

CAROL

A Little Child Will Come to Lead Us
Chancel Choir

arr. Besig

LESSON

Luke 2: 15-20

Savannah Sorrels

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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

CAROL #147

The First Nowell

LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-6

Thomas Sorrels

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

***THE CANDLELIGHTING HYMN #122**

Silent Night

(As the Christ light passes by your row, please turn your candle on.)

***BENEDICTION & BLESSING OF THE MEAL**

Our worship is over, but our service has only just begun - so go out into the world changed by the joy of light and empowered by the hope held in darkness. Get messy, shepherd the good news, and join the heavenly hosts proclaiming peace.

May we know the blessings of God the Giver, the grace of Christ the Messiah, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

Go out in the strength of Emmanuel, for God is with you. And may God bless our time together around the table and strengthen us for service.

Glory to God in the highest! Amen!

Postlude

Joy to the World

arr. Peterson

Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 15, 2024



Welcome!

Our faith community extends a warm welcome to all worshipping with us tonight and hopes that you will return often.

Please silence your cellphones. Thank you.

*Please stand if able.

PRELUDE

O Come All Ye Faithful

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anghaarad Teague Dees

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Psalm 8

The Bryan family
Bible, page 605

UNISON PRAYER

You, O Lord, are more wonderful than our lips can proclaim! When we consider the awesome works of your hands, your love for us is more than amazing. In your time, Creator God this world was put in place and in your time became beautiful through the craftsmanship of your love. Remind us to always look up and look around at the wonder that is around us. May we wonder, go on and wonder in the days ahead. Amen.

*HYMN #143

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, siblings and strangers, friends and foes, seekers and skeptics, for we are all welcome into God's joy-filled presence.

Today we join the Magi in our search for the Advent God!

Come, whether you feel well or ill, whether you feel burdened or carefree, for we are all welcome into God's joy-filled presence.

Today we join Mary and Elizabeth in our search for the Advent God!

Come, come learn and grow, come make mistakes and make amends, come rejoice and weep, for we are all welcome into God's joy-filled presence.

Today we join Joseph, the shepherds, and the angels in our search for the Advent God!

Come, for today we journey a little farther into the joy and the darkness of Advent, toward the Christ-child.

May we find and share God's hope, peace, joy, and love in the expectant darkness of this Advent season.

CAROL

Carol of the Bells
Youth Choir

LESSON

John 1:1-4

Sally Sease

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

CAROL #134

Joy to the World

LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

Sophia Haupt

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will

be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

CAROL

Mary Did You Know?
Youth Choir

Lowry

LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25

Laura Robert

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her.

CAROL

O Holy Night
Savannah Sorrels, Soloist

Adam

A STORY WITH THE CHILDREN

JOY GIFT OFFERING

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, the giver of life and all that is great and beautiful, we thank you for the gifts of talent, time and resources, and particularly for this Christmas Joy Offering. As we offer these gifts back to you, may they be used for your glory. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, God-with-us. Amen

OFFERTORY

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

arr. Ellison

LESSON

Luke 2: 1-7

Richard Goodman

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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.

CAROL

This Little Light of Mine
Children's Choir

LESSON

Luke 2: 8-14

Gracie Lanier

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"