

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

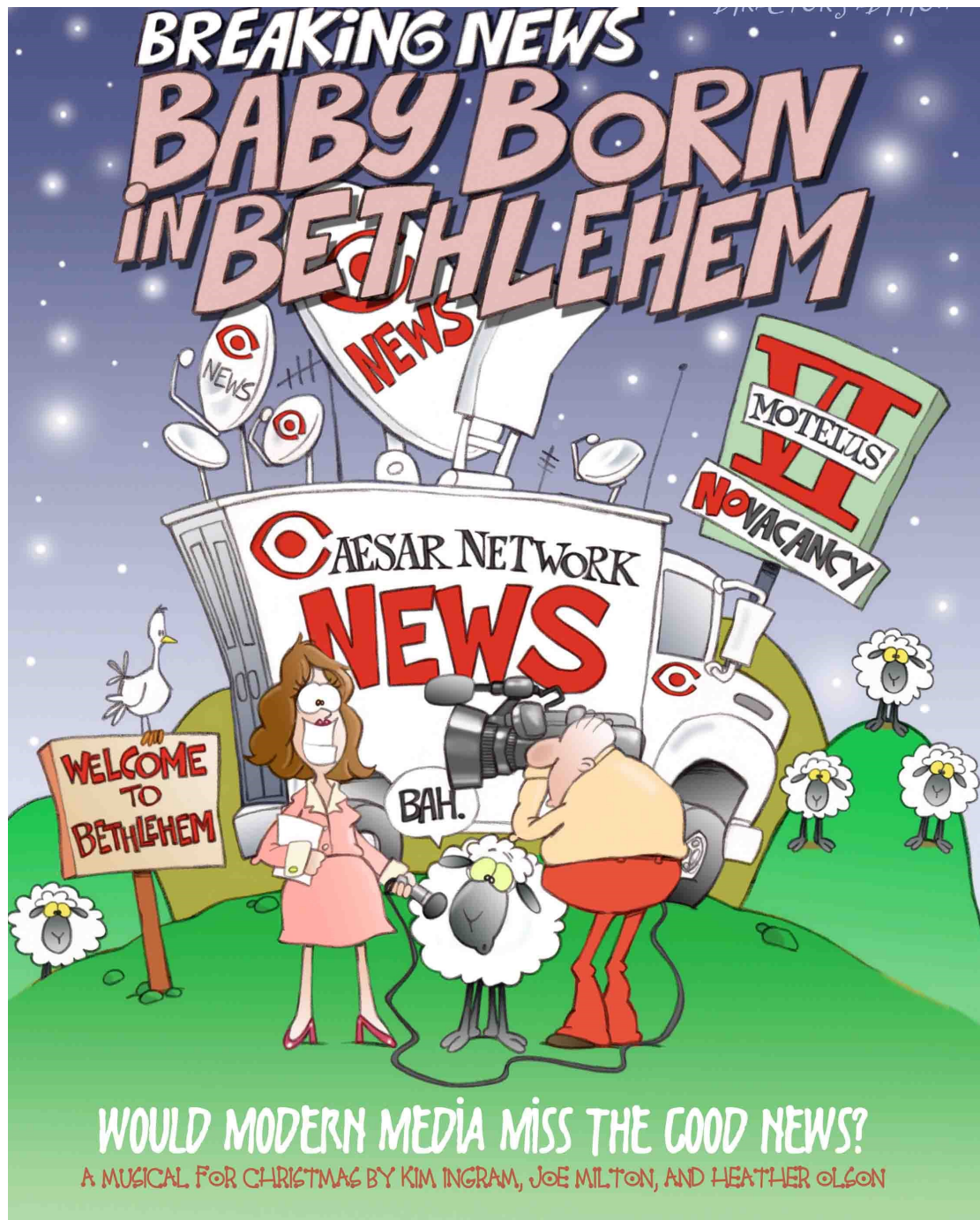
Peachtree City, Georgia

December 3, 2023

11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor    Miriam Beecher, Pastor

Larry Peterson, Director of Worship and Music



**PRELUDE** *Child of Our Dreams, Marty Haugen*      *Karl Dietmeyer, vocalist; Sarah Juhasz, handbells*  
*Welcome to worship! Worship this hour is built around the musical, "Breaking News: Baby Born in Bethlehem."*

## WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Fritz

### ↑ LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: *A Flickering Candle*

**A flick'ring candle sheds its light In hope of dawn's victorious might,  
And backward scurries cow'rdly night Reminded of the morning.  
Watch, watch, for Christ is near, The promised Son of God most dear.  
Hope, hope, His light will clear The shades of death and sin.**

**Come down, O Lord, do not delay; In sin's dark night we long for day.  
Your presence is the warming ray That kindles all creation.  
Watch, watch, for Christ is near, The promised Son of God most dear.  
Hope, hope, His light will clear The shades of death and sin.**

Text:: Mark Oldenburg, © 2008, 2014 Birmamwood Publications. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929.

☒ Let us pray: Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near.  
You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world.  
You show up in our lives at unexpected times.  
Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival.  
We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour,  
you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

☑ **Amen.**

*The first candle is lit.*

### ↑ EXCHANGING THE PEACE

☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always

☑ **Amen.**

*We share a sign of God's peace.*

**BREAKING NEWS: Baby Born in Bethlehem-*Would Modern Media Miss the Good News?***  
A Musical for Christmas by Kim Ingram, Joe Milton, and Heather Olson

### Scene 1: GOOD NEWS

**Good News: *Choir, Sally, Hadria***

### Scene 2: ON THE ROAD

**Reporters' Prayer: *Sally, Hadria***

**On the Road to Bethlehem: *Choir***

**Reporters' Prayer Reprise 1: *Sally, Hadria***

### Scene 3: AH-MAZING ANGELS!

**Reporters' Prayer Reprise 2: *Sally, Hadria***

**Glory Hallelujah: *Head Angel, Angel Chorus, Choir***

**Reporters' Prayer-Sally's Revelation: *Sally***

### Scene 4: THIS IS THE GOOD NEWS

**Midnight Clear: *Head Angel, Choir***

**Finale: *Choir, Congregation***

**Good News Curtain Call**

## CAST

(in order of appearance-left column first)

**Announcer-Jonas Barbour**  
**Producer-Ian Okoronkwo**  
**Greco Roman-Mark Steele**  
**Macy Donia-Miriam Barbour**  
**Sally Sleuth-Charlotte Pointek**  
**Hadria Harrassus-Olivia Milburn**  
**Pictorius-Jordan Spruill**  
**Sharpus Focus-Harper Spruill**  
**Tomus Bodettus-Jonas Barbour**  
**Persis-Mark Steele**  
**Delbert the Donkey-Brooks Hudson**  
**Adreinne Agora-Marian Groover**  
**Nathaniel-Larson Hudson**  
**Benjamin-Henry Evans**  
**Father-Finn Gundersen**  
**Joanna-Riley Spruill**  
**Mother-Hope Sieber**

**Joseph-Larson Hudson**  
**Mary-Elle Winiarczyk**  
**Terrificus Tradus-Ian Okoronkwo**  
**Georgius Zimmerus-Dave Byers**  
**Sheep 1-Aria Winiarczyk**  
**Sheep 2-Caroline Johnson**  
**Sheep 3-Jonas Barbour**  
**sKIDles sheep**  
**Shepherd 1-Henry Evans**  
**Shepherd 2-Larson Hudson**  
**Shepherd 3-Finn Gundersen**  
**Angel 1-Harper Spruill**  
**Angel 2-Riley Spruill**  
**Angel 3-Hope Sieber**  
**Angel Chorus-**  
**Sophia Spatz, Addison Spatz**  
**Head Angel-Marian Groover**

*Musical Director: Kendra Campbell-Milburn*

*Director of Children and Family Ministry: Ingrid Hudson*

*Music and the Master Leaders: Sue Byers, Pat Oliver, Joni Siepert, David Beecher, Larry Peterson*

*Assistant Leader: Chelby Gambrel*

*sKIDdles Leader: Barbara Anderson sKIDdles Assistant Leader: Linda Barbour*

*Costumes, Props, and Scenery: Sue and Dave Byers, Joni Siepert, Kathie Manes, Kendra Campbell-Milburn, Brad Milburn, Larry Peterson*

*Tech and Media Production Crew: Chelby Gambrel, Brad Milburn, Joni Siepert*

### ↑ PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDICTION

☞ The God of peace bless you,  
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,  
and the anointing of the Spirit + remain upon you now and forever.

☞ Amen.

### ↑ SENDING HYMN: *Fling Wide the Door*

*ELW Hymn 259*

**1 Fling wide the door, unbar the gate; the King of glory comes in state;  
the Lord of lords and King of kings, the Savior of the world who brings  
his great salvation to the earth. So raise a shout of holy mirth  
and praise our God and Lord, Creator, Spirit, Word.**

**4 Come, Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ; our hearts are open wide in trust.  
Oh, show us now your lovely grace, upon our sorrows shine your face,  
and let your Holy Spirit guide our journey in your grace so wide.  
We praise your holy name, from age to age the same!**

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590-1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

### ↑ SENDING

☞ Go in peace. Keep awake. Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.

☞ Thanks be to God.

### ↑ POSTLUDE

Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000345.  
*New Revised Standard Version Bible*, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ  
in the United States of America. Used by permission.

*Revised Common Lectionary*, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, administered by Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

*Altar Guild: Carol Talbot*

*Advent wreath lighting:*

*Tech crew: Brad McCumber, Linda Volckmann, Brad Milburn*

*Usher: Tom Conrad*

*Altar flowers given in honor of Thomas' birthday by Kevin and Laura Hawkins.*





