

## Order of Service 12.13.2020

### Prelude

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus  
-arr. Hayes

### Call to Worship

**Love Came Down at Christmas** (No. 242)

Love came down at Christmas,  
love all lovely, Love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas;  
star and angels gave the sign.

### Lighting the Advent Candle

Melissa Brooks

### Opening Hymn

**While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks**

(No. 236)

#### Verse 1

While shepherds watched their  
flocks by night,  
all seated on the ground,  
an angel of the Lord came down,  
and glory shone around.

#### Verse 2

Fear not," said he for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind  
"glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and all mankind.

#### Verse 3

To you, in David's town, this day  
is born of David's line  
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord;  
and this shall be the sign:

#### Verse 4

The heavenly babe you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all simply wrapped in swaddling clothes  
and in a manger laid."

#### Verse 5

Thus spoke the angel. Suddenly  
appeared a shining throng  
of angels praising God, who thus  
addressed their joyful song:

#### Verse 6

All glory be to God on high,

and to the earth be peace;  
to those on whom his favor rests  
goodwill shall never cease."

### Announcements Morning Prayer

#### Anthem

**Mary Did You Know**

Teresa Hopper, Solo

### Scripture Lesson Luke 2:1-20

#### The Birth of Jesus

2 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

#### The Shepherds and the Angels

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" 15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." 16 So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17 When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

### Sermon

*I Bought the Wrong Gift*

### Apostle's Creed (No. 881)

I believe in God the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth;  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under  
Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he arose from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth  
at the right hand of  
God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge  
the quick and the dead. I believe in the  
Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection  
of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

### Angels from the Realms of Glory

(No. 220)

#### Verse 1

Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

#### Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

#### Verse 2

Shepherds, in the field abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing;  
yonder shines the infant light:  
[Refrain]

#### Verse 3

Sages, leave your contemplations,  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of nations;  
ye have seen his natal star: [Refrain]

#### Verse 4

Saints before the altar bending  
Watching long in hope and fear  
Suddenly the Lord descending  
In His temple shall appear [Refrain]

### Postlude

*People, Look East -arr. Giamanco*

### Sunday School

Join us for our congregational-wide  
**Sunday School** in the CAC after  
service. From 10:15-10:45 AM, we will  
explore and study our Bible together in  
this group setting while maintaining  
social distancing.

Dear Church Family,

Due to Cleveland County now being classified as a Covid Red Zone, and in an abundance of caution, Central UMC will now be implementing the additional following actions:

- **All visitors to the church office** are required to wear a mask & will have temperature checks performed before entry
- KID Central will be postponed until further notice due to social distancing concerns
- Youth will adjust their meeting time to 6-7:00 pm on Sundays, masks will be required and social distancing will be observed
- There will be modifications to our worship services:

**Masks are required when attending any service or event.**

**No more than two people on the stage.  
Outdoor Christmas Service on 12/20/20 at 6:30 pm.  
There will be no refreshments after service.**

Thank you for your support and patience in adhering to protocols.

**Join us for a Candlelight Outdoor Christmas Celebration! 12/20/20 at 6:30pm** We will be doing a Lessons & Carols Service. There will not be any refreshments after service.

**Abba's Love**, the recently transformed women's shelter ran by Cleveland County Rescue Mission in Shelby is currently seeking **new women's and children's pajamas** (all sizes are needed). A lot of times when women and children flee to seek shelter, they often do not bring any belongings. These PJ's will be the first thing that they will change into after getting a shower to enter the shelter. Please bring your donations and put in the collection bin in the CAC hallway. Any questions, please see Debbie Greene.

## REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Please consider donating these items directly to the Blessing Box located outside of our church. With your help, the box will be continuously stocked and will help serve so many in our community.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

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### STEWARDSHIP REPORT ATTENDANCE

(12/07) 9:00a Service.....72

#### Operating Fund

Contributions 12/07 \$ 7,746.47  
Contributions YTD \$ 402,114.07

#### Capital Improvements Fund

Contributions 12/07 \$ 0.00  
Contributions YTD \$ 3,818.00

### PRAYER LIST: PRAISES AND CONCERNS

*Praises and concerns will stay on this list for one month unless otherwise requested.*

**Members in Nursing Homes, Assisted Living and Homebound:** Peggy Ramey; Sara Griffin; Jane Edwards; Barbara Bridges; Doris Sweeting; Ruth Wilson, Betty Masters.

**Military Personnel:** SGT Tyler Dixon-Marines; SSGT Jonathan Brucker-Army; CAPT Alex Plonk-Air Force; S 1 Tyler Hellstrand-Navy; Abbey Wallace-Air Force (Afghanistan); SSG Colby Bailey—Army (Deployed); LT Boone McDaniel, Navy; CAPT Wendell Bunch, Jr.—Army; CAPT Alex Young,—Air Force; SP4 Joshua Brucker (Fort Campbell); Skyler Rhea—Army (Saudi Arabia).

**Praises:** Birth of Bexley Cate Bridges daughter of Ramey & Matt Bridges, granddaughter of Faye & Clyde Kerns; great granddaughter of Peggy Ramey on 11/20/20; Birth of Klayton Selleck, son of Vincent and Tehani Selleck; grandson of Melissa & Gene Bragg on 12/9/20.

**Concerns (members/constituents/church-related concerns):** Guidance in developing new ministries; our college students; Community Kitchen Ministry; Tom Bennett 11.4.20; Jay Hendricks, Betty Master's son (surgery) 11.30.20.

**Concerns (friends/relatives/other concerns):** All children in need; Samuel Smith (cancer) 9.30.19; Cristi Boyd 9.30.19; Diane Larose 10.7.19; Crystal Braswell 10.16.19; The Family of Preston Lieser 11.11.20; Faye Pettrey; (Suffered from a fall); Chip Sloane.

## 220 Angels from the Realms of Glory

1. An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er  
 2. Shep-herds, in the field a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your  
 3. Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla-tions, bright - er vi - sions  
 4. Saints, be - fore the al - tar bend-ing, watch-ing long in

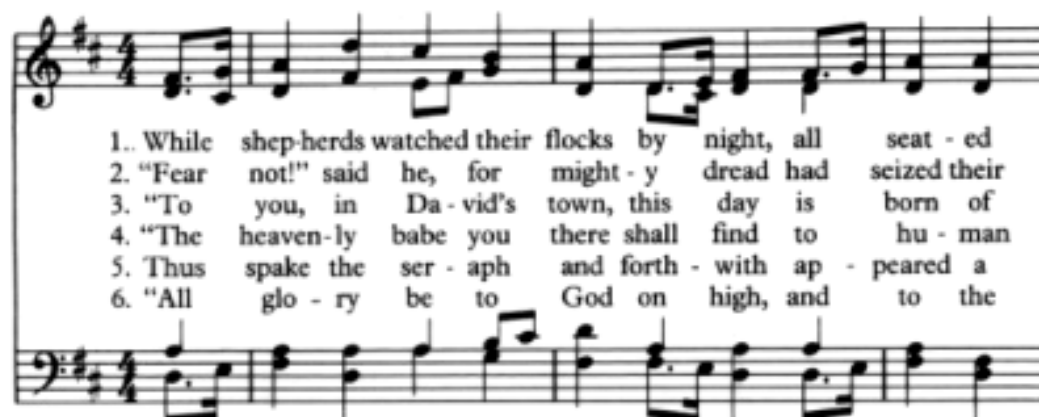
all the earth; ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry  
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing;  
 beam a - far; seek the great De - sire of na - tions;  
 hope and fear; sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

*Refrain*

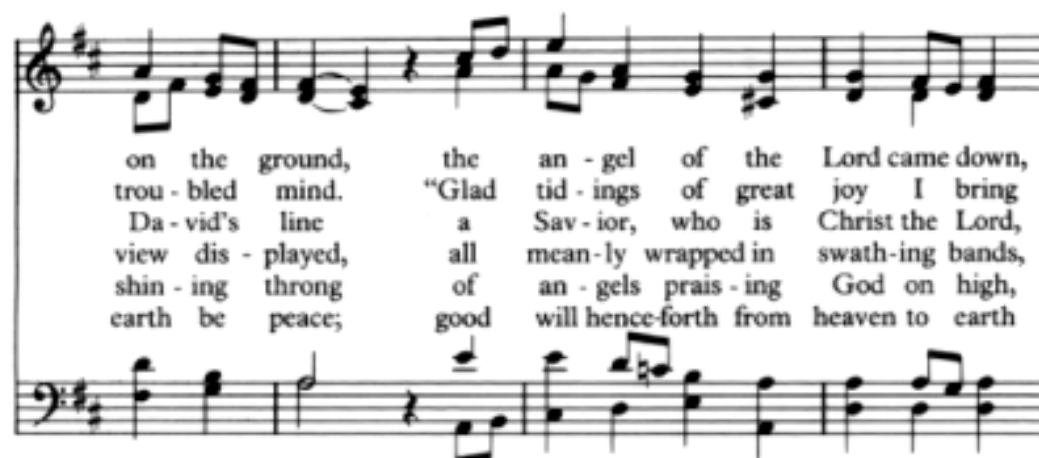
now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 yon - der shines the in - fant light: Come and wor - ship,  
 ye have seen his na - tal star:  
 in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

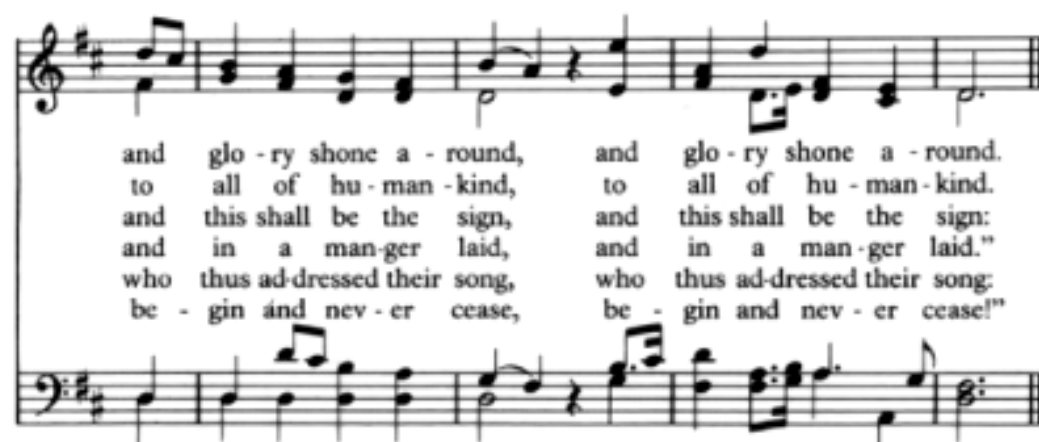
## 236 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks



1. While shep-herds watched their flocks by night, all seat-ed  
 2. "Fear not!" said he, for might-y dread had seized their  
 3. "To you, in Da-vid's town, this day is born of  
 4. "The heav-en-ly babe you there shall find to hu-man  
 5. Thus spake the ser-aph and forth-with ap-peared a  
 6. "All glo-ry be to God on high, and to the



on the ground, the an-gel of the Lord came down,  
 trou-bled mind. "Glad tid-ings of great joy I bring  
 Da-vid's line a Sav-ior, who is Christ the Lord,  
 view dis-played, all mean-ly wrapped in swath-ing bands,  
 shin-ing throug of an-gels prais-ing God on high,  
 earth be peace; good will hence-forth from heaven to earth



and glo-ry shone a-round, and glo-ry shone a-round.  
 to all of hu-man-kind, to all of hu-man-kind.  
 and this shall be the sign, and this shall be the sign:  
 and in a man-ger laid, and in a man-ger laid."  
 who thus ad-dressed their song, who thus ad-dressed their song:  
 be-gin and nev-er cease, be-gin and nev-er cease!"

WORDS: Nahum Tate, 1700 (Lk. 2:8-14)  
 MUSIC: *Harmonia Sacra*, 1812; arr. from G. F. Handel, 1728

CHRISTMAS  
 CM

Alt. tune: WINCHESTER OLD