

A SERVICE *of*
Nine Lessons and Carols

December 20, 2015

Christmas Flowers

The following is a list of donations to the Chancel Guild Fund, given to the glory of God.

In Memory of:

Linda Adney by Sonny Adney; Charles Akins, MD and Mrs. Lida Black Kimbrough by Janice Akins; Edgar Hull Bailey by Ann P. Bailey; Dr. Allen Boyd by Janis Boyd, Dr. Dan and Teresa Boyd, and Lundy, Steve and Joseph Carpenter; Mrs. Donna Kay Bridgforth, James H. Daughdrill, Jr., Frank Norfleet, and Herbert Rhea by Bruce and Judith Campbell; Jim Chase by His Family; Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Cobb, Sr. by Chuck and Scottie Cobb; Mr. and Mrs. Flint Sawtelle, Mr. Mark Coleman, Mrs. Cilla Harris, Mr. Bo Nance, and Mrs. Lucille Carter Tansey by Bob, Deborah, Caroline, and Carter Coleman; Ann and Sam Cox by Jay, Ann, and Sam Cox and Janet and Bill Harritt; Emily Smith Britton, William Johnstone Britton III, and Louise and Frank Smith by Mike, Cynthia, Michael and William Cross; Dr. Orin Davidson, Jr., Julia Davidson, and James Marvin Garner by Orin and Mary Davidson; Ed Eleazer III, Mr. and Mrs. J.K. Dobbs, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. Edwin Eleazer, Sr., and Mr. John C. Dobbs by Mr. and Mrs. Ed Eleazer, Jr.; John Hammons, Sr. by Dee and David Gibson; My parents, Helen and Roy Harris by Lessie Harris; Wilton Hazelwood by Sandy Hazelwood; Herbie Hunt by His Family; William Thomas Hutton by His Family; Hawley W. Ingram, Jr. by Lawanna Ingram; Dr. Charles D. Akins by Amanda Akins Joy; Mr. John Fred Tarkington, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. John Fred Tarkington, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Leslie Anderson by Mrs. Ferrin T. Mavar; Tom McPherson, Jr. by The McPherson and Hayes Families; Russ Billings and Sara Misner by Janet Misner; Mary Jo and John Phillips III, and Edgar H. Bailey by Paige and John Phillips IV, Ivy and John Phillips V, Paul and Paige P. Gillespie, and Bailey E. Phillips; Frederick C. Schaeffer by Paige and John Phillips IV; Henry C. Pitts, Jr. by His Family; Dorothy and Bill Carpenter by Their Family; Mr. Hillie D. Roaten, Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Hill, and Dr. Charles Leonard by Hailey and Robb Roaten and Family; Bucky Shappley by Pat Shappley; Skip Sharp and Dorothy Davis by Glenda Sharp; Howard Cleveland by David, Amy, Clarkson and Hudson Shoaf; Bill Skimmer by Lavinia Skinner; Bettye Knox Taliaferro by Her Daughters, Elizabeth, Margaret, and Mary; Sara Misner by

Bettye and Monte Weaver; Their Grandfathers, Buford Witt and Garland Strong Wells, Jr. by Witt, Pender, and Georgianna Wells; John Arthur Newton, Joy and Bill Wepfer, Courtney and Daniel Shores, and Wilton Hazelwood by The Wepfer Family; Jody Bellott and Steve Rhea by John and Lucy Wepfer; George P.W. Williams, Sr. by His Family; Lindy Sparks Ruffin by Eileen, Dan, Daniel, and Ruffin Wood

In Honor of:

Gabe Statom, Samuel Metzger, and Our Choir, Libby Daughdrill, David and Lee Bowen, Dick and Scottie Cain, and Ann Shoaf by Bruce and Judith Campbell; The Weiner, Jr. Family: Katie, Bailey and Katie and Bailey by Mr. and Mrs. Ed Eleazer, Jr.; The Pastoral Staff by Lawanna Ingram; Lee and David Bowen, The Music Ministry, and The Caring Ministry by Janet Misner; Dial Boyle Jackson by the Gray and Price Morrison Family; Dino and Corky Casali by Chip and Dina Peebles; Ann P. Bailey by Paige and John Phillips IV, Ivy and John Phillips V, Paul and Paige P. Gillespie, and Bailey E. Phillips; Our Missionaries by Sarah and Ron Sadlow; The Music Ministry and The Caring Ministry by Bettye and Monte Weaver; John and Jo Walt and Sandy Hazelwood by The Wepfer Family; Daughters Susan and Holly and Families by Cliff and Marilee Williams; Robert Ruffin III and Andrew Keasling by Eileen, Dan, Daniel and Ruffin Wood

In Gratitude for:

Mrs. Linda Rhea and Family by Janice Akins; Samuel Metzger by Jay Cox; Allison and Sandy Willson by Mrs. James E. Echols; Sarah and Barton Kimbro by Audrey and Ross Hurst; Gabe Statom and Samuel Metzger by Lawanna Ingram; Ruth McCaughan Morrison by Her Children and Grandchildren; Mary Lawrence Flinn by Christy Paganoni; The Diaconate, Dee Walker, Gerry Peak, and Ron Hickman by Debbie Perkins; Our Children: Susan, Will, and Maggie Thomas, Lauren Thomas, Nancy Weaver, Jim and Ann Wilson by Bettye and Monte Weaver; Thursday Prayer Group by Lucy Wepfer

Order for the Public Worship of God

ORGAN PRELUDE: "O Come All Ye Faithful" Grimoaldo Macchia
Samuel Metzger, organ

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "Christmas Bell Fantasy" Dennis Klophaus

HANDBELL PRELUDE: "Carol of the Bells" Mykolo Leontovich, arr. Kevin McChesney

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE Courtney, Sam, Coco, Rett, and Garrett Davis (8:15)
Maggie and Ben Zambetti (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP John N. Laughlin (8:15)
David A. Bowen (11:00)

♠ PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 199 "See, Amid the Winter's Snow" SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW
Stanza 1: Sarah Jordan, soloist
Stanza 2: Choir
Stanzas 3-6: Congregation

♠ PRAYER OF ADORATION Michael G. Stokke (8:15)
David A. Bowen (11:00)

The First Lesson

God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

GENESIS 3:8-19 Britton D. Laughlin (8:15)
Victoria R. Simmons (11:00)

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you." And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL: "Remember, O Thou Man" Thomas Ravenscroft

Remember, O thou Man, O thou Man, O thou Man, remember, O thou Man, Thy time is spent.
Remember, O thou Man, how thou art dead and gone, and I did what I can. Therefore repent.

Remember Adam's fall, O thou Man, O thou Man, remember Adam's fall from Heaven to Hell.
Remember Adam's fall, how we were condemned all in Hell perpetual, there for to dwell.

Remember God's goodness, O thou Man, O thou Man, remember God's goodness and His promise made.
Remember God's goodness, how He sent His Son doubtless, our sins for to redress. Be not afraid.

The Angels all did sing, O thou Man, O thou Man, the Angels all did sing upon the shepherds' hill.
The Angels all did sing praises to our Heavenly King, and peace to man living with a good will.

The Second Lesson

God promises to faithful Abraham that his seed shall the nations of the earth call blessed.

GENESIS 22:9-18 John P. Dewald (8:15)
Edward D. Simmons, Jr. (11:00)

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided." And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

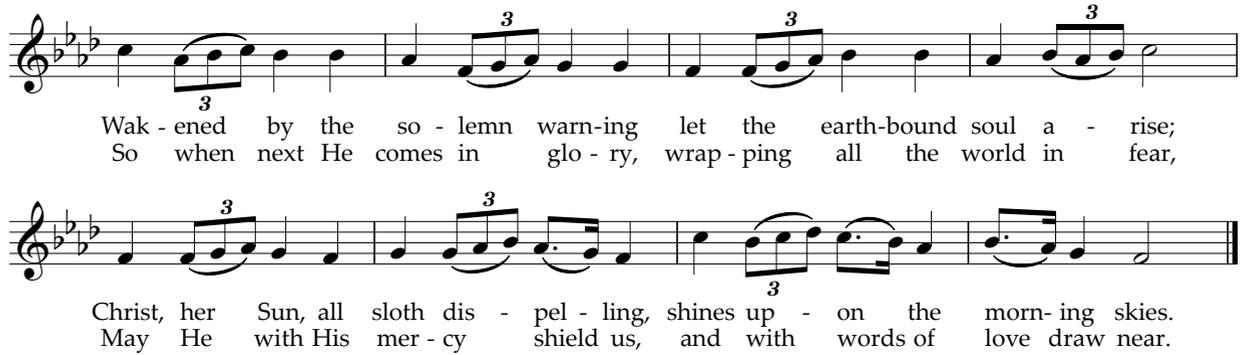
♠ CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: "Hark, a Thrilling Voice Is Sounding" EBENEZER



1. Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing; "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2. Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heav'n;



"Cast a - way the works of dark-ness O ye chil - dren of the day!"
Let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for-giv'n.



Wak - ened by the so - lem - n warn - ing let the earth - bound soul a - rise;
 So when next He comes in glo - ry, wrap - ping all the world in fear,
 Christ, her Sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 May He with His mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.

The Third Lesson

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

ISAIAH 9:2-7 Susan K. Dewald (8:15)
 Margaret L. Read (11:00)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL: "Arise, Your Light Has Come" David Danner
 based on Bach chorale, *Wake, Awake for Night is Flying*

Awake, my spirit. Awake, lute and harp; I will awake at the dawn of day.
 I will confess You, O Lord among the nations.
 I will raise a psalm to You, for Your love, Your love is wide as the heavens,
 And Your truth reaches to the skies!

Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying; Awake, Jerusalem, at last.
 Midnight hears the welcome voices, and at the thrilling cry rejoices,
 "Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.
 The bridegroom comes, awake; your lamps with gladness take!"
 Alleluia! Prepare yourselves to meet the Lord, Whose light has stirred the waiting guard.

Of one pearl each shining portal, where dwelling with the choir immortal
 We gather round Your dazzling light. No eye has seen, nor ear has yet been trained to hear.
 What joy is ours! Crescendos rise; Your halls resound; Hosannas blend in cosmic sound.
 Arise, O Jerusalem! Arise clothed in light!
 Your light has come, and the glory of God upon your hearts will shine. Alleluia!

The Youth, Handbell, and Chancel Choirs

The Fourth Lesson

The peace that Christ will bring us is foreshown.

ISAIAH 11:1-4 Michael B. Gore (8:15)
Traverse A. Read III (11:00)

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

♠ CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: No. 221 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN

The Fifth Lesson

The angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary.

LUKE 1:26-38 Margaret G. Gore (8:15)
Justin D. Towner (11:00)

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

HANDBELL MEDITATION: "The Angel Gabriel" arr. Fred Gramann

*The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
"All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady," Gloria!*
*"For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor Thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady," Gloria!*
*Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name." Most highly favored lady, Gloria!*

The Sixth Lesson

Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.

LUKE 2:1-7 D. Alan Hammond (8:15)
Virginia S. Towner (11:00)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

CAROL: "The First Noel" Dan Forrest
English Carol, 16th Century

Congregation joins choir while seated:

**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.**

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Congregation stands and sings:

**Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heav'nly Lord
That hath made Heav'n and earth of naught, and with His blood mankind hath bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

The Seventh Lesson

The shepherds go to the manger.

LUKE 2:8-16 Kathy B. Hammond (8:15)
Donna C. Nash (11:00)

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

ADVENT HOMILY: "The Canticles of Christmas: Gloria" Sanders L. Willson

♠ CONGREGATIONAL CANTICLE..... John Hodges



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth, all glo - ry to



God in the high - est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King.



Al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we



praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, re - ceive our



prayers. For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, for You a - lone are the Lord, for



You a - lone are the most high. Je - sus Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of the Fa - ther. A - men, A - men.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY CAROL: "Christ Is Born!" Mark Miller
Text from Christina Rossetti's *Love Came Down at Christmas*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Christ is born.

Love came down at Christmas time, love all lovely, love divine,
Love was born at Christmas time, star and angels gave us the sign.

Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine,
Love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: No. 214 "Angels We Have Heard on High" GLORIA

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.**

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

✦ GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Eighth Lesson

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

✦ MATTHEW 2:1-11 Vicki S. Weber (8:15)
Stephen T. Nash (11:00)

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: "In the Bleak Midwinter" Music by Gustav Holst
Text by Christina Rossetti



1. In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan, earth stood hard as
2. What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a



i - ron, wa - ter like a stone; snow had fall - en, snow on snow,
shep - herd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man,



snow on snow, in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
I would do my part; what I can I give Him: give Him my heart.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND COMMITMENT

The Ninth Lesson

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

✦JOHN 1:1-14 Bill C. Weber (8:15)
John C. Adamson (11:00)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Thanks be to Christ.

♠ CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People" HYFRYDOL



1. Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; speak of
 2. For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the
 3. Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the
 4. Tell the praise of Him who called you out of



peace: so says our God. Com - fort those who
 des - ert far and near, call - ing all to
 rough - er plac - es plain: let your hearts be
 dark - ness in - to light, broke the fet - ters



sit in dark - ness, mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.
 true re - pen - tance, since the king - dom now is here.
 true and hum - ble, as be - fits His ho - ly reign,
 that en - thrall'd you, gave you free - dom, peace and sight:



Cry out to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth
 tell the tale of sins for - giv - en, strength re - newed



that waits for them; tell her that her sins I
 for God a way! Let the val - leys rise to
 is shed a - broad, and all flesh shall see the
 and hope re - stored, till the earth, in tune with



cov - er and her war - fare now is o'er.
 meet Him and the hills bow down to Him.
 to - ken that His word is al - ways sure.
 heav - ven, praise and mag - ni - fy the Lord.

♠ BENEDICTION

♠ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE ADESTES FIDELES

**O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him;
 O come, let us adore Him; Christ, the Lord!**

ORGAN POSTLUDE: Celtic Toccata on "Angels We Have Heard On High" Grimoaldo Macchiarini

♠ Indicates congregation standing | CCLI License #252778

*The Musicians: The Second Ringers Handbell Choir: Terri Theil, Director;
 The Youth Choir: Ginger Statom, Director; The Chancel Choir: Gabriel Statom, Director*



Second
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH