

## "FOR UNTO US..."

NORTH OAK CHRISTIAN CHURCH-DISCIPLES OF CHRIST  
Christmas Eve 2020

**A WORD OF WELCOME!**  
Worship Leader---Ramie Beck

### **Prayer - submitted by Lori Hall**

Holy Father, Creator of us all, on this holiest of nights, we each come to the manger carrying our own burdens; those of illness, worry, fear, grief, loss of many kinds, depression, confusion, anger, anxiety and maybe even doubt. Give us the courage to let them go, laying them down as we arrive this night, tired of the load. You have come to set us free in our hearts and minds to receive the Christ Child, to trust in the knowing that Jesus is our personal Savior and the Savior of our world, even now, still today. For in our troubled world, You once again bring the Light to see in the darkness, the love to heal us all and the joy in the dwelling of the Holy Spirit within our very souls. And we are forever grateful, Amen

### **Hymn: O Come All Ye Faithful**

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, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing all ye citizens of Heaven above, Glory to God, glory in the highest.

Refrain

### **Lighting the Advent Wreath - Bob & Ellen Lewis**

#### **John 1:1-14**

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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**Hymn: *O Come, O come, Emmanuel***

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine Advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's deep shadows put to flight.

Refrain

**Isaiah 40: 3-5**

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

***Wexford Carol***

**Jim Freise - cello & Jeff Nunn - piano**

**Luke 2:1-7**

And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city.

Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into 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 wife, who was with child. So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

**Hymn: *Away in the Manger***

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed. The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head.**

The stars in the sky look down where He lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing the poor Baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky and stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.

## **Luke 2:8-16**

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, 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, goodwill toward men!"**

So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

***Angels We Have Heard on High***  
**Jim Freise - cello & Jeff Nunn - piano**

## **Luke 2:17-20**

When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

### ***Hymn: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming***

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung, of Jesse's lineage coming by faithful prophets sung; it came a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior when half spent was the night.

The Offering  
THANKS FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS

### ***Communion Hymn: Joy to the World***

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

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

### **Celebrating Holy Communion - Rev. Linda Miller**

Pastor's Words of Invitation

The Words of Institution

The Communion Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be  
done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our  
sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliv-  
er us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, amen.

The Bread & Cup are shared.

**The Light is Shared**

**Hymn: *Silent Night***

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, 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.

**Go in Peace**