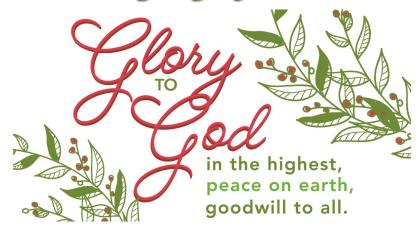
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The Worship of God



The Hanging of the Green



The Church Gathers and Prepares . . .

GATHERING MUSIC

Larry Landusky

WELCOME

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Sheryl Gallarneau



LOVE. ALL. NOW.

CALL TO PREPARATION

Abraham Quezada

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord composed by Stephen Schwartz

LITANY OF THE GREEN

Jake Maxwell

How can we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the King?

With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the eternal Christ?

With garlands and wreaths of evergreens, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, our Savior?

With arrangements of holly and ivy, symbolizing His passion, death and resurrection.

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the Son of God?

By hearing again the words of the prophets who foretold the saving work of God.

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved

All Glory to God in the highest!

People, Look East



"People Look East" words and music by Eleanor Farjeon | John Ferguson 1999 Neil A. Kjos Music Company | Used by Permission. CCLI License #2282686

... For the Coming of the Christ Child

JEREMIAH 23:5-6

Gary Scott, Maribeth Williams

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE

Mary and Charley Camp Callie, Blu and Juliana Kostelich

CAROL

Hope, Peace, Joy and Love

BAUGH

Hope, peace, joy, and love!
These are gifts You bring from above.
Jesus, Emmanuel, come to be
Light of Your hope, reflected in me.

Advent Wreath

NARRATIVE Scott Herrington

THE ADVENT WREATH is a vivid symbol of preparation. The lighting of a new candle each of the four weeks before Christmas reminds us that something is happening, but more is yet to come. The circle of evergreens reminds us of the everlasting covenant offered in the birth of Jesus. The four candles symbolize HOPE, PEACE, JOY AND LOVE. Today, we light the first candle as a symbol of Christ, our HOPE. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation.

The Manger

*Luke 2:6-7

Gary Scott, Maribeth Williams

⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

NARRATIVE Savanna Knowlton

THE MANGER or crèche, is placed as a reminder that Jesus Christ was born in the humblest of places, because humankind would not make room in their heart to hold the Son of God. Jesus, who was born in the most modest beginning, has compassion on all God's children - from the humblest to the richest.

CAROL

MUELLER

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.

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

Wreaths and Garland

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Gary Scott, Maribeth Williams

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. ⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

NARRATIVE Kathryn Boren

From ancient times, **evergreens** have been considered a symbol of eternity, a sign of God's everlasting nature. Isaiah tells us that there will be no end to the reign of the Messiah. Therefore, we hang wreaths shaped in circles, and place garlands of green, as a sign of everlasting life. These are symbols of Christ's gift of eternal life and of the celebration of Christmas itself.

Carol Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

Come thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Holly and Ivy

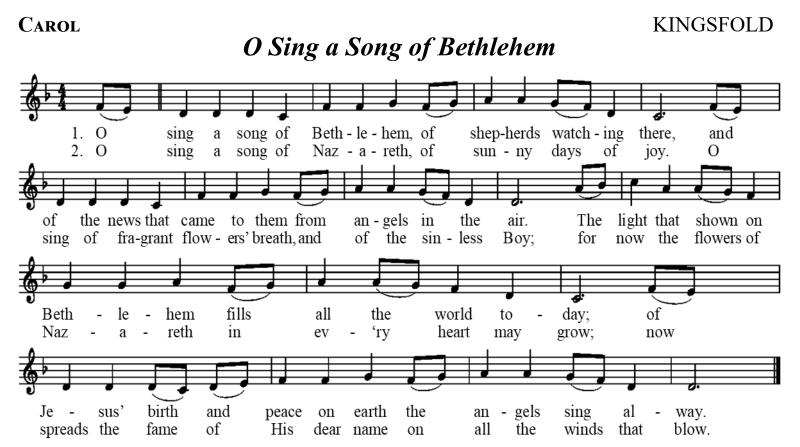
Isaiah 53:3a, 4a, 5-6

Gary Scott, Maribeth Williams

³He was despised and rejected by others; ⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

NARRATIVE Scott Herrington

For Christians, this passage from Isaiah reflects the sufferings of Jesus, who saved us from our sins by His death on the cross, and by His resurrection from the dead. In ancient times, **holly and ivy** were considered signs of Christ's Passion. Their prickly leaves suggest the crown of thorns, the red berries the blood of the Savior, and the bitter bark the drink offered to Jesus on the cross. As we place the holly and ivy, let us rejoice in the coming of Jesus our Savior.



Poinsettia

Numbers 24:17

Gary Scott, Maribeth Williams

¹⁷ I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near—a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the borderlands of Moab, and the territory of all the Shethites.

NARRATIVE Jake Maxwell

THE POINSETTIA speaks to us symbolically in several ways. The star-shaped formation of the leaves calls to mind the star which shone that first Christmas. In a less joyous sense, the color of the flower is blood red, reminding of the male infants killed because King Herod wanted to eliminate any threat to his throne. We sometimes forget this part of the story, which made it necessary for Mary, Joseph, and the Christ Child to flee to Egypt.

THE MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Larry Landusky, Mark Griffin

Offertory Larry Landusky

Greensleeves

harmonized by John Stainer (1840-1901) arranged by Mark Hayes

The Cedar

Місан 5:2, 4

Gary Scott, Maribeth Williams

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ⁴ And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;

NARRATIVE Savanna Knowlton

In times past the **cedar** was revered as the tree of royalty. It also signified immortality, and was used for purification. We place the cedar in the worship hall as a symbol of Christ, who reigns as King forever, and whose coming will purify our hearts.

CAROL BRING A TORCH

Love Will Come

Love will come, a light in the darkness! Love will shine in the Bethlehem skies. See all heaven will come to proclaim, Hear how their song of joy will rise: Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on High

Love will come and never leave us!

Love is life everlasting and free.

Love is Jesus within and among us.

Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.

Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.

Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Homily Kathryn Boren

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.

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!

Tree Lighting

*John 1:1-5, 9-14

Gary Scott, Maribeth Williams

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*NARRATIVE Sheryl Gallarneau

As our final preparation for the coming of Jesus, the Light of the World, we will light the **Chrismon tree.** And in this time of Advent, whenever you see a lighted tree, let it call to mind the One who brings light into our darkness, healing in our brokenness, and peace to all who will receive Him. May this tree remind us of the life-giving Christ that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts.

*CAROL ANTIOCH

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her 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.

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.

*Benediction Jake Maxwell

WORSHIP NOTES

LISTENING DEVICES are available. Please ask an usher for assistance as you enter the sanctuary for worship.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHILDREN'S TIME: All boys and girls are invited to come forward for this special worship opportunity. Following Children's Time, children ages 4-5 years are invited to attend Preschool Praise in Room 102 of the Children's Wing.



We are a community of faith made up of followers of Jesus Christ who are diverse in backgrounds and perspectives but are united in our mission to love and serve God and the world God loves.

8:30 a.m. worship service only *Those who are able are invited to stand

† 10:45 a.m. worship service only

Every Member a Minister

REV. JAKE MAXWELL Pastor jake@secondb.org

REV. SCOTT HERRINGTON Pastor of Music and Worship scott@secondb.org

REV. SHERYL GALLARNEAU Pastor of Children, Youth and Families sheryl@secondb.org

> REV. KATHRYN BOREN Pastor of Adults kathryn@secondb.org

SAVANNA KNOWLTON Youth Minister savanna@secondb.org

Tom Donaldson Guest Organist

LARRY LANDUSKY Pianist

Vision and Leadership Team vlt@secondb.org

KATHLEEN CAMPBELL

ASHLEY EBELING THOMAS

BOB HOWELL

CALLIE KOSTELICH

Morgan MacKenzie

VICKI POLK

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LOVE. ALL. NOW.