

# ST. JOHN'S WORSHIP

**Sunday, December 20, 2020**  
**St. John's Baptist Church | Charlotte, NC**

**EXPECTING GOD'S HANDS OF LOVE: ADVENT IV**

## Prelude

*Let Every Heart Prepare a Throne*

by Mark Patterson

Graham Harding, soloist (from Young Voices of the Carolinas)

## Greeting & Prayer of Submission

Rev. Allison Benfield

## Lighting the Candle of Love

Jordan, Elizabeth, and Greer Benton

## Song

*Light the Candle*

by J. Kevin Gray

Wesley Watts, soloist

## Carol

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

REGENT SQUARE

Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain:

Come and worship,  
come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

## Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Malachi 4:1-2

Ken Raynor, reader

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

This is the written word of God for the people of God. *Thanks be to God.*



*Artwork by Jan Kerley*

## Carol

### *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 bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

## Special Music

### *Go Where I Send Thee*

by André Thomas

recorded in 2018

Children go where I send thee. How shall I send thee? I'm a-gonna send thee one by one. One for the little bitty baby. He was born! Born! Born in Bethlehem. I'm gonna send thee one by one. One for the little bitty baby. Two by two, two for Paul and Silas. Three was the Hebrew children. Born, born, born in Bethlehem. Four came knocking at the door; four came knocking at the door. Somebody's knocking at the door. Somebody's knocking at the door. Four was the four that came knocking at the door. Oh sinner, why don't you answer? Somebody's knocking at your door. I shall send thee five by five. Five for the gospel preacher. I shall send thee six by six. Six was the six that couldn't get fixed. Seven went up to heaven. Eight was the eight that stood at the gate. Nine was the nine that got left behind. Ten by ten cause ten was the ten commandments. Go where I send thee, how shall I send thee. Born, born, born in Bethlehem.

## Church at Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Nate Dove

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Carol

### *The Wexford Carol*

Traditional Irish Carol

Anne Hager, soloist

Good people all, this Christmas time,  
Consider well and bear in mind  
What our good God for us has done  
In sending his beloved son

With Mary holy we should pray,  
To God with love this Christmas Day  
In Bethlehem upon that morn,  
There was a blessed Messiah born.

## Offertory

### *The First Noel*

arr. Jason Krüg

Handbell Choir

## Message

*Like Children on Christmas Morning*

Rev. Dennis W. Foust, PhD

## Carol

*What Child Is This?*

GREENSLEEVES

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Chorus:

This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

## Commissioning the Scattered Church

Dr. Foust

## Postlude

J. Noel Lance

Lift Up Your Heads

by Robert MacDonald