

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30AM AND 11:00AM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2021

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Sandra "Ammon" Brabham's 75th birthday; given by her grandchildren, Caleb, Seth and Michael Bradley, and Adelyn, McKenly and Gage Allen. Thank you!

***RINGING OF THE BELL**

GATHERING *(Please take a moment to sign the attendance pad and pass it on to your neighbor.)*

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE (UMH#198) *My Soul Gives Glory to My God* Southern Folk Tune

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(responsively):*

L: In this season of prophecy, promise, and preparation, we come to be renewed and refreshed.

P: WE COME TO BE INSPIRED BY STORIES OF A MESSIAH WHO WILL CHANGE THE WORLD – AND CHANGE US!

L: We come to listen for words of hope and joy, of promise and challenge.

P: WE COME WITH OPEN EARS, OPEN MINDS, AND OPEN HEARTS. WE COME TO RECEIVE THE BLESSINGS GOD HAS IN STORE FOR US IN THIS SEASON OF WAITING.

L: Come! Let us worship our God – the One who brings all things to fulfillment!

***OPENING HYMN OF PRAISE UMH#211** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE *Bob and Karen Waterfield/8:30am*
Richard and Matthew Hornsby/11:00am

ANTHEM *Who Would Send A Baby?* Beall
(Lessie Polk/8:30am)

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus Running
(LUMC Chancel Choir/11:00am)

***I BELIEVE: A NATIVITY AFFIRMATION** *(as a group):*

I BELIEVE IN THE LIVING GOD, WHO IS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE WORLD. I BELIEVE THAT GOD CHOOSES THE MEEK AND THE POOR TO SHAME THE PROUD AND THE RICH.

I BELIEVE IN THE INCARNATE WORD, LEAPING IN A WOMAN'S WOMB, AND CRADLED IN POVERTY.

I BELIEVE IN JESUS, TRUE SON OF MARY, TRUE SON OF GOD, WHO CAME AMONG US IN WEAKNESS, THAT WE MIGHT COME TO KNOW THE PROFOUND STRENGTH AVAILABLE TO COMMON PEOPLE WHO TURN TO GOD IN TRUST AND WITH LOVE.

YES ... THIS IS WHAT I TRULY BELIEVE.

THANKS BE TO GOD! AMEN.

***GLORIA PATRI #71**

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN Heather Connor/Video

WITNESS TO THE WORD *Love All ...* Rev. L. Kim Eanes
The Greatest Christmas Gift Ever Given ... and Received

***HYMN OF PRAISE UMH#196** *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

PRAYER CONCERNS, PASTORAL PRAYER, THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

OFFERTORY (UMH#209) *Blessed Be the God of Israel* H. H. Hopson

***THE DOXOLOGY** *(to the tune of Angels from the Realms of Glory)*

ALL CREATION JOIN IN PRAISING, GOD THE FATHER, SPIRIT, SON,
EVERMORE YOUR VOICES RAISING, TO TH' ETERNAL THREE IN ONE.
COME AND WORSHIP, COME AND WORSHIP,
WORSHIP CHRIST THE NEWBORN KING!

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***CLOSING HYMN OF PRAISE UMH#213** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

***DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE** *Tell Out, My Soul* W. Greatorex

**Please stand if you are able*