

Carols of Christmas



Sunday, December 8, 2019

Otterbein United Methodist Church

10:30 am Worship Service

THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

Second Sunday of Advent

Prelude *Angels We Have Heard on High* arr. Gwyneth Walker
Sean Macomber, euphonium

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit *A Tribute of Carols* arr. Heather Sorenson

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*Call to Worship

L: At this Christmas season, we delight to hear again the message of the angels.

P: Saying, “Go to Bethlehem and see the son of God lying in a manger.”

L: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

P: Those who lived in the land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

L: For a child has been born to us, a son given to us.

P: Let all the heavens be glad, let all the earth rejoice!

L: Lift us by your Spirit to join angelic hosts in anthems of joy and peace.

P: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music.

L: We praise you, O God, for the glorious redemption brought to us by the birth of your Son.

P: Let us make this place glad with carols of praise!

*Hymn of Praise *O Little Town of Bethlehem* No. 230, UMH

The Bidding Prayer
Rev. Adam Blagg

The Lord's Prayer No. 895, UMH

Giving of our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory	<i>God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen</i>	RoJean Loucks
	Sophia Shedd, harp	

*Doxology (tune: *VENI EMMANUEL*)

*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.*

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

*Prayer of Dedication

Carols of Christmas

The term carol describes a song of praise and joy. The first carol to be heard on Earth was sung by the angels the night Jesus was born. Ever since, Christians have continued to sing glad tidings of Jesus' birth. As we hear and sing once again our favorite carols of Christmas, may the familiar words impress upon us anew the enormity of God's love for us.

May this season be full of hope and joy as we celebrate the God we sing about, the God who sent the greatest gift, His Son, Jesus Christ, to be the Savior of the world.



The First Lesson

THE FALL OF ADAM

Patsy Liskey

The Wexford Carol

arr. Elaine Hagenberg

Joel Clemens, soloist

Originating from Ireland's County Wexford and dating back to the 12th century, *The Wexford Carol* is one of the oldest surviving Christmas carols in European tradition. Its haunting mixolydian mode tune and narrative text emphasize the sacrificial purpose of Christ coming to earth... "good people all, this Christmas time, consider well and bear in mind, what our good God for us has done, in sending His beloved Son..."



The Second Lesson

GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM

Dylan Andrade

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

arr. James Koerts

Dance-like rhythms permeate *Good Christian Men, Rejoice!*, a Christmas carol from the 14th century medieval carol tradition. The original song was macaronic, written in two languages (Latin plus the vernacular German). The message of the carol is clear and may be found in the last line of each stanza: "Christ is born today!" / "Christ was born for this!" / "Christ was born to save!"



The Third Lesson

THE BIRTH OF CHRIST FORETOLD

Jonathan Williams

What Child is This?

arr. Molly Ijames

Camila Maric & Ammad Akbari, soloists

GREENSLEEVES, the English folk song for which this text was written, is not exclusively a Christmas tune but is certainly one of the most beautiful melodies of the season. The lyrics of the carol are taken from a poem written by William Dix in 1865 titled, *The Manger Throne*. Beginning with the rhetorical question, "What Child is This?" the poet paints a classic nativity scene with the Christ Child sleeping on Mary's lap while angels sing and shepherds keep watch.

This anthem arrangement also emphasizes this babe, the Son of God, will ultimately be pierced by nails and spear as He bears the cross for me and you.



The Fourth Lesson

THE PEACE OF CHRIST FORETOLD

Rev. Jim Wingert

A Christmas Canticle

arr. Tom Fettke

Focusing on the song of the angels, *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* may be the only commonly sung carol in our hymnals that does not mention the birth of Christ. The text draws from Luke 2:14, "peace on the earth, good will to men from heaven's all gracious King!" This setting

utilizes a classic William Billings tune which is markedly different from the slow and flowing familiar melody. Billings, the best known American composer of the 18th century, was born in Boston and is sometimes called the Father of American choral music. The text poignantly articulates images of those struggling “beneath life’s crushing load,” while hope that the song of the “blessed angels” who “bend on hovering wings” would soothe the “Babel sounds” of a suffering world. We realize the message of peace has not yet been fully realized on earth, but we rejoice in the hope that one day it will indeed be.



The Fifth Lesson **THE ANGEL GABRIEL APPEARS TO MARY** Judi Espinoza
Sleeping Adonai Heather Sorenson
College Chorale with Leah Finn & Aidan Everett, soloists

Adonai is a Hebrew name for God which is found over four hundred times in the Bible. It translates as “master” or “ruler” and contains the concept of “dominion” or “ownership.” This sacred cradle song is a portrait of the newborn Savior, juxtaposing the manger scene with the holy child’s future ministry. Awe and worship permeate the piece, which also quotes phrases from Charles Wesley’s *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*.



The Sixth Lesson **ST. LUKE TELLS OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS** Deanna Nye
Silent Night arr. John Rutter

Perhaps the most famous and translated carol of all time, *Silent Night* conveys the very essence of peace and love. “*Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!*” was heard for the first time in a village church in Orberndorf, Austria on Christmas Eve 1818. There have been many myths and tales of the origins of the carol. However, it is likely the reality of the collaboration of Father Joseph Mohr’s poem and Franz Gruber’s melody is as simple as the song itself, now beloved and treasured in dialects around the world 200 years later.



The Seventh Lesson **THE SHEPHERDS’ JOURNEY** Samuel Malabad
The First Noel arr. Dan Forrest
Mary Galvin, soloist

Noel is the French word for Christmas and comes from the Latin word *natalis*, which means birth. It is an English carol that was sung by village people as they brought in the Yule Log on Christmas Eve each year. They would burn the Yule Log to symbolize the triumph of light over darkness near the time of the winter solstice. The text, which in its entirety includes six stanzas, portrays in vivid narrative style the story of the birth of Christ. The last verse urges us to join together to sing praises to God for the marvel of His creation and the salvation provided through Christ’s shed blood.



The Eighth Lesson **THE WISE MEN ARE LED BY THE STAR** Bill Pollard
O Holy Night arr. Jay Althouse
Ricky Goodwyn, Jr., soloist

In 1847, Placide Cappeau, a French wine merchant, was asked to write a poem for Christmas Eve mass. On a journey to Paris he was inspired while imagining himself a

witness to the birth of Christ. He wrote the poem *Cantique de Noel* (Song of Christmas). He gave his words to Jewish composer Adolphe Adam, who then wrote the beautiful melody which has become one of the most treasured carols for Christmas Eve. O Holy Night is also famous for being the first Christmas song ever played over live radio in 1906.



The Ninth Lesson

THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION

Rev. Larry Clark

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

arr. Daniel Powers

This triumphant carol was written by prolific Methodist poet and hymnist Charles Wesley within a year of his conversion. Charles wrote over 6,000 hymns in his lifetime to help spread the Gospel message to ordinary people. *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* is full of names and titles of Christ including King, Lord, Prince of Peace, Sun of Righteousness, Everlasting Lord, and Incarnate Deity. Wesley wrote hymns to share deep theological truths and this Christmas song declares Jesus was “born that man no more may die,” since God has sent the One who reconciles sinners back to Himself. May we all join Wesley in worship as we sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

*Closing Prayer

*Closing Hymn

Joy to the World

No. 246, UMH

*Benediction

Postlude



Participants

Rev. Adam Blagg, Senior Pastor

Sandra E. Schaefer, Director of Music Ministries

Sanctuary Choir & Instrumentalists

Soprano

*Kira Blagg
Tara Eckenroad
*Mary Galvin
Jo Ann Liskey
*Leah Finn
Priscilla Whitmore
Maryann Wolfe*

Alto

*Christy Blagg
Jane Lough
Sarah Macomber
*Camila Maric
Lynda McConnell
Judy Richardson*

Bass

*Adam Blagg
*Joel Clemens
*Ricky Goodwyn, Jr.
Sean Macomber
Carter Ritchie*

Instrumentalists

*Pedro Aponte, flute
Ed Gant, cello
Maria Lorcias, violin
Sarah Macomber, clarinet
Caleb Pickering, percussion
Sophia Shedd, harp*

Tenor

**Ammad Akbari
Linda Conrad
*Aidan Everett
Mary Ely Griffith
John Nye*

*Denotes College Chorale

This Week's Opportunities

Sunday, December 8

9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Choral Program—*Carols of Christmas*
11:30 am Family Christmas Brunch

Monday, December 9

3:00 pm January *Tidings* Deadline
4:30 pm Soup Kitchen
5:00 pm Clothes Closet

Tuesday, December 10

10:00 am Bible Study—Memorial Hall
Noon UMW Christmas Luncheon at Jo Ann Liskey's (Van leaves OUMC at 11:20 am)
6:00 pm Bible Study—Room 204
6:00 pm Caring Hearts Dinner—Union Station

Wednesday, December 11

6:00 pm Bells
7:15 pm Choir

Thursday, December 12

Noon JOY Group—Memorial Hall
1-4 pm Dominoes—Rm. 204

Friday, December 13

Saturday, December 14

5:30 pm Saturday Night Alive
Rev. Faith Fowler

Sunday, December 15

9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship

Announcements

- **Otterbein Family Christmas Brunch** will be served **TODAY** in Memorial Hall following the Christmas Choral program. All donations will benefit the OUMC College Chorale Scholarship Fund. Please stay and enjoy the fellowship and food prepared by the Otterbein UMMen and others.
- **January Tidings Deadline**—Because of Christmas, we've had to adjust our regular newsletter schedule. **The deadline for the January Tidings is TOMORROW, DECEMBER 9 BY 3 PM. Thank you!**
- **UMW**—The **UMW Christmas Covered Dish Luncheon** is **Tuesday, December 10 at 12 noon** at the home of **Jo Ann Liskey**. The van will leave the church at 11:20 am.
- **Bulletin Announcement Deadline**—The deadline for next Sunday's bulletin is **Tuesday, December 10 by 3 pm.**
- **Caring Hearts Christmas Dinner**—Caring Hearts will gather for a **Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 10 at 6 pm at Union Station**. All ladies are invited to attend!
- **Daily Advent Prayer Service**—RISE is hosting a **daily advent prayer service on Monday, Wednesday, & Fridays at 8:30 am and Tuesday & Thursdays at 7:30 am** throughout December. All are welcome to join them at 60 West Market Street.
- **2020 Pledges**—We are still accepting pledge cards! They can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office. Blank pledge cards are available at the back of the sanctuary. Discipleship Surveys are also available at the back of the sanctuary.
- **Advent Devotional Guides** are available in the breezeway and High Street entrances! Thanks to everyone who wrote devotions for our guide. Our Advent Mission Focus will be the Charterhouse School in Edinburg, which is sponsored by the United Methodist Family Services. If you would like to donate, please make your check payable to Otterbein and designate "UMFS-Charterhouse School" in the memo line. Thanks!
- **Volunteer Needed**—There is an opening at the **Otterbein Soup Kitchen** for a worker on the **4th Monday of every month**. If you are interested, please contact Susan Pollard.
- **Cash Day**—Cash Day donations will go towards the purchase of repair/replacement fixtures/bulbs to brighten the Sanctuary. Thank you!
- **Clothing Needed**—Children's Winter Clothes are needed for the Clothes Closet. We are almost out of clothes, particularly girls. Thanks for any donations!
- **Assisted Listening Devices and large print bulletins and hymnals are available.** Please see an usher for assistance.

Please stop by
either entrance
and sign the card
for the **TLC Person
of the Week.**



TLC Person of the Week:

Barbara Henry
847 Oakwood Drive, Rm. 5
Rockingham, VA 22801



Remember Barbara this week with a note or a card.
Let's show her Otterbein's "tender, loving care"!

Otterbein in Prayer

Phyllis Albrite
Ruth Batten
Millie Bruce
Pat Brunk
Rev. & Mrs. Carson
Cliff Davis
Allen Dellinger
Ann Dellinger
Jo Ellen Dickenson
Lisa Ferenc
Elaine Ford
Judy Grandle
Florence Green
Betty Griffith

Jodi Griffith
Mindi Griffith
Ray & Audrey Griffith
Doris Hanger
Norma Heath
Barbara Henry
Bennie & Gloria
Hildebrand
John Hoffnagle
Bob Jones
Dot Jones
Steve Joseph
Evelyn Keane
Janet Liskey

Judy Liskey
Pem Liskey
Jean Litten
Brenda Logan
Greta Marks
Wendy McDonaldson
Mary Ellen Rohrbaugh
Ann Sebrell
Anna Joseph Sheets
Linda Stephens
Jane Stover
Juanita Taylor
Martha Taylor
Craig Thompson

Charlie Tibbits
Emily Tran
Mckenzie Woods
Richard Worden
Dennis Wright
Anita Yount

Family of Rodger Fishback,
Jack Ridder, Richard
Stroop, & Sue Volskis

GREETERS: Kim Gilkerson, Bonnie Goff, & Mary Earman
Ruth Batten, Hazel Willi, & Halcie Fishback

NURSERY: Betty Redmond & Mary Andes

POWERPOINT: Patsy Liskey

Next Week's Nursery Volunteers

Carla Nemoytin & Kira Blagg

Next Week's Children's Message

Rev. Larry Clark

Next Week's Powerpoint

Susan Pollard

Attendance on Nov. 30/Dec. 1: SNA—8 Sunday Worship—110

The flowers on the altar today are given in honor and memory of many loved ones and to the glory of God.

Otterbein United Methodist Church

176 West Market Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801
oumcadm@hotmail.com / oumcharrisonburg.org
Office (540) 434-7747
Prayer Line Ministry (540) 434-7745

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday -Thursday: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Friday: Closed

Welcome to Otterbein!

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Would you like a call from the Pastor? ____ Yes ____ No Would you like to be added to our email list? ____ Yes ____ No

Email: _____

