

First Sunday after Christmas Day
December 26, 2021
Service of Lessons and Carols

Announcements / Musical Prelude - Kimberly Bazemore

(Congregational Parts in Bold)

CALL TO WORSHIP *(stand)*

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Rejoice this happy morning, for the Savior has been born.

We lift our hearts unto the Lord!

Rejoice this happy morning, for his name is Jesus, which means, "the Lord saves".

We lift our hearts unto the Lord!

Rejoice this happy morning, for he is Emmanuel, which means, "God with us".

We lift our hearts unto the Lord!

Rejoice this happy morning and keep the Christmas feast with joy.

Glory to God in the highest and peace to all who dwell on earth!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray: Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature and be born of the Virgin Mary. **Grant that we, having been redeemed and made your children by grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

LESSON ONE - PARADISE LOST *(Sit)*

Genesis 3:8-24

LBW #38:1-3 "O Savior, Rend the Heaven's Wide" *(Tune: LBW #51, From Heaven Above)*

**O Savior, rend the heavens wide; Come down, come down with mighty stride;
Unlock the gates, the doors break down; Unbar the way to heaven's crown.**

O Morning Star, O radiant Sun, When will our hearts behold your dawn?

O Sun, arise; without your light We grope in gloom and darkest night.

Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies; Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.

Oh, come lead us with mighty hand From exile to our promised land.

LESSON TWO - PROMISE GIVEN

Isaiah 9:1-7

LBW #34:1,3,5 "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel"

**Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear: Refrain**

**Oh, come, strong Branch of Jesus, free Your own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell your people save And give them vict'ry o'er the grave: Refrain**

**Oh, come, O Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high And close the path to misery: Refrain**

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel

LESSON THREE - PROMISE KEPT

Luke 1:26-38

LBW #39 "Joy To The World"

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room And heav'n and nature sing.
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**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.**

**No more let sin and sorrow grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**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.**

LESSON FOUR - GOD IS WITH US

Luke 2:1-7

LBW #67 "Away in a Manger"

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care And fit us for heaven to live with you there.**

LESSON FIVE - COME AND SEE

Luke 2:8-20

MESSAGE Pastor Rod Stephenson

LBW #60 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!**

**Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us second birth.**

LESSON SIX - IN THE FULLNESS OF TIME

Gal 4:4-7

LBW #41 "O Little Town Of Bethlehem"

**O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.**

**For Christ is born of Mary, And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king, And peace to all the earth!**

**How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming; But, in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still The dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
Oh, come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!**

LESSON SEVEN - THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

John 1:1-5, 10-14

LBW #45 "Oh, Come All Ye Faithful"

**Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant! Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him Born the king of angels: Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal, Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father Nor in flesh appearing! Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh 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 In the highest: Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing: Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

PRAYERS

OFFERING (*Sung; Tune: LBW #40, "What Child Is This"*)

**So bring him incense, gold and myrrh; Come peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!**

Let us pray: **We offer, Father, our gifts and praise, a joyful return for the gift of your Son. Amen**

GO AND TELL

LBW #70 "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Refrain: **Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, through-out the heavens There shone a holy light. Refrain**

**The shepherds feared and trembled When, lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain**

**Down in a lonely manger The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn. Refrain**

DISMISSAL

P: The love of God in Christ has come.

C: With Christmas joy tell everyone!

POSTLUDE - Kimberly Bazemore