

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Northside Presbyterian Church – December 20, 2020

GATHERING MUSIC – *“Angels From the Realms of Glory”* – Simple Gifts

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

INTROIT – *“Gloria, Gloria”* – Simple Gifts

CALL TO WORSHIP

An angel spoke to Mary: “Do not be afraid!”

The child she carries will be God’s son, and the world will never be the same.

An angel spoke to Mary: “Do not be afraid!”

God was with her, and God is with us, drawing us into worship and praise.

HYMN – *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”* (119, v. 1-3)

**1 Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”**

**2 Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”**

**3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”**

ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING – Marshall Chaney

God calls us to worship today as followers of his Son, Jesus Christ. We light these candles as a symbol of the coming light of our Messiah.

*Jesus asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” (Mark 8:29)
Each day the world asks us the same question Jesus asked Peter: Who is coming?*

With Peter, we declare that Christ, the Son of God, is coming.

When Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be that sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” (Mark 13:3-4)

With the disciples, we wonder when Christ will come.

Jesus comes to this world filled with pain, suffering and death.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

With John the Baptist, we call to our world, "Prepare the way of the Lord."

Jesus comes to this world as a mystery kept secret for long ages, but disclosed according to the command of God.

Mary said to the angel, "How can this be?" The angel answered, "Nothing will be impossible with God."

With Mary, we say, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

As we wait, we celebrate his first coming as a baby and his life of sacrifice.

But even more, we look forward to his glorious second coming when he will make all things new.

CHIME RESPONSE

GOSPEL – Luke 1:26-38 – Marshall Chaney

OFFERING OF MUSIC – "Winds Through the Olive Trees"- Simple Gifts

GOSPEL – Luke 1:39-55

SERMON – "Singing Ahead of Time"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN – "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (121, v. 1, 2, 4)

**1 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.**

**2 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.**

**4 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;
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG (92)

**While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.**

Please be in prayer for:

Revathi Balakrishnan
Susan Dickerson
Bonnie Church
Drew Taylor

Edd Stoops
Mary Lough
Doug Rathjen
Deborah Long

The Hale/McMahan family
Lucian and Marj Robinson
Floyd Long

Today's musicians: Marya Katz, Charles Bostian, Ann Marie Conner, Jack Webster, Pat Fullen, Hand Chimes Choir
Video Technician – Marshall Chaney