



## Jarvis Memorial UMC Order of Worship

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

December 19, 2021

### *Gathering as the Body of Christ*

Gathering Music		The Jarvis Jammers
Welcome		Rev. Don Mitchell
Announcements	Lennie Furlough, Director of Communications and Connections	
Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle: (Love)		The Blizzard Family
Chiming of the Hour		
Organ Prelude		Dr. Catherine Garner, Interim Organist
Choral Call to Worship	<i>O Magnum Mysterium</i>	Jarvis Small Vocal Ensemble (music by Evan Ramos)

Translation: *O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament, that animals should see the new-born Lord, lying in a manger! Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear Christ the Lord.*

#### \*Invocation

Minister: Lord of Lords and King of Kings, shine into our hearts. Illumine us with the radiance of your glory. Banish our fear and dispel our darkness, that we may trust You completely and offer ourselves gladly in your service. Quiet and center us this Sunday before Christmas...that we may experience the miracle of the Incarnation anew: God becoming human; love overcoming hate; and goodness penetrating the darkness of this world. May we truly see in the tiny face of this newborn baby – the Gift of the Ages offered to us.

**All: That priceless gift, O God, is life with You; life that is love, peace, and joy; life without end. Amen.**

### *Offering Our Prayers and Praise*

\*Opening Hymn *What Child is This?* UMH 219

1. What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

2. Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

\*Affirmation of Faith

“The Apostles’ Creed”

UMH 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 rose 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.

\*Gloria Patri

UMH 71

*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.*

Call to Confession

Minister: Let us bow before our God; confess; repent; and turn from our sins:

Prayer of Confession

Minister: God of every Good Gift, we confess that we have failed to love others as You have loved us. Too often, we remember our neighbors’ failings, but we forget our own. We call on You in trouble, but we ignore You when all is well. We praise You in our words, but we fail You in our deeds. Lord, forgive us. We want to walk as children of the Light. We want to follow Jesus. Discipline us. Turn us in your direction. Call us to our senses...especially when we allow influences of the present age to overcome our trust in your power, your grace, and your Holy Word. Grant us mercy. Lead us anew, morning by morning this Christmas season and in the New Year. Through Christ we pray, as we pause now for silent confession:

*(pause for silent confession)*

Assurance of Pardon

*(from Isaiah 52:9)*

Minister: Isaiah foretold the Good News that’s now proclaimed to us: “The Lord has comforted His people and He has redeemed us.” In the name of Jesus our Savior, our sins are forgiven!

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer

Minister: Holy Child of Bethlehem, bring your gentle light to the hidden corners of our lives, so that our fears are soon rendered small and powerless. Touch our wounds, heal our sickness, comfort our griefs, and lift the hurts and regrets we carry...so that we may live in peace with You and with one another. Loving God, empower and equip us for greater witness, service, and care for those in need...especially the names we lift up to You this day.

**All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.**

*(Sharing today's prayer list and congregational concerns.)*

Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer *(in unison)*

**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.**

Special Music      *Christmas Day (Choral Fantasy on Old Carols)*      music by Gustav Holst  
Chancel Choir; Mary Gardner, Mezzo Soprano; Jason Kossol, Bass;  
Rachel Hupfeld, Soprano; Noah Sigsworth, Tenor

### **Sharing Our Blessings**

*Reminder: As a safety precaution, we are not passing the collection plates from pew to pew. Instead, a collection plate is stationed midway the back of the sanctuary near the rocking chairs for use on the way in or out. There is also a secured black lockbox by the stairwell in front of the receptionist's office that you may use. For those who'd like to drop off 2022 pledge cards today, please use the square pledge box on the back table...or drop these into the secured black lockbox by the stairwell in front of the receptionist's office. As always, tithes, offerings, and 2022 pledges may also be made online ([www.Jarvis.Church](http://www.Jarvis.Church) or the Jarvis Church app). Thank you.*

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

Minister: Gracious God, we count it a great joy and a holy calling to share with others what You have so freely given to us. Receive, we pray, these offerings of our hands and hearts...that your name may be hallowed; your Gospel proclaimed; and your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.

**All: Through Christ, we pray. Amen.**

\*Doxology

*(Please stand if able.)*

*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.*

### **Proclaiming the Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Minister: O Prince of Peace, as the Scriptures are read and proclaimed, open our eyes and hearts to see and feel your presence among us. Help us trust You as Joseph did...that day by day your unfolding plan will be revealed. Rekindle our faith and teach us to sing the songs of gladness even in the midst of uncertainty.

**All: Sanctify our thoughts, words, hands, and feet that we may choose the path of peace and the way that leads to eternal life. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-10

Pew Bible, OT Page 640

Anthem

*The Hands That First Held Mary's Child*  
Chancel Choir; Jennifer Casey, cello

music by Dan Forrest

*The hands that first held Mary's child were hard from working wood. From boards they sawed and planed and filed and splinters they withstood. This day they gripped no tool of steel, they drove no iron nail; But cradled from the head to heel our Lord, newborn and frail. When Joseph marveled at the size of that small breathing frame, And gazed upon those bright new eyes and spoke the infant's name, The angel's words he once had dreamed poured down from heaven's height, And like the host of stars that beamed blessed earth with welcome light. "This child shall be Emmanuel, not God upon the throne, But God with us, Emmanuel, as close as blood and bone." The tiny form in Joseph's palms confirmed what he had heard, And from his heart rose hymns and psalms for heaven's human word. The tools that Joseph laid aside a mob would later lift, And use with anger, fear, and pride to crucify God's gift. Let us, O Lord, not only hold the child who's born today, But charged with faith may we be bold to follow in His way.*

\*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25

Pew Bible, NT Page 1

*(If able, please stand for the reading of the Gospel.)*

Minister: This is the Word of God, for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Message

"Sanctification: Joseph's Holy Response"

Rev. Don Mitchell

(Week Four of the Advent Series: "A Season of Promise, Peace, and Joy")

***Called to Go Forth and Witness in the World***

\* Choral Benediction

*Joy to the World* (arr. John Rutter)

UMH 246

Note: The Chancel Choir and Congregation will sing verses 1, 2, and 4 together.  
The Chancel Choir will sing verse 3 alone.

Verse 1: 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 nature sing.

Verse 2: Joy to the earth, 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.

Verse 3: Choir only.

Verse 4: 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.

\*Benediction

*Please wait for the ushers to dismiss you pew by pew  
so that we may observe the safe gathering and safe exiting guidelines.  
Your cooperation is much appreciated as we continue preventative measures  
to care for and protect one another during this pandemic.*

\*Chimes of The Trinity

\*Postlude

### **Old Testament Lesson (Isaiah 11:1-10)**

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see; or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth. He shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf, the lion, and the fatling together, *and a little child shall lead them.*

The cow and the bear shall graze. Their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

### **\*Gospel Lesson (Matthew 1:18-25)**

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* Joseph 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 Mary as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

*Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.*

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*(The congregation may be seated.)*