



**Fairmont Presbyterian Church
Kettering, Ohio
December 20, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

FAIRMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Service for the Worship of God

Fairmont Presbyterian Church nurtures and guides people to live inspired lives.

December 20, 2020

10:30am

4th Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Brian Maguire

Prelude

The Angel Gabriel

David Cherwien

Call to Worship

Leader: As quietly as the winter steals upon us, the season of joy approaches.

People: We wait for our Redeemer, for God's promise to be fulfilled.

Leader: The day is coming quickly. The God of mercy draws near.

People: Therefore, we wait with joy, attentive to all the signs of his coming.

Leader: Come quickly, Lord Jesus!

Hymn 114

Away in a Manger

Cradle Song

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.

2 The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3 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.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Sancken/Schumm Family

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Rev. Kelley Shin

God, in whom all hearts find welcome, we confess that we have not yet made room in our hearts for the Christ Child. We find the coming birth yet another event in our crowded lives. Like the harried innkeeper who had to refuse the couple a decent shelter, we find ourselves torn between people and obligations, lacking in compassion for the needy and filled with anxiety and apathy. Like the innkeeper, we often relegate Christ to some out-of-the-way corner of our lives. Like Bethlehem at census time, we have little room for anything for which we

haven't planned. God, in whom all hearts find shelter, have mercy upon us. Help us, in the midst of our busy, burdened lives, to welcome the One who always has time for us...(silent confession)...Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Congregational Response 113 *Angels We Have Heard on High* Gloria
(verse 1)

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!

Passing of Christ's Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Time with Our Children A Nativity Story Lorelei Harding and Kelley Shin

Anthem *Who Would Imagine a King?* Warren and Hill
Amber Voss, soloist

Prayer for Illumination

Reading Isaiah 61:1-4, 10-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³ to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
⁴ They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,

he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
11 For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Christmas Pageant

"B Is For Bethlehem"

Fairmont Children & Youth

Written by Isabel Wilner; Illustrated by Elisa Kleven

Hymn 128

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

W Żłobie Leży

1 Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging
angels singing,
noels ringing,
tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all!
Christ the babe is Lord of all!

2 Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of the gospel true.
Thus rejoicing,
free from sorrow,
praises voicing
greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you!
Christ the babe was born for you!

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on 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 Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer (concluding with 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Doxology *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Invitation and Prayer of Discipleship

Hymn 134

Joy to the World

Antioch

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, 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.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

4 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.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Joy to the World

J. Wayne Kerr

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Within the Fellowship

Nativity Sets: Today during our Children's Time we will be sharing in a special Nativity Set storytelling time. We invite all the children to have their nativity sets ready to participate in the story of the birth of Jesus.

For prayer concerns or if you would like to be part of the Email Prayer Chain Team, please contact: Rev. Kelley Shin at kshin@fairmontchurch.org.

For emergencies, contact Rev. Brian Maguire at (937) 269-2864 or Rev. Kelley Shin at (937) 751-0752.

Announcements

Congregational Meeting: Following worship on Sunday December 20, we will convene a very short (five minutes?) Zoom congregational meeting to consider changes to the Pastors' terms of call for 2021.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87189637873?pwd=Zm5jMXpyTFJVT3VwRGVidThFcHpzQT09>

Meeting ID: 871 8963 7873

Kids Korner Online: Sunday 11:45am. Fairmont's online children's time provides important opportunities for children Pre-Kindergarten - 5th grade. Join us after worship on Sundays for a mixed-age Sunday School class. Watch for links in our weekly *Beside Still Waters* and Kids Korner emails or here:

Kidz Korner Online (PreK-5th grade): Sunday, 11:45am

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85778268480>

Zoom Meeting ID: 857 7826 8480

PYC Fairmont Youth: Sunday 1:30pm Fairmont's Youth meet every Sunday at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom for a time of Bible Study, Fellowship, and Fun.

PYC Fairmont Youth (6th – 12th grade): Sunday, 1:30pm

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85978434870>

Zoom Meeting ID: 859 7843 4870

NEW CONNECTIONS IN DECEMBER: Sparkhouse Digital Animate Bible Study

Join us for the next four **Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.** on Zoom as we take a look at the Bible through the voices of four beloved theologians and preachers, Phyllis Tickle, Rachel Held Evans, Nadia Bolz-Weber, and William Willimon. Watch for the Connections link in the weekly *Beside Still Waters* email.

December 23: Gospels: Unexpected Good News (Nadia Bolz-Weber)

2020 Stewardship Update

As of this week, Fairmont has received \$499,001 of a total of \$550,000 pledged for 2020. Thank you so much for your faithful generosity! All contributions received by or postmarked by January 31st will be credited to 2020.

Fairmont Church Closed December 24-January 13

Upon the recommendation of our Medical Advisory Group, the Session has decided to close Fairmont for all activities (*except preschool*) between December 24 and January 13. Our community is anticipated to reach peak rates of transmission of infection during this time and we seek to do everything we can to help

keep people safe. While the church will be closed, staff will still be collecting postal mail, and can be reached at any time by email or cell phone. Be careful, stay safe, and stay healthy.



Celebrate With Us!

Christmas Eve Worship Services

4:30 P.M. Children's and Family Worship

Join us online on YouTube on Christmas Eve afternoon for a time of music, storytelling, and prayers especially appropriate for children (*of all ages*).

7:30 P.M. Traditional Christmas Eve Worship

Join us online on YouTube for our traditional Christmas Eve service with music and the Gospel's message of hope for all people in the birth of the Messiah.

9:00 P.M. Outdoor In-Person Candle Lit Service

Join us behind the church at 9:00 p.m. (*socially distanced and masked*) as we share in a brief service of prayer and music to celebrate the coming of the light into the world. This service will occur regardless of weather except in the case of rain.

Worship Staff

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Away in a Manger

114

Capo 5: (C) (Am) (C) (Dm)
 F Dm F Gm

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

(F) (G) (C) (Dm) (F) (G)
 B^b C F Gm B^b C

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
 close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

(C) (Dm)
 F Gm

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

(G) (C) (Dm) (G) (C)
 C F Gm C F

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
 and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

This anonymous carol probably originated among Pennsylvania Lutherans in the late 19th century, giving rise to a mistaken assertion that it had been written by Martin Luther. This tune is also by an American but has become the one usually used in Canada and Great Britain.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–2, *Little Children's Book for Schools and Families*, c. 1885;
 stanza 3, *Gabriel's Vineyard Songs*, 1892
 MUSIC: William James Kirkpatrick, 1895

CRADLE SONG
 11.11.11.11
 (alternate tune: MUELLER, 115)

128 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat-tle stall;
 2 Flocks were sleep-ing; shep-herds keep-ing vig-il till the morn-ing new

ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know-ing Christ the babe is Lord of all.
 saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, ti - dings of the gos-pel true.

Swift are wing-ing an - gels sing - ing, no - els ring-ing, ti-dings bring-ing:
 Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais-es voic-ing greet the mor - row:

Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!
 Christ the babe was born for you! Christ the babe was born for you!

The English text of this 13th- or 14th-century Polish carol does not try to tell a story but to offer verbal snapshots of the well-known Nativity narrative of Luke 2:6-20. The tune name quotes the opening of the Polish text and means "He lies in a cradle" or "In manger lying."

134 Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and
 sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

