

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church Peachtree City, Georgia

The Second Sunday in Advent ☩ December 4, 2022 ☩ 11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor David Beecher, Minister of Music
Music and the Master and sKIDdles young musicians, Worship Leaders

☐ = Pastor ☒ = Lector [reader] ☑ = Congregation ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship
↑ Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE: *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*

Shepherd's Flock Ringers

Welcome to worship! Worship this hour is built around the children's musical, "Chimes in the Night."

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Fritz

↑ **GATHERING HYMN:** *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*

- 1 I heard the bells on Christmas day, their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet their songs repeat of peace on Earth, good will to all.
- 2 I thought how, as the day had come, the belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along th' unbroken song of peace on earth, good will to all.
- 3 Then pealed the bells more loud and deep, "God is not dead, nor doth He sleep.
"The Wrong shall fail, the Right prevail, with peace on Earth, good will to all."
- 4 Then ringing, singing on its way the world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime, of peace on Earth, good will to all.

Text: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1807-1882, altered. Text is in Public Domain.

↑ **GREETING**

- ☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
☑ **And also with you.**

↑ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- ☐ Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. ☑ **Amen.**

LESSON: Psalm 96

—Common English Bible

- ☒ Our Lesson is Psalm 96.
☒ Sing to the Lord a new song!
☑ **Sing to the Lord, all the earth!**
☒ ²Sing to the Lord! Bless his name!
☑ **Share the news of his saving work every single day!**
☒ ³Declare God's glory among the nations;
☑ **declare his wondrous works among all people**
☒ ⁴because the Lord is great and so worthy of praise ...
☑ ⁸**Give to the Lord the glory due his name!**
☒ Bring gifts! Enter his courtyards! ...
☑ ¹¹**Let heaven celebrate! Let the earth rejoice!**
☒ Let the sea and everything in it roar!
☑ ¹²**Let the countryside and everything in it celebrate!**
☒ Then all the trees of the forest too will shout out joyfully ¹³before the Lord because he is coming!

- ☑ He is coming to establish justice on the earth!**
 ☒ He will establish justice in the world rightly.
☑ He will establish justice among all people fairly.
 ☒ Word of God, Word of Life. ☑ **Thanks be to God.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE: *In the Bleak Midwinter*

ELW Hymn 294

- 1 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.**
**2 Heaven cannot hold him, nor 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.**
**3 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 I can I give him—GIVE MY HEART.**

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-1894 Text is in Public Domain.

↑ **GOSPEL: Luke 2:8-12**

—*The Message*

- ☒ The Gospel according to Luke, the second chapter.
☑ Glory to you, O Lord.
 ☒ There were shepherds camping in the neighborhood. They had set night watches over their sheep. Suddenly, God's angel stood among them and God's glory blazed around them. They were terrified. The angel said, "Don't be afraid. I'm here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide: A Savior has just been born in David's town, a Savior who is Messiah and Master. This is what you're to look for: a baby wrapped in a blanket and lying in a manger."
 ☒ The Gospel of the Lord. ☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

OFFERING: *Once in Royal David's City*

Shepherd's Flock Ringers

- 1** *Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
 Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.*
2 *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 and meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.*
4 *Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by, we shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
 there his children gather round, bright like stars, with glory crowned.*

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895 Text is in Public Domain.



Chimes in the Night

A children's musical by Tom S. Long and Allen Pote

This musical for young voices is adapted from the classic Christmas story "Why the Chimes Rang," by Raymond MacDonald Alden. Allen Pote and Tom Long have transformed this inspirational tale of sacrificial love and giving into a moving musical program.

CAST

NARRATOR A and NOBLE: MARIAN GROOVER
NARRATOR B and NOBLE: IAN-DANTE OKORONKWO
NARRATOR C and MERCHANT: BREANNA BROADWELL
MARIE: ERIN GAMBREL
ANDREW: JONAS BARBOUR
MONEYCHANGER: ANNAHBELLA OLIVER
INNKEEPER and NOBLE: PRESTON STEELE
SCRIPTURE READER 1 and MERCHANT: JACK GUNDERSEN
SCRIPTURE READER 2 and MERCHANT: FINN GUNDERSEN

QUEEN: OLIVIA MILBURN

HERALD: BROOKS HUDSON

TOWNSPERSON 2, CONGREGATION 1, and NOBLE: ELLE WINIARCZYK

TOWNSPERSON 3, CONGREGATION 2, and MERCHANT: MARK STEELE

CHOIRMASTER and NOBLE: REAGAN HARRIS

OLD WOMAN

**NATIVITY CHARACTERS: MIRIAM BARBOUR, LARSON HUDSON, CAROLINE JOHNSON,
CHRISTINA POLITZA, MICKEY-REESE POU, ARIA WINIARCZYK**

♪ **IN A FARAWAY TIME AND SETTING THE STAGE:** *Narrators A and B, Townspeople*

Refrain: In a far-away time in a far-away land where travelers seldom go, stood a bustling town
full of bustling streets, and rooftops white with snow,
and the people there went along their way in the noise of the city's hum,
in the hopes that soon the bells would tell Christmas Day had come.

People stopping, window shopping, nothing is for free. Some will buy as others try to bargain for a fee.

Lords and ladies go parading, high society. Merchants selling, beggars yelling, "Save a coin for me!"

When the greatest gift is given, the best in all the land, the bells will ring that day, untouched by human hands.

SCENE 1: *Andrew, Marie, Moneychanger, Narrators C and A*

♪ **THE JOURNEY SONG**

Mile after mile they journey, mile after mile on the road,
with eyes lifted high, where hills touch the sky, a place where they long to go.
Mile after mile they wonder, what will the final place be?
When resting at last and hard roads are past, What heavenly things will they see?

Refrain: Saints in the windows and saints in the chairs, glowing in candlelight, gather to bless,
and the love of a child, asleep in the manger, touches their hearts with tender caress.
On, ever on, together, beyond the horizon we know that voices in song will rise up so strong,
the music of angels will flow.
On, ever on, we journey, on to the end of the day.
Then follow the light when sky fades to night, for someone is leading the way.

SCENE 2: *Narrators B and C, Andrew, Marie, Old Woman, Choirmaster, Scripture Readers*

♪ **O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL**

CONGREGATION AND CHORUS: O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant.

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels.

Refrain: **O come, let us adore him. O come, let us adore him. O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Sing, choirs of angels. Sing in exultation. Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above.

Glory to God, all glory in the highest.

Refrain: **O come, let us adore him. O come, let us adore him. O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

♪ **SONG AT THE MANGER**

Loyal Shepherd, precious Lamb, side by side with wisest king,
kneel to honor heaven's child, with their finest offering.

Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, sing of glory. Hear the angels' call. Alleluia, alleluia, sing of glory.
Peace on earth. Peace on earth to all.

Wool to make the winter warm, joyful songs from high above,
gold and myrrh and frankincense, gifts of wonder, hope, and love.

Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, sing of glory. Hear the angels' call. Alleluia, alleluia, sing of glory.
Peace on earth. Peace on earth to all. Peace on earth to all.

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SCENE 3: *Queen, Herald, Merchants, Nobles, Congregation Members, Andrew, Marie*

♪ **LOYAL SHEPHERD, PRECIOUS LAMB**

Solo: Loyal Shepherd, precious Lamb, Lord of angels, wisest King,
All I have is what I am, so I make this offering.
Jesus, take these empty hands, empty hands alone.
Jesus, take my empty hands. Use them, use them as your own.

SCENE 4: *Queen, Marie, Andrew*

♪ **BRIGHTLY, BRIGHTLY**

In one stone tower on one silent hill, comes one blazing hour, ending winter's chill.
Chimes like peals of laughter warm each frozen soul, tell of joy hereafter all will soon behold.

Refrain: Brightly, brightly ring the skies. Music of the bells will rise.
Joyful, joyful voices lift to celebrate the child, the perfect gift.

The whole world trembles on one holy night, when angels assemble, dancing in the light,
Proclaiming God is with us, born a child today. Let us echo heaven and give ourselves away.

Refrain¹: Brightly, brightly ring the skies. Music of the bells will rise.
Joyful, joyful voices lift to celebrate the child, the perfect gift.

⬆ **BENEDICTION**

📖 The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait. 📣 **Amen.**

⬆ **CLOSING HYMN:** *The Bells of Christmas*

ELW Hymn 298

- 1 **The bells of Christmas chime once more; the heav'nly guest is at the door.
He comes to earthly dwellings still with new year gifts of peace, good will.**
- 2 **This world, though wide and far outspread, could scarcely find for you a bed.
Your cradle was a manger stall, no pearl nor silk nor kingly hall.**
- 4 **Oh, join with me, in gladness sing, to keep our Christmas with our king,
until our song, from loving souls, like rushing mighty water rolls!**

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; translated by Charles Porterfield Krauth, 1823-1883, altered

⬆ **DISMISSAL**

📖 Go in peace, with God beside you. Invite everyone to Jesus' pathway of joy and life!
📣 **Thanks be to God.**

Director of Children and Family Ministry: INGRID HUDSON

Music and the Master Leaders: SUE BYERS, PAT OLIVER, JONI SIEPERT, DAVID BEECHER

Assistant Leader: CHELBY GAMBREL

Costumes, Props, and Scenery: SUE AND DAVE BYERS, JONI SIEPERT, SHELLY JAKUBOWSKI

sKIDdles Leader: BARBARA ANDERSON

Assistant Leader: LINDA BARBOUR

Tech Crew: BRAD MILBURN, CAROL JENSEN-LINTON, LINDA VOLCKMANN

*Sanctuary Flowers are given to the glory of God by Kathie Manes,
in celebration of the birthday of Jeannine Manes, her daughter-in-law.*