

Order of Service 12.11.2022
Third Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Reflection on an Ancient Plainsong—arr. Ryan

Acolyte—Kalin B.

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Candle—
Melissa B. & Sawyer C.

Call to Worship

Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)
CCLI# 5607039

Verse 1

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and heaven and nature sing

Verse 2

Joy to the world the Savior reigns
Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy

Chorus

Joy unspeakable joy
An overflowing well
No tongue can tell
Joy unspeakable joy
It rises in my soul
Never lets me go

Verse 3

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders wonders of His love

Chorus

Opening Hymn

Goodness of God (CCLI #7117726)

Verse 1

I love You Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days
I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

Verse 2

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known You as a father
I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

Bridge

Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

Announcements

Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer—UMH #895

Choir Music Special

Carol of Light from "A Candlelight Christmas" by Benjamin Harlan

Offering

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming—arr. Purifoy

Doxology UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings
flow, Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of
all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose
power up-lifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

KIDS Central Music Program

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12 *2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, 2 asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." 3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, 4 and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: 6 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.' " 7 Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." 9 When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.*

Sermon

Baptism

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy Church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

I present **Boston Hogan Sellers** for baptism

On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

Will you nurture Boston in Christ's holy Church, that by your teaching and example she may be guided to accept God's grace for himself, to profess his faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

I will

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

With God's help, we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe 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, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

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.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal Father: When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

****Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.**

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

****Declare Christ's works to the nations, his glory among all the people.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and those who receive it, to wash away their sin and clothe them in righteousness throughout their lives, that, dying and being raised with Christ, they may share in his final victory.

****All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.**

Boston, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit work within you, that being born through water and the Spirit, you may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Now it is our joy to welcome our new brother in Christ.

Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus. With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you as member of the family of Christ.

Closing Hymn

Angels We Have Heard on High UMH #238 V1, V3, V4

Verse 1

Angels we have heard on high
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Verse 3

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)

Verse 4

See him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while our hearts in love we raise. (Refrain)

Benediction

Postlude

Fantasia on "The First Nowell" -arr. Hughes

You are Invited! Our **Christmas Cantata** will be 12/ 18 at 10:00 am. You are invited to join us for our 12/24 **Candlelight Christmas Eve** Service at 7:00 pm. Join us on Christmas Day & Communion Service, 10 am. **Please note: on December 24 & 25 there will be no KIDS Central or Nursery available.**

If you need to contact **Pastor Bruce Gwyn** please contact/text him at 704-291-0212 or pastor@cumckm.org.

December Ushers: Joe Patterson & Jimmy Warren

Greeter: Cecilia Meade

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
and in memory of James Barry Ware
by Allan and Tricia Propst.*



Welcome Visitors!



Scan to get connected to Central,
inquire about membership and
for prayer requests.

Altar Flowers Dates

We have several Altar Flower dates available. If you are interested in a date, please contact the church office at 704-739-2471 or email central@cumckm.org. Cost for flowers is \$100.

2023 Ushers & Greeters Needed

Help welcome people to Sunday Morning Worship here at Central! This is a ministry that can help our church grow. We are working on the usher and greeter calendar for the new year. We have several spots available. Please see Joe Patterson if you can volunteer or contact the church office.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

ATTENDANCE

(12/4) 10:00a Service.....111

Operating Fund

Contributions 12/4 \$ 8,588.00

Contributions YTD \$371,056.59

Capital Improvements Fund

Contributions 12/4 \$0.00

Contributions YTD \$0.00

Thank you for your support!

PRAYER LIST: PRAISES AND CONCERNS

Members in Nursing Homes, Assisted Living and Homebound: Jane Edwards; Barbara Bridges; Ruth Wilson, John & Evelyn Eagle; Marilyn Hamrick.

Military Personnel: SSGT Tyler Dixon-Marines; SSGT Jonathan Brucker-Army; SSgt. Joshua Brucker; Army; CAPT Alex Plonk-Air Force; S 1 Tyler Hellstrand-Navy; Abbey Wallace-Air Force (Afghanistan); SSG Colby Bailey—Army; LT Boone McDaniel, Navy; CAPT Wendell Bunch, Jr.—Army; CAPT Alex Young,—Air Force; PFC Matthew Oliveira—Ft. Bliss, El Paso, TX.

Concerns (members/constituents/church-related concerns): Guidance in developing new ministries; our college students; Community Kitchen Ministry; Jim Ware (death) 12.5.22 ; Penny Norwood (knee surgery recovery) 10.10.22; Ray Robinson (surgery).

Concerns (friends/relatives/other concerns): All children in need; Samuel Smith (cancer) 9.30.19; Sidney Bridges (brain tumor) 9.19.21; Freida Grant 2.21.22; Sherry Curtis 4.20.22; Jennifer Wall 4.26.22; Parker Byrd 7.27.22; Clyde V. (motorcycle accident); Robert Childers, Sr., 9.22.22; Terry and Johnny Neil 10.17.22; Charles Bagwell 10.17.22; Tina Melton 10.24.22; Phyllis Sweezy, mother of David Sweezy (death) 11.15.22; Marsha & Carl Morrow 12.1.22; Buck Buckner (cancer) 12.1.22.