



Bold type in purple indicates congregational response. *(Blue text indicates online links.)*

PRELUDE: "Sing We Now of Christmas" (traditional French carol)

[Robert Galbreath, Jr. piano]

WELCOME STATEMENT AND INTRODUCTION

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

So, in that spirit we light these candles:

We light the first Advent Candle: the candle of HOPE—watching and waiting for we have searched and waited for God to come to us.

We light the second Advent Candle: the candle of PEACE as we have prepared our hearts to receive God incarnate.

We light the third Advent Candle: the candle of JOY because we have experienced the mighty love of God in our lives.

We light the fourth Advent Candle: the candle of LOVE because we have been blessed with the good news of God's love for all God's people!

And, tonight we also light the Christ candle—knowing that the God of peace, the harbinger of Joy, deliverer of hope and the manifestation of Love—Jesus the Christ is among us!.

OPENING PRAYER

Even if we cannot physically gather: God is with us. Even if Christmas celebrations are different: God is with us. Even if we might not be able to hug family and friends: God is with us. Even if we cannot sing carols in church buildings: God is with us. Even if Christmas cheer is harder this year: God is with us. Emmanuel, God with us, we come before you in worship and praise. We remember that you are ever faithful, eternally loving, and mysteriously present always. **Amen.**

1. 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.
2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
4. 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.

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 9:2-7 (Inclusive Bible)

The people walking in darkness are seeing a brilliant light—upon those who dwell in a land of deep shadows light is shining! God, you have made the nation greater—you have brought them abundant joy! They celebrate in your presence as with the harvest celebrations, or as warriors celebrate when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the weight on their shoulders, the rod of their oppressors—you have shattered it, as you did at the defeat of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak that was dragged through blood, is now used as fuel for the fire. For a child is born to us, an heir is given us, upon whose soldiers dominion will rest. This One shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Strength of God, Eternal Protector, Champion of Peace. This dominion, and this peace, will grow without end, with David's throne and realm sustained with justice and fairness, now and forever. The zeal of YHWH Omnipotent will accomplish it!

The is the Word of God for all of God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC: "O Holy Night"

[Rachel Parsons]

GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:1-5 (Inclusive Bible)

[Mitch Reed]

In those days Caesar Augustus published a decree ordering a census of the whole Roman world. This first census took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All the people were instructed to go back to the towns of their birth to register. And so Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to "the city of David"—Bethlehem, in Judea, because Joseph was of the house and lineage of David; he went to register with Mary, his espoused wife, who was pregnant.

HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

UMH # 234 vs. 1-2, 4, 6

[Robert Galbreath, Jr., piano; Gaby Vargas, flute]

1. 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; O come, let us adore him (3x), Christ the Lord.
2. True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal, lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created; O come, let us adore him (3x), Christ the Lord.
4. See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; O come, let us adore him (3x), Christ the Lord.

**6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to thee be all glory given.
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing: O come, let us adore him (3x), Christ the Lord.**

GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:6-7 (Inclusive Bible)

[Michael Lovett]

While they were there, the time came for her delivery. She gave birth to her firstborn, a son; she put him in a simple cloth wrapped like a receiving blanket, and laid him in a feeding trough for cattle, because there was no room for them at the inn.

HYMN: "Away in a Manger"

UMH # 217

[George Banks, guitar]

- 1. 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.**
- 2. 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.**
- 3. Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray;
bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:8-14 (Inclusive Bible)

[Nicole Williams]

There were shepherds in the area living in the fields and keeping night watch by turns over their flock. The angel of God appeared to them, and the glory of God shone around them; they were very much afraid. The angel said to them, "You have nothing to fear! I come to proclaim good news to you—news of a great joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in David's city, a savior—the Messiah—has been born to you. Let this be a sign to you: you'll find an infant wrapped in a simple cloth, lying in a manger." Suddenly, there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in high heaven! And on earth, peace to those on whom God's favor rests."

HYMN: "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

UMH # 240 vs. 1, 3

[Robert Galbreath, Jr., piano; Gaby Vargas, flute; David Cooper, French horn]

- 1. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**
- 3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:15-18 (Inclusive Bible)

[DeShawn Barrett]

When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go straight to Bethlehem and see this event that God has made known to us." They hurried and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger; once they saw this, they reported what they had been told concerning the child. All who heard about it were astonished at the report given by the shepherds.

[Robert Galbreath, Jr., piano; Gaby Vargas, flute]

1. **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?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**
3. **So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:19-20 (Inclusive Bible)

[Woo Evans]

Mary treasured all these things and reflected on them in her heart. The shepherds went away glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as they had been told.

HYMN: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

UMH # 230 vs. 1-2, 4

[Robert Galbreath, Jr., piano; Gaby Vargas, flute]

1. **O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**
2. **For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth!**
4. **O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

MESSAGE

[Rev. Alka Lyall]

THE INVITATION TO OFFERING

*[Broadway is committed to the financial support of its identity, vision and ministry by tithing.
Consider making an offering this morning of 10 percent of your income from this past week.]*



God is inviting you to specific ministry of sharing your resources. Please be as generous as you can in your giving. To give online, visit us at BroadwayChurchChicago.com/give or scan the QR code. Thank you for your commitment to God's purposes through our faith community!

WAYS TO GIVE: **Mail a check** (3338 N. Broadway St., Chicago, IL 60657), **drop off a check** in our mailbox, **set up recurring giving** or make a **one-time contribution** through your bank account or credit card through **Vanco** [here](#) or by scanning the QR code above, **Zelle** (send to bumclakeview@gmail.com), or **text** the amount you wish to donate to 833-990-2149.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

There are so many things to be thankful for tonight, God. Receive these tokens of our gratitude for your love incarnate in the babe of Bethlehem. May they become God-with-us for all the world. May they breathe hope back into a world that needs a sense of wonder and joy. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Beloveds, let us go from this place proclaiming that we have seen the glory of God. Believing that there is a light that shines in the darkness, which the darkness shall not overcome. And may the love of the Creator, the joy of the Spirit, and the peace of the Christ-child be with each one of us this Christmas, and evermore. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Silent Night"

UMH # 239

- 1. 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.
- 2. 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!
- 3. 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.
- 4. 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!

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Liturgy adapted from Worship Design Studio, [Ministry Matters](#), and [enfleshed.com](#).

**A special thank you to all who participated in the service this evening!**

**For the offering of Music:** George Banks, David Cooper, Robert Galbreath, Jr., Rachel Parsons, Gaby Vargas  
**For the offering of Word:** DeShawn Barrett, Woo Evans, Michael Lovett, Alka, Lyall, Mitch Reed, Nicole Williams



2020 Flower Dedications



In Honor of folks in nursing homes and their caretakers .....given by Norma Miller  
In Memory of my dad, Sweet Edwards .....given by Alka Lyall  
In Celebration of Broadway United Methodist Church .....given by Alka Lyall



## BROADWAY UMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Interested in more announcements? [Sign up for our weekly eNews here](#) (or on our website).



### Mitten Tree

We have a Mitten Tree outside our building, inviting the community to **ADD items if they can, and take anything they might NEED!** We invite you to contribute also. Feel free to bring your donations of hats, scarves, gloves, mittens or socks whenever you can and add them to the tree. **Socks are especially needed. Items should be NEW and put in plastic bags to protect them from the weather.** And while you are thinking of it, pick up a can or two of non-perishable food items and donate that to our Community Food Pantry!

### December Mission Minute: Community Counseling Centers of Chicago (C-4)

With the stresses of isolation, losses of family and friends, and loss of income, the suicide rate has skyrocketed. For our December Mission Minute we have chosen Community Counseling Centers of Chicago (C-4). When a person calls the National Suicide Prevention Helpline (1-800-275-TALK, 1-800-275-8255) they are connected to their local community mental health crisis line based on their area code. In Chicago that is C-4. In addition to the crisis line, C-4 provides a complete range of mental health services, including psychotherapy and psychiatric services. Funding for those services has been cut in Illinois in recent years and so our support is needed to provide people in need with mental health care. More information about C-4 can be found at [c4chicago.org](http://c4chicago.org). Visit our [donation page](#) to give. (Indicate Mission Minute in memo.)



### Kwanzaa Service

Sunday, December 27, 2020 at 11am

[Facebook event here.](#)



### Hymn Sing

Join us for a service of singing!

**On Sunday, January 3, we will present a Hymn Sing at 11am.** (Our observance of Holy Communion will move from the 1st Sunday of the month to the 2nd Sunday of the month—January 10.) Our Director of Music Ministries, Robert Galbreath, Jr., will lead the congregation in carols, prayers, and hymns.

[Facebook event here.](#)

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CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL PEOPLE

We are black, brown, red, yellow, white, and all the colors of God's created rainbow. We are lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, and straight. We are transgender, intersex, female, male, gender fluid. We are queer. We are questioning. We are every age. We are every ability. We are every economic & theological location. We are YOU.

Welcome to God's Beloved Community at Broadway.

BROADWAY'S MISSION STATEMENT: "God calls Broadway United Methodist Church to be a faith community embracing the diversity of our Chicago neighborhood and larger community. We welcome all persons — celebrating the human family's God-given diversity of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, and physical or mental capacity. We also welcome persons of all social and economic classes and faith backgrounds. At Broadway, we are accepted into God's nurturing family, which invites us into spiritual growth through worship, study, mission, and social action. We are grateful for the opportunities God gives us to experience and share the love of Christ."

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