

FIRSTCHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF OAK RIDGE

1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike • Oak Ridge, TN 37830 • fumcor.org • 865-483-4357 phone • 865-483-4391 fax

December 19th, 2021

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Welcome! We pray that worship at First United Methodist Church is a blessing for you, even as your presence blesses us. Since we remain under pandemic protocols, our time together will differ from our services in the past, but we celebrate that God's gift of grace is enough to sustain us in all circumstances. If the last year has taught us anything, it is that being together to worship God is an enormous blessing.

MUSIC DURING THE GATHERING

Carol of the Bells

arr. by: Thomas Graf

Mozart Divertimento No. 4

arr. by: Theodore Finney

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Mozart Divertimento No. 1

arr. by: Frederick Thurston

The Trinity Chimes, the three chimes heard at the opening of the worship service, represent God our Creator, Jesus Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit who sustains us.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Not in the mighty places of power, but in little Bethlehem, in a room out back:

The Messiah is coming.

Not born in nobility and wealth, but of Mary and Joseph, who pondered and planed wood:

The Messiah is coming.

Not announced by prophets, priests, and royalty, but by two women
who were the first to know:

The Messiah is coming.

Nothing will be impossible for God, but when and where we least expect it,
look among the straw and the stars:

The Messiah is coming.

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN, NO. 198

My Soul Gives Glory to My God

MORNING SONG

My Soul Gives Glory to My God 198

1. My soul gives glo - ry to my God. My
 2. My God has done great things for me: yes,
 3. From age to age, to all who fear, such
 4. Love casts the might - y from their thrones, pro -
 5. Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant sup -

heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my
 ho - ly is this name. All peo - ple will de -
 mer - cy love im - parts, dis - pens - ing jus - tice
 motes the in - se - cure, leaves hun - gry spir - its
 ports those in dis - tress, re - mem - ber - ing past

low - li - ness in man - y mar - ve - lous ways.
 clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.
 far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
 sat - is - fied, the rich seem sud - den - ly poor.
 prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

WORDS: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987 (Lk. 1:46b-55)
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813;

MORNING SONG
 CM

Response:

Lead me, Lord, lead me in your righ-teous-ness;
make your way plain be-fore my face.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." **R.**

CONFESSION AND PARDON

God our Savior, we ask for your mercy.

Though we have heard Mary's song,

we still seek security in pride and power and possessions.

Though we know your story, we resist the cost of following you.

We pass by those considered lowly in this world.

We turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled.

Forgive us, we pray.

Help us to work for the justice you intend.

Make us messengers of the peace you bring.

As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. Amen.

Silence for personal confession.

ANTHEM

BASQUE CAROL

The Angel Gabriel

arr. by: Richard Shepard

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All Hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady," Gloria! "For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee, thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady," Gloria! Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said, "My soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name." Most highly favored lady, Gloria! Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say, "Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 1:46-55

Mary said: “My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you, my Savior. For you have looked with favor upon your lowly servant, and from this day forward all generations will call me blessed. For you, the Almighty, have done great things for me, and holy is your Name. Your mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear you. You have shown strength with your arm; you have scattered the proud in their conceit; you have deposed the mighty from their thrones and raised the lowly to high places. You have filled the hungry with good things, while you have sent the rich away empty. You have come to the aid of Israel your servant, mindful of your mercy—the promise you made to our ancestors—to Sarah and Abraham and their descendants forever.”

SERMON

The Upheaval Has Begun

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**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.

DOXOLOGY, NO. 94*LASST UNS ERFREUEN*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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†HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP, NO. 216

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN ROS ENTSPRUNGEN

Lo, How a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!

Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.

It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,

When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;

With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.

To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,

When half-spent was the night.

O Savior, Child of Mary, who felt our human woe,

O Savior, King of Glory, who dost our weakness know;

Bring us at length we pray to the bright courts of heaven,

And to the endless day!

†BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Ave Maris Stella IV: Amen

by: Marcel Dupré

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Rev. Mark Flynn, *Lead Pastor*

Liturgists: Rev. Jenny Caughman, *Spiritual Care Pastor*

*****, *Advent Candle Lighters*

Music: Rev. Seth O'Kegley-Gibson, *Pastor of Music & Worship*

Josh Sumter, *Music Associate & Organist*

Members of the Parish Adult Choir

Clarinet Trio: Kristi Younkin, John Snyder, & Kerry Morrison

*Large Poinsettias given to the glory of God by Vicki & Greg Hinkel in memory of Vicki's parents,
Richard & Bess Turner.*

(Lyrics reprinted under CCLI #1524077)