



ARVADA
United Methodist Church

**6750 Carr Street • Arvada, CO 80004 • 303.421.5135 •
www.arvadaumc.org**

**Sunday, December 21, 2025
7 pm Christmas Orchestra / Candlelight Service**

Pre-Service Music

Christmas Orchestra

Trepak (from *The Nutcracker Ballet*) by Tchaikovsky, arr. by Meyer

Jingle Bells by Pierpont arr. by Blackwood

Snowy Woods by Lockett

Mozart Sleigh Ride by WA Mozart, edited by Stroud

Tidings of Comfort and Joy! arr. by Story

Welcome

Dr. Amy Gearhart

***Call to Worship**

Amy: "I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people".

All: "We welcome the news!"

Amy: "When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

All: "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

Song

Tidings of Comfort and Joy

***Opening Hymn**

O Come All Ye Faithful

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:

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, glory in the highest:
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Narrator Steven Binzel: Advent marks the beginning of the Christian new year shifting the focus to the spiritual significance of the birth of Jesus, fostering prayer, reflection and acts of kindness.

Narrator Bob McGrath: Tonight, we light the Advent candles as we listen to the carol Good King Wenceslas. The carol reflects on the life of the 10th-century Duke of Bohemia, Václav the Good. Known for his generosity and piety with real-life acts of kindness.

Narrator Patty Painter-Wakefield: We have the power to act kindly and foster hope, peace, joy and love. The human experience is genuine from the teachings of Jesus from our earliest childhood to the growth of our surrounding communities.

Special Music *Good King Wenceslas*

The Foretelling of a Savior's Birth

Narrator Steven: An anticipatory aria from Handel's Messiah promises Comfort, O comfort my people. He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and Come unto Him, all ye that labour, come unto Him that are heavy laden, and He will give you rest.

Music *He Shall Feed His Flock – Handel's Messiah*

Narrator Bob: As the story continues "the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; ... I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ... who is the Messiah, the Lord."

Invitation to Offering

If you wish to make your offering electronically, you may TEXT TO GIVE to 720-619-2862, or GIVE ONLINE at arvadaumc.org/giving.

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Music *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Narrator Bob: The chorus of “Gloria in excelsis Deo” invites us to celebrate the newborn king. Let us continue to ready our hearts with joy as we prepare our minds for meditation.

Music *Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring*

Reflection “Now the Birth of Jesus Took Place in This Way...”

Reflection in Song

Narrator Patty: The story has been told and was related to our present day. We have heard words without tunes and tunes without words. At this time of year, we are reminded of God’s presence with the sharing of Christ’s light and spreading it to the gathered people. The light of Christ. The hope of peace on earth, goodwill toward all people. The earth in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

(Traditional) *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* Soloists
Anne McNalley, Kirstin Miller and Sydney Vogel

Sharing the Light

(In Silence)

Carol of the Candle *Silent Night*

**Light one candle for all the world to see.
Light one candle that’s meant for you and me.**

***Silent night, Holy night. All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child. Holy Infant so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.***

Narrator Patty: Be aware of God's presence. Celebrate the birth of Jesus. Remember the hope, the peace, the joy and the love.

Narrator Steven: Will those who are able please stand and sing the hymn, *Joy to the World*?

***Closing Hymn** *Joy to the World*

Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns. Let men their songs employ.
While fields and floods, Rocks, hills and plains.
Repeat the sounding joy. Repeat the sounding joy.
Repeat, repeat the sound joy.

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 and wonders of His love/

***Benediction**

Postlude *Mary's Little Boy Child*

***Please stand as you are able.**