**Third Sunday in Advent**

**December 11, 2022**

**10 am**

**GATHERING TO PRAISE GOD**

**Preservice Music** Northside Chapel Praise Band

**Prelude** *Carols of Joy and Wonder*Andy Potts

~Arr. Steven Scott

**Welcome & Announcements Pat Botelle**

* **Cookie Walk/Gingerbread House Competition**
* **Angel Tree Deadline (Dec. 18th) today is the last day to order gift cards for Angel tree to be back in time for Angel Tree**
* **Christmas Eve Services & Christmas Day**

**Call to Worship John Riesenfeld**

**Good morning! Please remain standing and join me in the Call to Worship:**

Lift up the gates of your soul,

open the closed doors of your mind:

**that the King of Glory may come in!**

Who is this King of Glory?

**The God of countless hosts,**

**this is the King of Glory!**

Let us open our hearts and lives

to welcome the God who makes His home among us!

**Opening Hymn** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* UMH# 213

(vv. 1-3) TECH – Song Select has a fourth verse (which they have as vs 2)

Georg Weissel | trans. Catherine Winkworth | Words & Music: Public Domain

**Verse 1**

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates | Behold, the King of glory waits

The King of kings is drawing near | The Savior of the world is here!

**Verse 2**

Fling wide the portals of your heart | Make it a temple, set apart

From earthly use for heaven's employ | Adorned with prayer and love and joy

**Verse 3**

Redeemer, come, with us abide | Our hearts to thee we open wide

Let us thy inner presence feel | Thy grace and love in us reveal

**Lighting the Advent Wreath** Barbara Hamilton & Mike Hamilton

**Leader:**

Every year we light candles as we prepare for the coming of Christ.

More and more candles, more and more light,

as we watch and wait for Jesus, the Light of the World.

**Congregation:**

**God of Promise, come into our darkness.**

**Renew Your hope, peace and joy in us,**

**for You alone bring life out of death.**

**Leader:**

The first person to rejoice in response to the good news about Jesus was his mother Mary. While visiting her cousin Elizabeth, she erupted in a song of joy about the fulfillment of God’s promises and a grand reversal of the status quo:

46 “My soul magnifies the Lord,” she sang, 47 “and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

48 for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant. Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed, 49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name; 50 indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. 51 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. 52 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; 53 he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. 54 He has come to the aid of his child Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,

55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

**Congregation**

**Gracious God, our hearts leap for joy knowing that You, though almighty and everlasting, came to live among us—to overturn injustice and to reveal the depth of Your love for all creation. Help us this season to rediscover the joy that You have given to the world in Jesus. Amen.**

**Response** *Joy to the World / Shout for Joy* Northside Chapel Praise Band

George Frideric Handel | Isaac Watts | Jason Ingram | Lincoln Brewster | Paul Baloche

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**Verse 1**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King

Let ev'ry heart prepare him room

And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing

And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

**Chorus**

Shout for joy for the Son of God | Is the Saving One, He’s the Saving One

Shout for joy, see what Love has done | He has come for us, He’s the Saving One

**Verse 2**

Joy to the world the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy | Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

**Chorus**

Shout for joy for the Son of God | Is the Saving One, He’s the Saving One

Shout for joy, see what Love has done | He has come for us, He’s the Saving One

**Interlude**

Jesus, Immanuel, O come let us adore Him | Jesus, Immanuel, O come let us adore Him

Jesus, Immanuel, O come let us adore Him

**Chorus (x2)**

Shout for joy for the Son of God | Is the Saving One, He’s the Saving One

Shout for joy, see what Love has done | He has come for us, He’s the Saving One

**Ending (Interlude)**

Jesus, Immanuel, O come let us adore Him | Jesus, Immanuel, O come let us adore Him

Jesus, Immanuel, O come let us adore Him

**A Message for Young Disciples** Cara Norris

**Proclamation and Response**

The Scripture readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition.

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**Anthem** *How Great Our Joy* Chancel Singers

arr. Camp Kirkland

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**Old Testament Reading** Isaiah 7:10-16 **John Riesenfeld**

**The Old Testament reading is from the book of the prophet Isaiah, chapter 7, beginning in verse 10:**

10 Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, 11 “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” 12 But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” 13 Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. 15 He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. 16 For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted. 17 The Lord will bring on you and on your people and on your ancestral house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

**Gospel Reading** Matthew 1:20b-24

**The Gospel reading is from the Gospel of Matthew, and recounts the angel Gabriel’s message to Joseph when he appeared to Joseph in a dream:**

20 “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

23 “Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” 24 When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife 25 but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

**Leader:** This is the Word of God.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Message** *Incarnation: Emmanuel* Rev. Bonnie Scott

**Prayers of the People Pat**

**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.

**Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God Pat**

**Offertory** *Immanuel* Northside Chapel Praise Band

Michael Card | Tom Fettke

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**Doxology** UMH#95

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. Amen.

**Offertory Prayer Pat**

**Closing Hymn** *Angels We Have Heard on High* UMH# 238

(vv. 1-3)

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**Verse 1**

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains

And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains

**Refrain**

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

**Verse 2**

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?

What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? **(Refrain)**

**Verse 3**

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing

Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King **(Refrain)**

**Sending Forth**

**Benediction Rev. Bonnie Scott**

**Postlude** Toccatina on *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen*Andy Potts

~Arr. Douglas E. Wagner