

# First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

## Fourth Sunday of Advent Digital Contemporary Service

**December 20, 2020**



### CONGREGATIONAL SONGS OF PRAISE

#### **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?

Refrain:

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

Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come one and all, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

#### **In the Bleak Midwinter**

**CRANHAM**

In the bleak midwinter,  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
Snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter,  
Long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him,  
Nor earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away  
When He comes to reign:  
In the bleak midwinter  
A stable place sufficed  
The Lord God incarnate,  
Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels  
May have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim  
Thronged the air;  
But His mother only,  
In her maiden bliss,  
Worshipped the beloved  
With a kiss.

What can I give Him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man,  
I would do my part;  
Yet what I can I give Him:  
Give my heart.

## CALL TO WORSHIP AND PASSING THE PEACE

### ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

**Verse 4**

**VENI EMMANUEL**

O come the King of nations bring  
An end to all our suffering  
Bid every pain and sorrow cease  
And reign now as our Prince of Peace.

Refrain:

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

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, like Mary we are often perplexed when receiving your greetings, and wonder what they may be. But instead of listening closely and responding faithfully, as she did, we turn away. We tell ourselves that we are imagining things, that there's not much we could do of any importance anyway; we are afraid of what your call might involve, and what it might cost us. Forgive us, Lord; help us to listen for your call to us and to respond with faith and boldness, "let it be with me according to your word."**

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:26-38

SERMON

"Do Not Be Afraid"

The Rev. J.C. Austin

## SONG OF PRAISE

**Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence**

**PICARDY**

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
And with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly minded,  
For with blessing in His hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth,  
Our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
As of old on earth He stood,  
Lord of lords, in human vesture,  
In the body and the blood;  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven  
Spreads its vanguard on the way,  
As the Light of Light descendeth  
From the realms of endless day,  
That the powers of hell may vanish  
As the darkness clears away.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRAYERS OF THE 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 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.**

## SONG OF PRAISE

**Soon and Very Soon**

**Andrea Crouch**

Soon and very soon  
We are going to see the King  
Soon and very soon  
We are going to see the King  
Soon and very soon  
We are going to see the King  
Hallelujah, hallelujah  
We're going to see the King

No more cryin there  
We are going to see the King  
No more cryin there  
We are going to see the King  
No more cryin there  
We are going to see the King  
Hallelujah, hallelujah  
We're going to see the King

No more dying there  
We are going to see the King  
No more dying there  
We are going to see the King  
No more dying there  
We are going to see the King  
Hallelujah hallelujah  
Hallelujah, hallelujah  
We're going to see the King  
We're going to see the King

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE