



***THOSE  
WHO  
HOPE  
WILL NOT  
KEEP  
SILENT***

Advent Lutheran Church  
8840 University City Blvd  
Charlotte, NC 28213  
(704) 549-1555  
[www.adventlu.org](http://www.adventlu.org)

December 27, 2020

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## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

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Prelude

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Advent Ringers

### Call to Worship for Christmas Season

L: When Jesus is born to Mary and Joseph,

**C: God is there.**

L: When Jesus is presented at the temple,

**C: God is there.**

L: When Simeon holds Jesus in his arms,

**C: God is there.**

L: When Anna recognizes Jesus in the temple,

**C: God is there.**

L: This very morning,

**C: God is here.**

L: In the future we cannot see,

**C: God is there.**

L: Let us worship God!

Song

“One Small Child”

Morning Chimes w/ Carol Riddell

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

L: In our looking into 2021,

**C: may the God of hope be with us.**

L: In our lamenting the losses of 2020,

**C: may the God of peace be with us.**

L: In our celebrations of Christmas,

**C: may the God of joy be with us.**

L: In our caring for the world,

**C: may the God of love be with us.**

L: In our living of life in all its fullness,

**C: may we know that God is with us.**

“Hope and Expectation”

(from *Appalachian Winter*)

Rob Beyersdorf

**Prayer of the Day**

L: Holy Spirit, as you rested on Simeon and Anna, so rest on us. Keep us expectant and open to your appearing. Fill our speech with stories of your praise and glory

Holy Spirit, you reveal salvation to every person. Reveal it again to us. Shine your light on every motivation, on every hidden thing. Pierce our souls, so nothing we say or do opposes you.

Holy Spirit, as you guided so many that first Nativity, so guide us. Continue to point us forward with eyes open, steady and true. Lead us to a faithful end,  
so we may rest in peace forever with you, with others and with our true selves.

We trust and pray in the name of the Promised One, Jesus Christ, our Savior and the Savior of the world. Amen

*(Prayer: Rest on Me © 2010 Lisa Ann Moss Degrenia)*

**The First Reading**

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

**The Gospel Acclamation**

The musical notation is written in 4/4 time and consists of four staves. The lyrics are: "Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el, his name is called Em - man - u - el; God with us, re - vealed in us; his name is called Em - man - u - el." The chords are: C, C/E, F, G, G<sup>7</sup>, C, C/B $\flat$  (Staff 1); A, A/C $\sharp$ , Dm, G<sup>7</sup>, G/B, C (Staff 2); C/E, F, G, G<sup>7</sup>, C, C/B $\flat$  (Staff 3); A, A/C $\sharp$ , Dm, G<sup>7</sup>, F/C, C (Staff 4).

## The Holy Scripture

Luke 2:22-40

## The Message

Pastor Ward Misenheimer

## Song of the Day

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Traven Harrington

## Prayers of the Faithful

L: God, our beginning and our end, we confess to you that we live in a world that needs your mercy now more than ever. As we celebrate joyfully the birth of your Son, Jesus, we recognize that joy does not come as easily to everyone. So, with the joyful and the heavy-hearted, we lift our prayers to you.

*A brief silence.*

L: God of the generations, keep us open and ready to receive the gift of Jesus in our arms like that of Simeon and Anna. Give us eyes to see your salvation working in the world around us, often times in the most unexpected people and surprising places. Strengthen our voices so that we can proclaim the good news of your birth, sing your praises of joy, and make known your vision of justice and peace for all people. Come Lord Jesus, **hear our prayer.**

L: God of all compassion, you call us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers as dear to us as our own needs. We pray for all of our sisters and brothers who seek comfort, healing, refuge, rest, peace, wholeness, community, acceptance, and unconditional love.

We especially pray for

- |                                |                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| ▪ Trevor Basilice & Faith Hunt | ▪ Susan Goerke    |
| ▪ Lemont Bell                  | ▪ Colleen Graven  |
| ▪ Bethann Bluder               | ▪ Cindy Henderson |
| ▪ Marie Cochran                | ▪ Dick Kuklantz   |
| ▪ Paul Coleman                 | ▪ Waylon Kuklantz |
| ▪ Dallas Collins               | ▪ Bobbi Larson    |
| ▪ Deborah Dubose               | ▪ Phyllis Lester  |
| ▪ Inez Easley                  | ▪ Ray Matthews    |
| ▪ William Ensley               | ▪ Hilda Mertz     |
| ▪ Emma Fettig                  | ▪ Justin Mertz    |
| ▪ Eileen Folkerth              |                   |

- Rick Messina
- Dick Moser
- Tyler Oddman
- Anita Ortiz
- Leo Peeler
- Richard Schulz
- David Townsend
- Herbert Watson
- Jenny Weems
- Beverly Williams
- Lewis Williams
- Renate Wilson

- L: We now pray aloud or in the silence of our hearts for those we wish to name (give time for community to pray).
- L: We remember and celebrate the lives of those who have died, especially, those we name now. By your Holy Spirit, comfort their families, and all who grieve, give peace to those who mourn, strengthen all through the promise of eternal life in Christ Jesus.
- L: We pray for the families of the two young police officers – Tyler Herndon and Jason Shuping – who were killed in the line of duty over the last week. We pray for all members of law enforcement who are called to protect and serve the communities in which they live. We give thanks for them and the many sacrifices they make. Come Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.
- L: Lord of all healing and care, we pray for all healthcare professionals and relief workers, especially those who find themselves on the frontlines to bring healing, comfort and care to all impacted by the coronavirus. We are grateful for the development of a vaccine and for those who are assisting in making it available. Strengthen, encourage, and empower us to be people of peace in the midst of anxiety, impatience, worry, and dread, as we hunger for life to be normal again. Come Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.
- L: God, our beginning and our end, as celebrate the birth of your Son, Jesus, may our hearts be filled with hope, knowing that your light shines in the darkness. May our hearts be filled with peace, believing that one day your peace will fill our world. May our hearts be filled with joy, proclaiming the good news of your birth. May our hearts be filled with love, reminding the world – that needs your mercy now more than ever – that you are our beginning and our end. Amen.

## The Lord's Prayer (sung)

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil, for the kingdom, the pow'r and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

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### SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE

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#### **Benediction** (Song of Simeon)

**L:** Lord, now let your servants go in peace.  
Your word has been fulfilled.  
Our own eyes have seen the salvation  
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:  
A light to reveal you to the nations and  
The glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.  
Amen.

#### **Dismissal**

**L:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Sending Song**

"Joy to the World"

Traven Harrington