

Myers Park
United Methodist Church



Angels We Have Heard on High, Blakeney Bullins, age 11

A Service of Christian Worship

December 6, 2020

8:45, 9:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of Advent

WE GATHER

Gathering Music

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Mack Wilberg

Introit

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

John Ferguson

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Please join in our responsive reading as we light the second Candle.

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord!

People: Let us bear fruit worthy of repentance.

Leader: A new branch from old roots will bring justice and peace.

People: This justice shall be for all of creation.

Leader: Peace shall be established in all the world.

People: Then shall the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord!

† **Hymn No. 196**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

**Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.**

**Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.**

Welcome

† **The Creed No. 881**

Apostles' Creed

† **Gloria Patri No. 71**

GLORIA

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

† **Gospel Reading**

Mark 1:1-8

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Anthem

Prepare Ye the Way, O Zion

Derek Nichels

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!

Let every hill and valley a level way appear.

Greet one who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer No. 895

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

Mission Moment & Gift Blessing

† Closing Hymn

Glory (Let There Be Peace)

Rachel Popadic, Chris Stevens, and Matt Maher

**One star burns in the darkness
Shines with the promise, Emmanuel
One child born in the stillness
Living within us, Emmanuel**

**We're singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let there be peace
Singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let it start in me**

**One voice speaks for the voiceless
Hope for the hopeless, Emmanuel
One love brings us together
Now and forever, Emmanuel**

**We're singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let there be peace
Singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let it start in me**

**Do not be afraid, his love is strong
Enough to save us
Nothing stands in the way
His love is strong enough to lead us
(Repeat)**

We're singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let there be peace
Singing glory, glory
Let there be peace, let it start in me
(Repeat)

Singing glory, (oh, we sing glory) glory
Let there be peace (let there be peace), let it start in me

† **Benediction**

† **Benediction Response**

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore His sacred name.**

**Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign.
The hosts of God in unity combine.**

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore His sacred name.**

† **Closing Voluntary**

Celestial Exaltations

John Siler

† Stand as you are able

WORSHIP LEADERS



PREACHER

Dr. James C. Howell, Senior Pastor



LITURGISTS

Rev. Taylor Pryde Barefoot, Pastor for Emerging Ministries

Rev. Uiyeon Kim, Pastor of Discipleship



ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS

Mason, Melissa, Ford, Hazel, and Keegan Hurley



WORSHIP LEADER

Lynne Moorman



GIFT BLESSERS

Emma Cameron and Grant Cameron



LAY READER

Barbara McKay



MUSICIANS

Evan Wesley Currie, Music Associate and Organist
Brian Childers, Director of Music for Children, Youth, and Handbells
Dr. Jennifer Hough, Church in the Round Music Director
Zachary Tarlton, Church in the Round Music Associate
Church in the Round Worship Leaders
Small ensemble
Andy Faulkenberry, tenor
Kevin Proffit, tenor



AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

Access Interpreting Services (9:45)

*Welcome to
Myers Park United Methodist Church*

Welcome! We are thankful you are here worshipping with us. We invite you to register your attendance with us today:

<https://form.jotform.com/201695904497164>

Thank you for your ongoing offerings to our church Operating Fund and Jubilee Plus! during the Advent season. Your faithful commitment keeps us connected in new and creative ways and supports our most vulnerable neighbors locally and globally. As we enter into the final days of the year, note that financial contributions to our church received or postmarked by December 31, 2020 will receive 2020 tax credit. To make your offering online, visit www.mypersparkumc/give. To make a stock or charitable fund contribution or to ask questions about your gift or pledge contribution, contact Linda Edwardsen at lindae@mpumc.org or 704-295-4842.

Children's Worship Bingo: We're excited to introduce Children's Worship Bingo! Look for a link to the [bingo card](#) along with the worship bulletin and download and print the card or open it on a mobile device. Your children can then listen for words throughout the worship service and check them off on their bingo card.

Music Ministry Christmas Concert, December 6, 4:00 p.m.: Tune in for Myers Park UMC's Annual Christmas Concert! This year will be a compilation of past concert recordings, hosted by James Howell and Evan Currie. [Click here](#) to watch live or enjoy as often as you'd like.

Service of Hope and Consolation, December 7, 6:30 p.m., Livestream: This service is for all who seek solace and hope from our many losses this past year. Join us on [Livestream](#).

Medicare D Open Enrollment, now through December 7: Due to pandemic precautions, we are unable to hold in-person counseling sessions this year. Instead, we have recorded a helpful information session with two Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program counselors. Please view this important Medicare D information at this link: <https://youtu.be/MV1mctykCA8>. Questions? Contact Parish Nurse Lauren Smith at lsmith@mpumc.org or 704-295-4836.

The Redemption of Scrooge with Matt Rawle: Wednesday, December 9, Live at 11:00 a.m. or 8:00 p.m. and viewable later: Join us as Dr. Howell leads a conversation with author Matt Rawle on his Advent study book, *The Redemption of Scrooge*. Watch live on [Facebook live](#) or [Livestream](#).

Advent Prayer Service, Wednesdays in December, 5:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m., Sanctuary: Join us live and in-person for brief services of scripture, music and prayer during this holy season. All COVID-19 precautions will be observed at all times, including proper distancing and mask wearing. Child care will not be available for these services.

Purchase Poinsettias and Wreaths, now-December 11: Purchase a poinsettia or wreath to decorate the church in honor or memory of a loved one. Poinsettias are \$15 each. Wreaths are \$30 each. Order [online](#) or mail a check and the name of the person(s) you are honoring/remembering to the church. Dedications will be shared in the Christmas Eve worship bulletin.

Kneeling at the Manger, Wednesday, December 16, 6:30 p.m.: During this service of story and song, a narrator reads the story of Christ's birth and fifth graders create a living nativity tableau. The service, which was pre-recorded in the Hopedale parking lot this year, also features music by soloists and the Junior Bells and Tinkerbells. Stay tuned for a direct link to the service.

Advent Small Groups, now through December 17, various days and times on Zoom: Plan now to join the clergy as they lead groups through a study on *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent*. Author Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the story of Jesus' birth. The schedule and details are on [our website](#).

2020 Advent and Christmas Devotional Booklet: Our ninth annual booklet is available as a digital edition on [our website](#). If you are interested in a printed copy, email Katharine Willis at kwillis@mpumc.org.

Christmas Crawl, *December 19, 3:00-5:00 p.m. and 6:00-8:00 p.m.*: Join us as we walk through the church neighborhood singing Christmas songs together! [Register here](#) for a time slot to walk with others and enjoy this festive time of year. Mark your calendars and plan on being Merry, Masked, and Moving for this first-ever Christmas celebration.

Sign Up for a Family Love Feast Kit: We hope you'll join us via Livestream for Youth Ministries' annual Love Feast on December 20 at 6:15 p.m. We're excited to offer Love Feast kits for your family to use during the service. Each kit includes fresh Moravian buns, spice tea mix, napkins and love feast candles. Kits will be available for pickup on Friday, December 18 or Saturday, December 19. **Please order only one kit for your family.** [Sign up here while supplies last.](#)

Angel Tree Returns, *now through December 20*: The Prison Fellowship Ministry Angel Tree™ program returns this year in a virtual format. The program will provide a gift card to a child who has an incarcerated parent or caregiver. To see a list of children to support, visit the [Angel Tree](#) site and enter this access code: **T7I5J**. After entering the code, you will see virtual tags with the names of children assigned to your church. Browse through the tags, select the child(ren) you want to sponsor, and click Checkout. If you have any questions, email Doug Caldwell at dougcaldwell@bellsouth.net.

Alternative Gift Market, *December 1-25*: The Alternative Gift Market is back this year with a different format but the same intent: honoring friends and families with gifts that support our community partners and neighbors around the world. This year, we have provided direct links to our partners to allow for the most efficient processing of your Christmas donations. A printable gift card is also available. [Click here to shop!](#)

Advent Prayer Wall: We invite you to come tie a ribbon (provided) to our outdoor prayer wall by the sanctuary. Even though we cannot worship together, we can lift up our prayers together in this season.

Epiphany Party Packs for Kindergarten and 1st Graders: Celebrate Epiphany Sunday with an Epiphany Party Pack, which will include crafts, games, activities, and a sweet treat. Signups open tomorrow, Dec. 7. Questions? Email Leslie Lowery at llowery@mpumc.org.

Embracing Generosity Through Intentional Giving 2021: Be on the lookout for information about our church's 2021 stewardship campaign in your mailbox. We invite you to prayerfully consider your intentional commitment to our church operating fund and mission and outreach fund (formerly Jubilee Plus!) for the upcoming year. Pledge cards can be returned via mail to 1501 Queens Road, Charlotte NC 28207 or online at www.mypersparkumc.org/give.



Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers to provide confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. To learn more about this powerful ministry, contact Rev. Bill Roth at 704-295-4835 or broth@mpumc.org.

Dr. James C. Howell, Senior Pastor

james@mpumc.org 704-376-8584

Rev. Nathan Arledge, Pastor of Missions & Community Engagement

nathan@mpumc.org 704-295-4816

Rev. Taylor Pryde Barefoot, Pastor for Emerging Ministries

tbarefoot@mpumc.org 704-295-4803

Rev. Jessica Dayson, Pastor for Young Adults & Lay Involvement

jdayson@mpumc.org 704-295-4813

Rev. Uiyeon Kim, Pastor of Discipleship

ukim@mpumc.org 704-295-4840

Rev. Bill Roth, Pastor of Congregational Care

broth@mpumc.org 704-295-4835

Rev. Nancy Watson, Executive Pastor

nwatson@mpumc.org 704-295-4823

TALK WITH A PASTOR

A pastor on staff stands ready to respond to your question or concern.

Those needing immediate pastoral help should call

704-376-8584 and follow the prompts to the pastor on call.

Myers Park United Methodist Church Mission Statement:
We are the body of Christ, growing in faith and serving others.



MYERS PARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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