

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, December 12, 2021

The Third Sunday of Advent

The Hanging of the Green



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster



GATHERING/WELCOME

PRELUDE: *Love Is Little* Chamber Choir

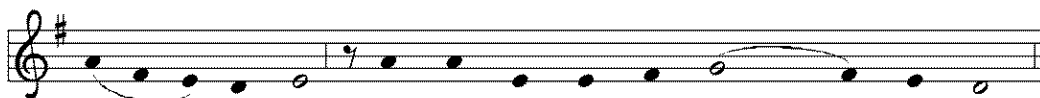
Tolling of the Bell

THE PROCLAMATION: Isaiah 40:3-5a

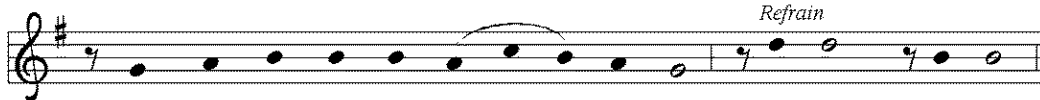
PROCESSIONAL CAROL: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* All Stand & Sing



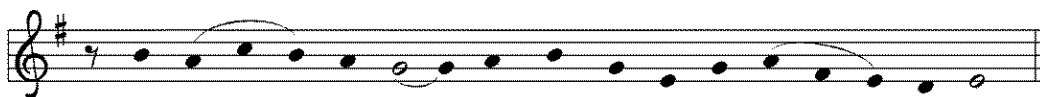
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way.
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

THE INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit

C Amen.

THE ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS LITANY

P Give glory to the coming King.

C Oh, come let us worship Him.

P Blessings on Him who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Glory to God in the highest and Peace to His people on earth.

P Blessed are you, Son of God, as you shine with the Father's love, illuminating the whole world.

C Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

P With all the creatures on earth, we sing this birth.

C Praise and honor and glory to you, O Lord most High.

THE OPENING PRAYER

Please Be Seated

OFFERING: *Who's That Baby?* Church Choir

THE MEANING OF THE SERVICE

THE INVITATION

THE ANTHEM: *Where Shepherds Lately Knelt* Chamber Choir



THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: The third candle represents **JOY**. There is everlasting joy in our hearts because of the birth of our Savior.



Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.

THE CHRISTMAS BELLS

THE ANTHEM: *O Come All Ye Faithful* Handbell Choir

THE SANCTUARY EVERGREENS

THE CAROL: *The First Noel* (Congregation Remains Seated)

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:

Refrain: **Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel!**

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night: **Refrain**

And by the light of that same star,
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went. **Refrain**

THE CRISMON TREE



CAROL: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*. All Sing



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt.
Music: W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY, Polish carol

THE CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA



THE CAROL: *In the Bleak Midwinter* All Sing & Remain Seated

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
 3 What . . . can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
 If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
 if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830–1894
 Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

THE NATIVITY



CHRISTMAS CAROL: *Love Has Come* All Sing, Remain seated



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de Noël's composés en langue provençale*, 1856

Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES



THE CAROL: *Silent Night* All Stand & Sing
Raise your candle at ***Christ, the Savior & Jesus, Lord***

1. 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.

2. Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts...sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!



3. Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.




Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr: John F. Young, 1820–1885
Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

THE PROCLAMATION

THE BLESSING


THE PROCESSION INTO THE WORLD: *Joy To The World* All Stand & Sing (Please extinguish your candles at beginning of the hymn.)



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king: let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

THE DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Let everyone know the hope and peace that fills you.

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: *Angels We Have Heard on High* Albrecht

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PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Pastor: Micah Kearney

Music: Greg Cline

Directors: Leslie Crist & Fran Holland

Soloist: Greg Byrum

Postlude Organist: Suzanne Fairbairn

Proclamation: Bob Koehler

Altar Poinsettias: Jean Ferguson
Becky Richards

Acolyte: Jack Bryant

Crucifer: Alec Via

Poinsettia Procession: Children of the Church

Door Wreaths: Evan & Brianna Howard

Handbell Choir

Church Choir

Chamber Choir

Bell Toll: Janet Achor

Readers: Warren Heller Alan & Ashley Hyman & Family
Rebecca Yount Jeff Howard

Jill Cassel
Brian Achor

Animals for the Manger: Children of the Church



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS 2021

GLORY TO GOD:

Greg Byrum

IN HONOR OF:

Greg Byrum in honor of Mrs. Olin S. (Mary) Byrum

Shirley Causby in honor of Greg Cline

Greg Cline in honor of Shirley Causby

Greg Cline in honor of Faye & Warren Heller

John & Leslie Crist in Honor of Wyatt & Brooklyn Sutenfield. & Max & Olive McCotter,
Patrick & Jacob Crist

The Kearney Family in honor of the saints of Holy Comforter, past and present (2
poinsettias)

IN MEMORY OF:

Donna Bean in memory of Faye H. Bean

Jim, Alex & Garrett Buell in memory of Carmen Buell

Greg Byrum in memory of Mr. Olin S. Byrum

Shirley Causby in memory of Tommy Causby

Dr. Raul & JoAnne de la Vega in memory of Dr. & Mrs. Raul E. de la Vega (3 Poinsettias)

Mark & Rebecca Yount and Luke & Alec Via in memory of Heather Mauney Yount

Mark & Rebecca Yount and Luke & Alec Via in memory of Paul Outlaw

Mark & Rebecca Yount and Luke & Alec Via in memory of Myra & John Yount

Susan & Don Nelson in memory of Charles Grafton

Allie Flusche in memory of Adrielle Goodwin

Dean & Dianna Halverson in memory of Helena Noel

Dean & Dianna Halverson in memory of Richard "Dick" Halverson

John & Leslie Crist in Memory of Ray and Rita Broome, Bill & Rosa Crist

Mark & Ann Reese in Memory of Shirley Sharpe Robertson

Mark & Ann Reese in Memory of James Allen Reese

Rianna Nance In Memory of Theron Nance

Debbie Mendez in memory of Alice and Mark Lyerly

Debbie Williams in memory of loved ones

Shelia Kelly in memory of parents & grandparents

Diana Kooser in memory of loved ones

Sue Lahr in memory of Stan Lahr

This is the list that the church office received. We apologize if there were any names omitted.



Holy Doodles



Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

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Church Office Hours: - Monday – Friday 8:30am-2:00pm

Micah Kearney, Pastor- email: Micahkearney@gmail.com

Greg Cline, Organist/Choirmaster

Beka Forst, Deacon of Discipleship

Sandra Askey, Office Manager