

***First Methodist Church***  
**Temple, Texas**  
**SERVICE OF WORSHIP**

December 24, 2023

10:00 am

**Welcome, Announcements & Congregational Greeting**

Dr. Tom Robbins

**Advent Candle Lighting**

Scott, Melissa, Allison, Annalee Piland

**Prelude**

Dr. Carl Bradley, Organist

*Prelude on "Stille Nacht"*

Arr. Gordon Young

**† Call to Worship**

Dr. Leslie Tomlinson

*Matthew 1:23*

Pastor: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

**People: And they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.'**

**† Opening Hymn No. 190** *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

**Special Music**

FMC Choir

*God So Loved This Silent Night*

**† Affirmation of Faith No. 691**

Dr. Jodi Pilgrim, Lay Servant

**The Apostles' Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord:**

**He was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**And born of the Virgin Mary,**

**He 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,**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living 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.**

† **Gloria Patri No. 33** MEINEKE  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy  
Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall  
be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

**Joys and Concerns**

Dr. Tomlinson

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy  
kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our  
trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And  
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For  
Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.  
Amen. (Matthew 6:9-13)**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Offertory** Dr. Bradley, Organist & Mr. Sammy Marshall, Pianist  
*Angels We Have Heard on High*  
Arr. Don Hustad and Ted Smith

† **Offertory Response No. 682** OLD 100<sup>th</sup>  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all Creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

† **Hymn No. 186** *In the Bleak Midwinter*

**Children's Time**

† **Scripture Lesson** Dr. Jodi Pilgrim, Lay Servant

*John 1:1-14*

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Dr. Robbins

## **Invitation to Christian Discipleship**

† **Hymn of Response No. 174**      *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

† **Benediction**      *Isaiah 40: 28 – 31*      Dr. Robbins

**Postlude**      Dr. Carl Bradley, Organist  
*Noel in G major*  
Louis-Claude Daquin

† *Denotes when to stand, as able.*

**Our Special Member of the Week:** Jamey Douglass, 8703 Sage Meadow Drive, Temple 76502. Please send Jamey a note and let him know he is a special part of our church family. Jamey recently lost his mother, Sharon.