

Washington Street United Methodist Church

4:00 pm ~ Outdoor Carol Sing

December 20, 2020

Fourth Sunday in Advent

ISAIAH 6

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

Please be sure that you or your family were "registered" online or sign in at the Registration Table.

CALL TO WORSHIP

SHIP The People Who Walk in Darkness
Maria Beery, soprano; Dr. Rick Frierson, piano
Text: Mary Louise Bringle, 2008; Music: Sally Ann Morris, 2008

OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)

Holy God, we gather to hear once again the story we long to hear year after year. We gather to sing with joy of the birth of the Christ Child, the source of our hope and your living sign of love. May your Holy Spirit move among us so that we hear not only the voices of those gathered here, but the voices of angels and shepherds, and the whisper of your presence among us. Amen.

CAROL 249

There's a Song in the Air

CHRISTMAS SONG

(vs. 1,3)

- 1. There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!
 There's a mother's deep prayer and a baby's low cry!
 And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,
 for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!
- 3. In the light of that star lie the ages impearled; and that song from afar has swept over the world. Every hearth is aflame, and the beautiful sing in the homes of the nations that Jesus is King!

Words: Josiah G. Holland, 1874; Music: Karl P. Harrington, 1904

NARRATION

Angels in the Birth Stories

CAROL 238 (vs. 1-2)

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

- 1. 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!
- 2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? (*Refrain*)

Words: Trad. French carol; trans. Crown of Jesus, 1862

Music: French carol melody; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937; harm. Austin C. Lovelace, 1964

CAROL 240 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN

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!"

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

- 2. Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. (*Refrain*)
- 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. (*Refrain*)

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739; alt. George Whitefield, 1753 Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; arr. William Cummings, 1856

NARRATION Unexpected Recipients

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:1-14 Sue Dillon

CAROL 245 The First Noel THE FIRST NOEL

(vs. 1-2)

- 1. The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. *Refrain*: Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.
- 2. They lookéd up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. (*Refrain*)

Words and Music: Trad. English carol; harm. from Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871

CAROL 236 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks CHRISTMAS (vs. 1, 6)

- 1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated the ground, the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around, and glory shone around.
- 6. "All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace; good will henceforth from heaven to earth begin and never cease, begin and never cease!"

Words: Nahum Tate, 1700 Music: *Harmonia Sacra*, 1812; arr. from G. F. Handel, 1728

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:15-20 Andrea McAtee

CAROL 217 Away in a Manger AWAY IN A MANGER

- 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.

Words: Anon.; Music: James R. Murray, 1887

CAROL 219 What Child Is This **GREENSLEEVES**

- 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? Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing, haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.
- 2. Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. (Refrain)
- 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. (Refrain)

Words: William C. Dix, 186; Music: 16th cent. English melody

NARRATOR Visitations

CAROL 251 Go, Tell It on the Mountain GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

- 1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (Refrain)
- 2. The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! above the earth, rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth. (Refrain)
- 3. Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)

Words: African American spiritual, adapt. John W. Work, Jr., 1907 Music: African American spiritual, arr. William Farley Smith, 1986

BENEDICTION

Musicians assisting today: Maria Beery, Dr. Rick Frierson, Rev. Jim Tuell Reverend Patricia J. Parrish 1401 WASHINGTON STREET, COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29201 803-256-2417 ~ www.wsmethodist.org



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