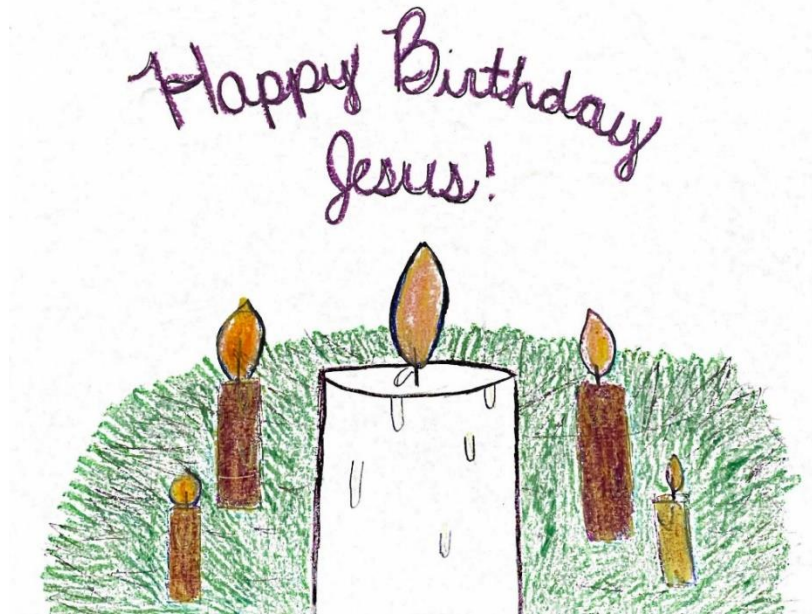


Myers Park  
United Methodist Church



*Happy Birthday Jesus, Adeline Barlow, age 11*

**A Service of Christian Worship**

December 24, 2020

4:00 and 6:00 p.m.

**Christmas Eve**

**Gathering Music**

Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)

G.F. Handel, C. Tomlin, E. Cash, M. Gilder

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

E. Cash, C. Tomlin, J. W. Work, Jr.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

arr. Brian Childers

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

The grace of God has appeared among us!

**We see anew the light of God's love!**

Sing to our God a joyous new song.

**Sing to God, all the nations on earth.**

Let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice!

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to his people!**

**Welcome**

† Carol No. 234 (stanzas 1, 2, 3, and 6)

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

*Refrain:* O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,  
Lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;  
Son of the Father, begotten, not created; (*Refrain*)

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; (*Refrain*)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given.  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; (*Refrain*)

Opening Prayer

Surprising God, open our ears to hear this familiar story  
as if for the first time.

Open our eyes to see anew those gathered at the manger.

Open our hearts to the power of your love  
as revealed in this miraculous story.

Open our lives to the possibility of transformation  
as we encounter once again  
God-With-Us, Emmanuel. Amen.

The Nativity

Luke 2:1-7

**Carol No. 217 (stanzas 1 and 2)**

Away in a Manger

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

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes;  
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**The Adoration**

Luke 2:8-20

**Carol No. 238 (stanzas 1 and 2)**

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

**Angels we have heard on high  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their joyous strains.**

**Refrain: Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heavenly song? (*Refrain*)**

**The Visitation**

Matthew 2:1-2, 8-12

**Carol No. 254 (stanza 1)**

We Three Kings

KINGS OF ORIENT

**We three kings of Orient are;  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.**

**O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.**

## **Homily**

### **Anthem**

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

### **† Prayer**

**God of light and love,  
shine upon us this Christmas Eve  
and in the year ahead.**

**Guide us out of darkness and into your joyous light,  
where shadows are erased, tears are dried,  
and brokenness is healed by your love.**

**May our lives reflect your glorious love,  
that others may see your Christmas Spirit in us,  
each and every day of our lives. Amen.**

### **† Carol No. 239**

Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT

**Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.**

**Holy infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.**

**Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;  
radiant beams from thy holy face  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!**

### **† Benediction**

† **Carol No. 246 (stanzas 1 and 4)**

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

**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.**

**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.**

† **Closing Voluntary**

*Carillon Sortie*

Henri Mulet

† Stand as you are able

## **WORSHIP LEADERS**



### **PREACHER**

Rev. Uiyeon Kim, Pastor of Discipleship



### **LITURGISTS**

Dr. James C. Howell, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Nancy Watson, Executive Pastor



### **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  
Junior Bells  
Small ensemble



### **CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTERS**

Rob, Jennifer, Carson, Robert, and Hank Ford

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# NATIVITY CHARACTERS

## JOSEPH

Grant Jenkins

## Mary

Blakeney Bullins

## ANGEL

Adeline Barlow

## Shepherds

Lila Abel, Harrison Howe

## STAR

Charlotte Goeken

## MAGI

Preston Beard, JB Holloway, Richard Linch

## NARRATORS

Ella Hennessy, Violet Jesse, Ashton Peterson

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## *Welcome to Myers Park United Methodist Church*

**Welcome!** We are thankful you are here worshiping with us on this special day. We invite you to register your attendance with us today:

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

This year's **Christmas Eve Offering** is for our ministry partners at **Marie G. Davis** and **Zoe Empowers**. Your faithful offering will support generational transformation for our neighbors locally and globally. To make your gift, visit [www.myersparkumc.org/give](http://www.myersparkumc.org/give) and select **Holy Days Offering** from the Fund drop-down menu or mail a check with **Holy Days Offering** in the memo line to our business office at 1501 Queens Road, Charlotte, NC 28207.

**Church Closed for the Holidays:** The church offices will be closed on December 24, 25, 28, and January 1. Those needing help on these days can call 704-376-8584 and follow the prompts to the pastor on call.

**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 is 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

1501 QUEENS RD. | CHARLOTTE, NC 28207

704-376-8584 | WWW.MYERSPARKUMC.ORG