

Advent Prayer

from The Book of Common Prayer

Leader: Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets
to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:

**All: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins,
that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Grace and Peace

Galatians 4:3-7

...We were in slavery under the elemental spiritual forces of the world. But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

*Hymn of Worship

K4-K5 may leave for Kids Ministry.

8:30 am—One parent will need to escort the child to volunteers in the Commons Area for Kids Church.

9:45 am—One parent will need to escort the child downstairs to join Kids Sunday School.

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter long ago.

Our God, heav'n cannot hold Him, nor the earth sustain;
Heav'n and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed, the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

*Gloria, Gloria! Now my eyes have seen. Soli Deo Gloria! He salvation brings.
As the Lord has promised, I may go in peace.*

What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man I would do my part, yet what can I give him, give him my heart!

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

Galatians 3:1-14

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Series: Journey Through Scripture

Neel Skelton, Next Generation Pastor

*Hymn of Response

Come behold the wondrous mystery in the dawning of the King.
He, the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity.
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come.
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery; He the perfect Son of Man.
In His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin.
See the true and better Adam; come to save the hell-bound man.
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in Him we stand. *(continued)*

Come behold the wondrous mystery; Christ the Lord upon the tree.
In the stead of ruined sinners, hangs the Lamb in victory.
See the price of our redemption; see the Father's plan unfold.
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come behold the wondrous mystery; slain by death the God of life.
But no grave could e'er restrain Him, praise the Lord; He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope.
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when he comes.

Words and Music: Papa, Boswell, Blecker © 2012 Blecker Publishing, Song No. 7026028, CCLI No. 789870

*Benediction

*Postlude

*We are grateful for your sacrificial giving that supports the work of this church. To give, you can visit give.mitchellroad.org.
Tithes and Offerings may also be placed in the giving box at the exits of the Sanctuary as you leave.*

The flowers this morning are in honor of the 55th wedding anniversary of Clare and Rich Meyer.

Assisting in Worship Today:

Preacher: Neel Skelton, Next Generation Pastor

Liturgist: Scott Puckett, Engaging the World Pastor

Advent Season at Mitchell Road— "Gifts From God"

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

November 27, December 4, December 11, and December 18

Normal schedule, Sunday School, Kids Church & Nursery

December 25 (Christmas Day) and January 1 (New Years Day)

9:45 and 11:00 in Sanctuary (Nursery crib to K3 at 9:45 am only, No Sunday School, No Kids Church)

Cherub Choir Carol Sing: Sunday, December 4 at 4:30 pm in Sanctuary (Nursery crib to K3)

Our youngest choir's presentation of a short but engaging re-telling of the Christmas story

Christmas Celebration with Choirs and Orchestra: Sunday, December 11, 4:30 and 6:30 pm in Sanctuary
(Nursery Crib to K3 and K4/K5 Kids Church)

Choir and orchestra concert of beloved carols, including those by Artist-in-Residence Dan Forrest

Cookies and Carols: Sunday, December 18 at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall (No nursery)

Fellowship and fun for all ages with a cookie baking contest and singing of heart-warming Christmas favorites

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: December 24

4:30 Sanctuary, 4:45 Fellowship Hall, 6:30 Sanctuary (Nursery crib to K3 at 4:30 and 4:45 only)

Our annual candlelight service celebrating our Savior's birth