



ORDER FOR THE
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* **GOD**

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15, 2019

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Please prepare your heart for worship and silence your mobile devices.

The hymn of praise, “Angels, from the Realms of Glory,” was written by James Montgomery in 1816. When James was a young boy, his parents died on the mission field in the West Indies. Following their death, James wandered from the faith and lived as a vagabond until his early twenties when he found employment at *Sheffield Register*, a local newspaper. It was there that his gift for poetry was cultivated, and he returned to the Christian faith. Like his parents before him, James became a strong advocate for the oppressed and developed a deep passion for missions.

On Christmas Eve in 1816, while reading the second chapter of Luke, James was struck by the diversity of people who worshiped Jesus and celebrated the Good News of His coming. Later that evening he was inspired to write this hymn.

Each verse highlights a specific people group who worshiped Christ:

- The Angels’ song (*stanza one*)
- The Shepherds’ adoration (*stanza two*)
- The Sages’ gifts (*stanza three*)
- The Saints’ praise in heaven (*stanza four*)

On this third Sunday of Advent, let us join the great choir of heaven and worship Christ, the newborn King!

ADORE THE HEAVENLY KING

ORGAN PRELUDE: Variations on “Good Christian Men Rejoice” Denis Bédard

Samuel Metzger, organ

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Courtney Ward, Patience Whitten, and Austin Zeiler (8:15)

Greg, Cissy, Townes, and Elle Wilkinson (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP Dan Burns

✦HYMN OF ADVENT: No. 158 “Angels from the Realms of Glory” REGENT SQUARE

Words: James Montgomery / Music: Henry Smart; arr. Metzger / Matthew 2:11

✦INVOCATION (*Please lift hands*)

✦SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 2:8-14 Amanda Coop (8:15)

Elizabeth Wall (11:00)

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field,
keeping watch over their flock by night.

**And an angel of the Lord appeared to them,
and the glory of the Lord shone around them,
and they were filled with great fear.**

And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold,
I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

**For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,
who is Christ the Lord.**

**And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby
wrapped in swaddling cloths and 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 among those with whom he is pleased!”**

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE VENI EMMANUEL

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

SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM (8:15)

*Palmer Lee Clement, born September 27, 2019, daughter of Brooke and Bowers Clement
Elliot James Mahrt, born April 27, 2019, son of Annie and Nate Mahrt*

SONG OF ENCOURAGEMENT: "Jesus Loves You" JESUS LOVES ME

**Jesus loves you, this we know, for the Bible tells us so;
Little ones to Him belong, you are weak but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves you! Yes, Jesus loves you!
Yes, Jesus loves you! The Bible tells us so.**

RECEIVE THE SAVIOR KING

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of grace and truth, Christ,
You came among us as light shining in darkness.
We confess we have not welcomed Your great light,
we have failed to be Your agents of peace in the world,
and we have been reluctant to praise You for becoming God with us.
We have closed our eyes to Your glory, expecting little and hoping for less.
In this Advent season, forgive our faithlessness and renew our hope.
Come to us anew, and by Your grace, transform us to receive You
with joy, as the shepherds; with gratitude, as Simeon;
with obedience, as Mary; with love, as You have loved us.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON. I John 4:9-10

*In this the love of God was made manifest among us,
that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.
In this is love, not that we have loved God
but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE GIFTS OF GOD

*In addition to cash and check, you may give electronically at www.2pc.org/give
or text SECOND followed by the gift amount to (901) 410-9500.*

To give to World Missions, text WORLD followed by an amount to the same number.

*For many years Second's Caring Ministry has provided financial assistance
to our members and to those in the Memphis community. To give to this fund during Advent,
visit 2pc.org/caringfund, text CARINGFUND followed by the gift amount to (901) 410-9500,
or insert cash or check into the special envelope in the pew rack and place in the offering plate.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Glory, Glory, Glory to the Newborn King"Moses Hogan

Words and Music: Moses Hogan / Luke 2:17

What will we call that pretty little baby? Baby born in Bethlehem.
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. Where was He born, this pretty little baby?
Down in a lowly manger. Where His birth was in a stable.
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. Born this night, the Son of Mary.
Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace. Glory, glory, glory to the newborn King.
Children, go and tell it on the mountain, Lord, over the hills and ev'rywhere.
Why don't you go, yes, tell it on the mountain, Lord, that Jesus Christ is born.
See the newborn baby. Go and tell it on the mountain, Lord, that Jesus Christ is born.
Glory, glory, glory to the newborn King. All praise to the newborn King,
We're singin' over hill and mountain, we're singin' Hail, the newborn King.
Glory, glory, glory to the newborn King

*The Chancel Choir
Sam Johnson, soloist
Calvin Ellis, director*

✦DOXOLOGY.....OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

✦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING David Bowen

✦GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN

TRUST THE SHEPHERD KING

✦PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (*please stand*)

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

✦HYMN OF PREPARATION: No. 139 "He Is Born" IL EST NÉ

Words: French Carol / Music: arr. Allen Tuten / Luke 2:6

SCRIPTURE LESSON.....Matthew 1:18-25

(page 807 in the pew Bible)

The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the Word of our God will stand forever. (*Isaiah 40:8*)

SERMON *The Ordinary People of Christmas: Joseph* George Robertson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✦HYMN OF COMMITMENT: No. 175 "Joy Has Dawned" JOY HAS DAWNED

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend / John 1:18

✦BENEDICTION (*Please lift hands*)

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE GLORIA

**Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Un Flambeau, Jeanette, Isabelle" Denis Bédard

✦Indicates congregation standing CCLI License #252778

FESTIVAL of CAROLS
December 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Join the Chancel Choir and Orchestra this evening for this annual favorite Advent service with sing-along Christmas carols and a festive atmosphere of worship.

I. Uncommonly Kind (*Matthew 1:18-20*)

II. Unquestioningly Obedient (*Matthew 1:20-25*)

III. Undauntingly Protective (*Matthew 2:13-15; 19-23*)