



THE WORSHIP OF GOD Fayetteville First UMC

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 19, 2021
11:00 AM

Spark means light.
Spark means action.

The Season of the Nativity
reveals Christ
in both ways:
as light for our way
and as acts of grace.

Receive the spark.
Share the spark.

Fayetteville First UMC welcomes you.

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GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin
Senior Minister

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

Back to Bethlehem Medley
arr. Marilyn Ham
Mr. Justin Maxey
Director of Music & Organist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence and **People**
Associate Minister

Luke 1:46-45

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

*HYMN 202

People, Look East
BESANÇON

*INVOCATION

Dr. Martin

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

Rev. Lawrence and People

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy *catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**universal UMH 881*

***GLORIA PATRI**

GLORIA

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:

“The peace of Christ be with you.” “**And also with you.**”

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

Congregational Response:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Lawrence and People

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.

***HYMN 229**

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

W ZLOBIE LEZY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Lawrence

OFFERTORY

Come and Worship Medley

Chancel Choir

arr. Bob Krogstad

*It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious sing of old.
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth good will to men, From heavn’s all gracious King!”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

*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 th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”*

*Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Born is the King. Born is the King of Israel!

*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.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel!
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel!*

Born is the King. Born is the King of Israel. He is born!

***DOXOLOGY**

GREENSLEEVES

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Dr. Martin

*Children ages 4 years through 2nd grade are invited to attend Wonders of Worship in Room B225.
Children 3rd grade and older are encouraged to stay in the sanctuary for the service.
The nursery is available for infants through 3 years.*

***PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Rev. Lawrence and People

**Lord, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that, as the Scriptures are read
and your Word proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

***GOSPEL READING**

Luke 2:8-20

Rev. Lawrence

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Spark: Service

Dr. Martin

***HYMN 206**

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

***BENEDICTION**

Dr. Martin

*May the peace of Christ go with you wherever he may send you.
May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.
May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our arms.*

***POSTLUDE**

Glory to God in the Highest
Giovanni Battista Pergolesi, arr. Diane Bish

Mr. Maxey

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

Please remember in your prayers:

Van Askew
Annelle Burch
Joe Byers
Nancy Byers
Richard Clayton

Anne Free
Margaret Grainger
Martha Hale
Chenelle Hernandez
Tangie Hubbard

Cindy Jennings
Doris Kerlin
Claudia Rhodes
Helen Voyles
Mabel Wilbanks

Brad Wilkinson
Vivian Wilson

In Memoriam
Raney Price
December 6, 2021

Our Christian prayers and sympathy are with

Peggy Price and family upon the death of her husband, Raney Price, on December 6.

The flowers in the sanctuary are presented to the glory of God

and given in memory of Ronald Todd Chamlee by Judy Reynolds.



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Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version

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GIVING

