

December 11, 2011 SERVICE OF WORSHIP

11:00 am

Liturgical Color: Purple

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Mary Lynn Polk, Lay Leader

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim, till all the world adore his sacred name.

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

Marisa Rogers

PRELUDE

Veni, Emmanuel

setting by John Leavit

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mary Lynn Polk

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord, who has done gloriously: Let God's deeds be known in all the earth.

People: Shout aloud and sing for joy, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Leader: As the earth brings forth its shoots, and as what is sown springs up in a garden, so the Lord will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all nations.

People: We will greatly rejoice in the Lord, we will praise God with our whole being. (based on Isaiah 12:5-6; 61:10a, 11-12)

***HYMN NO. 213**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Truro

***INVOCATION**

The Reverend Terry C. Martin

God of peace, when your Son Jesus was born of Mary, tyrants ruled and the people were afraid. But you love justice; you bring your peace in the midst of great trouble and strife. Free us from fear; bring us to your joy. Hear our prayers and accept our thanksgiving. Make us ready for the coming of Christ Jesus, our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen

***A MODERN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH NO. 885**

Pastor: Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

People: We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good. We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death. We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need. We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI NO. 70**

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.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (See insert)

Andy, Sarah, Joe, and Libby Hartung

On the third Sunday of Advent, we light three candles. The first signifies that our hope grows stronger. With the second candle, we remember our longing for God to be with us and to give us peace. Today, we light a third candle for joy. We remember in this time of shadows those whose tears still water the ground with sadness, and we pray that God will bring all people home with shouts of joy.

All: Come, Lord Jesus. In your light we will trust and find peace.

In God's promised new heaven and new earth: "The city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it." (Revelation 21:23-24)

All: Come, Lord Jesus. In your light we will trust and find peace.

A Candle is Burning

Sandra Dean (alt.)

James Murray

A musical score for the hymn "A Candle is Burning". The score is written in G major (one flat) and 3/4 time. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "A candle is burn - ing, a flame warm and bright, a can - dle of hope in a dark win - ter night. While an - gels sing bles - sing from heav'n's star - ry sky, our hearts we pre - pare now for Je - sus is nigh."

A can - dle is burn - ing, a
3
flame warm and bright, a can - dle of
6
hope in a dark win - ter night. While an - gels sing
10
bles - sing from heav'n's star - ry sky, our
13
hearts we pre - pare now for Je - sus is nigh.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Page 846 (OT) in pew Bibles

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***†GOSPEL LESSON**

John 1:6-8, 19-28 Page 111 (NT) in pew Bibles

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

The Bethlehem Carol

arr. Audrey Snyder

Chancel Choir with John DeLoach, clarinet

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Once in Royal David's City

arr. Charles Callahan

***DOXOLOGY 238** (refrain only) *Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Reverend Terry C. Martin

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Myra Shaffer

As the children come to the front of the Sanctuary for a special message, they are invited to bring change to help in buying an animal for Heifer International. If any adults want to contribute, please pass your money to a child as they come forward. Following Children's Time, 3-year-olds through Kindergarteners may leave the Sanctuary for Extended Session.

***HYMN NO. 250**

Once in Royal David's City

Irby

SERMON

“Who Are We?”

The Reverend Terry C. Martin

***HYMN NO. 218**

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Carol

***BENEDICTION**

May the One born in Bethlehem – who joined divinity and humanity, love of God and labor for people – unite heaven and earth, in us as in him. Amen.

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE 204**

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel*

***POSTLUDE**

†Sermon Text

**Please stand if you are able*

Nursery Provided

Music Notes

In 1867, Phillip Brooks composed the text for *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, reflecting on his journey by horseback from Jerusalem to Bethlehem where he assisted with the midnight service on Christmas Eve. A year later, Lewis Redner, Brooks' organist, set the poem to the tune we most commonly associate with this familiar carol. Audrey Snyder has combined Redner's original tune with the traditional English melody *Forest Green*, another tune associated with this carol, and produced today's Chancel Choir anthem: *The Bethlehem Carol*.

The Bethlehem Carol

arr. Audrey Snyder

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 wondering love.

O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is
given!

So God imparts to human hearts the blessings
of His heaven.

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 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.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O little town of Bethlehem.

Christmas Poinsettias

The Poinsettias today are given in loving honor of:

Sara Callison, our Prayer Warrior, by Brooke and Heather Faulkner.

Mike and Zella Williams by Gregg and Zella Moore and Rebekah.

Mildred Gallegly by Gregg and Zella Moore and Rebekah.

Jeremy, Cass, Selah, Moriah, Patrick, Lauren, and Wesley

by Jim and Kathy Kelly.

Millie C. Workman by Marilyn W. Barmore.

Terry Kelly by Jim and Kathy.

Our teacher, **Evelyn Irwin**, by the Trinity Class.

Our teacher, **Kit Adkins**, by the Trinity Class.

Our teacher, **Bob Helfrich**, by the Trinity Class.

Our teacher, **Hazel Bennett**, by Trinity Class.

Footsie Rice, Merry Christmas from Pam, Brooke, and Heather Faulkner.

Betty Scott by John and Susan Thompson.

Sara Callison by Richard, Susan, and Joy Pinckney.

Thomas C. Rambo on his birthday, December 30th by his mother, Evelyn Rambo.

Bill White by Santa Claus.

De and Jule Canaday by Jim and Kathy Kelly.

Bruce Higginbotham by Bill and Doris Tunstall and family.

A most wonderful wife and mom by Jimmy, Jeremy and Cass,
Patrick and Lauren, and Wesley.

Leon and Patty Thompson by John and Susan Thompson.

Mrs. Hazel Bennett, our loving Prayer Warrior, and

Bob Bennett by Joe and Libby Hartung.

Richard and Ginny Butler by Joe and Libby Hartung

Nancy Bagwell on her birthday, December 7 by her grand girls,
Megan, Anna Greer, and Adrienne Bagwell.

Madison, Olivia, William, Evan, and Karleigh by Suzanne Rowland.

The newsletter ladies, **Mott Troublefield, Ruby Minor, Evelyn Irwin, Virginia Wiggins, Gale Robinson, Peggy Cheezem and Mary Metger**,
for their faithful service by Emmie Burns.

Bill Charles by Scurry, Gemma, Scurry, Jr. and Bennett.

Joe and Vickie Chandler by the Tharpe boys.

Christmas Poinsettias

The Poinsettias today are given in loving memory of:

Dr. Casper Wiggins by his family.

Ernest C. McWatty by Phyllis McWatty and family.

Clint and Bill Faulkner and Grammy Rogers by Pam, Brooke, and Heather Faulkner.

M.L. Murph, Jr. by Carolyn H. Murph and family.

Ray Whatley by Verda E. Whatley.

John G. Kelly, Jr. by Jim and Kathy Kelly.

Harry R. Mays by Harriet Mays.

Our son, *Drake* and our parents, *Tom and Louise Anderson and Charlie and June Long*, by Geddes and Susan Anderson.

Jack Z. Taylor by Lisa Taylor Getty.

Jack Z. Taylor by Zack and Helen Taylor.

Gayle and Gee Poe with love from their family.

Clarence and Louise Arnold and Anita Zeigler by their family who love and miss you.

Abner P. Stockman by Bob and Betsy Cureton.

Mary Elizabeth Stockman by Bob and Betsy Cureton.

Rachel Larkins by Tyler, Jennifer, and Peyton Larkins.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Tanner Cronic by Marilyn Barmore.

Mr. Edward F. Workman by Marilyn Barmore.

Elisabeth Scurry Charles by William K. Charles, Jr.

Our parents, *Shorty Callison and Marion and Lois Pinckney*, by Richard and Susan Pinckney.

Our parents, *Ted and Katherine Morton and Herndon and Etta Rosson* by Ted and Henrietta Morton.

Harvey Scott by John and Susan Thompson.

Dr. Jim Cheezem by Peggy Cheezem.

Billie Harley by Ben Harley.

Dr. and Mrs. A. B. Cooper by Mary Lynn, Jonathan, Christopher, Aurora, and Romulus Polk.

Reverend and Mrs. N. K. Polk, Sr. by Mary Lynn, Jonathan, Christopher, Aurora, and Romulus Polk.

Eleanor Rice by Pam, Brooke, and Heather Faulkner.

Stan and Ruth Miller by the Holbrook-Miller family.

Miriam Alewine by Fred Alewine.

Kenneth Young by Flo Young.

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Bracknell by Mr. and Mrs. John L. Bracknell.

Loved Ones by Fred and Betty Calfee.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Y. Thomason, Sr. by Suzanne, Brent, Bayne, and Paige Rowland.

V. P. "Bud" Rowland, Jr. by Suzanne, Brent, Bayne, and Paige Rowland.

Ed and Mildred Moore by Anne M. Farquhar.

Gay Charles by Scurry, Gemma, Scurry, Jr., and Bennett.