



January 1, 2023—9:45 am and 11:00 am  
Sanctuary

Prelude *Tidings of Joy!* setting by Lloyd Larson

Community Life Update

Choral Introit *Betelehemu* Men's Ensemble

We are glad that we have a Father to trust, a Father to rely on. Where was Jesus born? Where was He born? Bethlehem, the city of wonder! That is where he was born for sure. Praise, praise be to Him.

We thank You, we thank You for this day, gracious Father. Praise, praise be to You, merciful Father!

*Words and music: Nigerian Christmas song by Via Olatunji, Yoruba dialect; arr. Wendell Whalum, © 1992, Lawson-Gould Music Publishers, Inc.*

\*Call to Worship Luke 2:15-16

Leader: When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

**All: "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened,  
which the Lord has made known to us."**

**And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.**

\*Prayer of Adoration

\*Hymn of Entrance

<sup>1</sup> Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains,

*Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

<sup>2</sup> Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song?

<sup>3</sup> Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

*Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

<sup>4</sup> See within a manger laid Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, with us sing our Savior's birth.

*Word and Music: Trad. French, Public Domain*

Scripture Reading Matthew 1:18-25

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

\* Please stand if you are able.

Christmas Prayer

From The Book of Common Prayer

Leader: Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your Incarnate Word.

**All: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts,  
may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Hymns of Worship

All is well, all is well—angels and men rejoice;  
For tonight darkness fell into the dawn of love's light. Sing *Alle*, sing *Alleluia!*

All is well, all is well—let there be peace on earth;  
Christ is come: go and tell that He is in the manger. Sing *Alle*—sing *Alleluia!*

All is well, all is well—lift up your voice and sing. Born is now Emmanuel.

Born is our Lord and Savior. Sing *Alleluia*, sing *Alleluia*, all is well!

Words: Michael W. Smith and Wayne Kirkpatrick; Music: arr. Bruce Greer; © 1990 Sony/ATV Tunes LLC and this arrangement  
© 2008 Sony/ATV Tunes LLC. All rights admin. by Sony

Hymnal, 204

<sup>1</sup> Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
The stars in the sky look down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

<sup>2</sup> The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes;  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

<sup>3</sup> Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

Words: Anon., Public Domain, 1885; Music: James Murray, Public Domain, 1887

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

Revelation 21-22

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

Sermon

Mark Reed, Executive Pastor

Confession of Sin

Revelation 21:23, 27; James 5:7-9

And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb... But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door.

Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Grace and Peace

Revelation 22:16-17

“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.” The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Communion Prayer

Based on The Valley of Vision prayer, “The Lord’s Supper”

Leader: God of all good, You have prepared for us a feast;  
and because we are unworthy in ourselves to sit down as guests,  
we wholly rest on the merits of Jesus and hide ourselves in His righteousness.

**All: In this supper we remember the agony of the cross and the cost of redemption.  
We rejoice in Your eternal love, boundless grace, and infinite compassion.**

Leader: We proclaim Your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until you come again.

**All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Choral Meditation

Alleluia! See, amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below,  
See the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.

*Hail, thou ever blessed morn; hail, redemption's happy dawn;  
Sing through all Jerusalem: "Christ is born in Bethlehem."*

Lo, within a manger lies He who built the lofty skies,  
He, who throned in height sublime, sits amid the cherubim.

Sacred Infant, all divine, what a tender love was Thine,  
Thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this.

*Words: Edward Caswall (1858); Music: HUMILITY, John Goss (1871), arr. Dan Forrest, © 2016, Beckenhurst Press*

Communion Hymn

Do you feel the world is broken? We do. Do you feel the shadows deepen? We do.  
But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? We do.  
Do you wish that you could see it all made new? We do.

Is all creation groaning? It is. Is a new creation coming? It is.  
Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? It is.  
Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? It is.

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?  
The Lion of Judah, who conquered the grave; He is David's Root  
And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.  
Is He worthy? Is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?  
Is He worthy of this? He is.

*Words: Ben Shive and Andrew Peterson, from Revelation 5; Music: Shive and Peterson, arr. Dan Forrest, quoting G.F. Handel;  
© 2018, Vamos Publishing (ASCAP), Capitol CMB Genesis (ASCAP), Jukebox Music (ASCAP), Jakedog Music (ASCAP)*

## Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

### \*Hymn of Response

Does the Father truly love us? He does. Does the Spirit move among us? He does.  
And does Jesus our Messiah hold forever those He loves? He does.  
Does our God intend to dwell again with us? He does.

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?  
The Lion of Judah, who conquered the grave; He is David's Root  
And the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.  
From ev'ry people and tribe, every nation and tongue; He has made us a kingdom and priests  
To God to reign with the Son. Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory?  
Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Is He worthy of this? He is!  
Is He worthy? Is He worthy? He is! He is!

Words: Ben Shive and Andrew Peterson, from Revelation 5; Music: Shive and Peterson, arr. Dan Forrest, quoting G.F. Handel;  
© 2018, Vamos Publishing (ASCAP), Capitol CMB Genesis (ASCAP), Jukebox Music (ASCAP), Jakedog Music (ASCAP)

### \*Dismissal

Revelation 22:20-21

Leader: He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." **All: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**  
Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. **All: Amen.**

### \*Benediction

### \*Postlude

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

### Assisting in Worship Today:

Preacher: Mark Reed, Executive Pastor

Liturgist: Harrys Goudas, Greek Pastoral Intern (9:45); Jason Cochran, Ruling Elder (11:00)

### Journey Through Scripture—Congratulations, Mitchell Road!

This time last year many of you began a Journey Through Scripture with us and yesterday was our final official day. Don't be discouraged if you are still catching up. The goal is growing in our knowledge and understanding of God's Word. If you have spent more time this year in God's Word than you ever have before, then you have succeeded and most likely grown in your faith this year. Now keep moving forward—pick a new reading plan, start this one over, find a specific book of the Bible to study more deeply, or join us in our next goal: *Exploring Prayer 2023*. More information is coming soon! If you would like to share with us how your year in God's Word impacted you, please email us at [info@mitchellroad.org](mailto:info@mitchellroad.org).

### New Elective—Leading Yourself to Follow Jesus

The start of a new year is the perfect time to ask yourself hard questions and find honest answers to better lead yourself in faithfully following Jesus in the new year. Join us at 9:45 in B111 as our new Engage the World Pastor, Scott Puckett, leads us in this four week elective (January 8, 15, 22, 29).

### Mark Your 2023 Calendar

Missional Living Conference, February 24-26

Holy Week, April 2-9

Women's Conference, March 10-11

Vacation Bible School, July 18-21

*The Church office is closed tomorrow and will return to normal office hours on Tuesday, January 3.*