

Brookwood Baptist Church Sunday, December 12, 2021

Sunday Morning Worship

Brookwood Baptist Church

Sunday, December 12, 2021 3rd Sunday of Advent

Prelude I Saw Three Ships Sanctuary Choir

Traditional English Carol Arr. John Frederick Hudson Choir, Brass, Handbells

Welcome and Invocation Keith McLeod

Instrumental Praise Angel Songs Handbell Choir

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing /Angels We Have Heard on High Arr. Lloyd Larson

Scripture Reading Zephaniah 3:14-20 The Preston Family

14 Sing, Daughter Zion; shout aloud, Israel!

Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,

Daughter Jerusalem!

15 The Lord has taken away your punishment,

he has turned back your enemy.

The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm.

16 On that day

they will say to Jerusalem,

"Do not fear, Zion;

do not let your hands hang limp.

17 The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves.

He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing." 18 "I will remove from you all who mourn over the loss of your appointed festivals,

which is a burden and reproach for you.

19 At that time I will deal with all who oppressed you.

I will rescue the lame;
I will gather the exiles.

I will give them praise and honor in every land where they have suffered shame.

20 At that time I will gather you; at that time I will bring you home.

I will give you honor and praise among all the peoples of the earth

when I restore your fortunes

before your very eyes," says the Lord.

Candle-Lighting Prayer for Advent

Joy

Dear God,
In the height of our Advent walk,
grant us the courage to experience joy.
Joy in the face of apathy,
Joy in the face of sorrow,
Joy in the face of uncertainty. Amen.

A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

German Carol; harmonized by Michael Praetorius Brass Quintet

The First Lesson

from Genesis 3:8-15; 17-19

Dr. Blake Dempsey

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

The man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and they hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

And to the man he said,

"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it', cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles, it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Plainsong, 13th Century A Cappella Choir

The Second Lesson

from Genesis 22:15-18

Sally Sanders

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Johann Schop; harmonized by J.S. Bach Choir & Brass

The Third Lesson

from **Isaiah 9:2; 6-7**

Larry McCutcheon

The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness-on them light has shined.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and
forevermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Latin Carol; translated by John M. Neale; German Melody Choir, Brass, Handbells

The Fourth Lesson

from Isaiah 11:1-3a; 4a; 6-9

Sylvia Page

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his

roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,

the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. With righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,

and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

For Unto Us...

A. Vincent Wilcox & John Randall Dennis Children's Choir, Ladies Choir, Piano, Violin

Sing We Now of Christmas

Traditional French Carol; Arr. Robert Sterling Children's Choir, Piano, Violins, Percussion

The Fifth Lesson

from the Gospel of Luke 1:26-35; 38

Keith Mcl eod

The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Glory to God from "Messiah"

George Frederic Handel Choir, Brass, Organ, Keyboard

The Sixth Lesson

from the Gospel of Luke 2:1; 3-7

Eliza Feild

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

All Is Well

Michael W. Smith and Wayne Kirkpatrick; Arr. Keith Christopher The Brookwood Strings

The Seventh Lesson

from the Gospel of Luke 2:8-16

Turner Helveston

The shepherds go to the manger.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

What Child Is This?

William Chatterton Dix; Traditional English Melody, 16th Century Choir, Keyboard, Violin, Percussion

Thou Who Wast Rich

Frank Houghton; French Carol Solo: Rusty Foster, Choir, Organ

The Eighth Lesson

from the Gospel of Matthew 2:1-12

Judy Bryant

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Come See the Child

Arr. Karen Lakey Buckwalter Handbell Choir

The Ninth Lesson

from the Gospel of John 1:1-14

Dr. Blake Dempsey

St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

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.

A Christmas Festival

Arr. John Randall Dennis Choir & Congregation

Benediction Dr. Blake Dempsey

Postlude Celebration

John Randall Dennis Brass Quintet

The Bible texts of the lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, and used by permission.

The lesson summaries are taken from the Order of Worship for the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, King's College, Cambridge, 2005.

All songs except "I Saw Three Ships" come from the collection," Christmas By Candlelight" arranged by John Randall Dennis. H. W. Gray publishers

A special thanks to all our instrumentalists who helped to make this such a beautiful service.

Brookwood Ministers

Missionary in Residence Every member of the church

Dr. Bryant StrainPastor Emeritus

Dr. Blake DempseySenior Pastor
blaked@brookwood.org

Keith McLeod

Minister of Music & Senior Adults
keithm@brookwood.org

Judy Bryant
Minister to Children & Their Families
judyb@brookwood.org

Larry McCutcheon
Minister to Youth & Their Families
larrym@brookwood.org

Sylvia Page
Minister to Preschoolers & Their Families
sylviap@brookwood.org

Brian PittsWorship Leader
pittsb@gmail.com

Visit our website "Connection Card"





Upcoming Events

- Firehouse Shelter Christmas Mission Project (sponsored by the Children's Ministry) - Please bring a package of men's undershirts, underwear (boxers preferred), socks, or gloves and place them in the box in the foyer near the registration desk. We will collect items through Sunday, December 19th.
- Christmas Eve Candlelight worship services will be Friday, December 24th at 3 pm and 5 pm in the Sanctuary.
- Sunday, December 26th & Sunday, January 2nd there will be no Sunday School. Childcare will be provided during the worship service for children 4 years and younger.
- Year End Giving Please remember that all gifts to the church for 2021 must be hand delivered, postmarked or posted to online giving by Friday, December 31st. The church offices will be closed on Friday, December 31st but contributions can be placed in the locked drop box to the left of the church front doors. If you have questions, please contact the finance office. BBC thanks you for your continued generosity and looks forward to a joyous advent season.