UNITED PRESBYTERIAN-CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY December 20th. 2020 4th Sunday in Advent

MUSICAL PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP AND COUNTDOWN MINI MOVIE

PRELUDE People Look East **CHORAL INTROIT** Christ is Coming! arr. Jason W. Krug Joachim Neander

#171

GREETING L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come away to this place of rest and renewal; Let your spirits rejoice in the presence of God. We will sing of God's unending love for all people. We will proclaim God's faithfulness to all generations. God looks with favor on the humble and lowly. God's covenant does not focus on rank or position. God strengthens those who are weak. The proud are scattered in the thoughts of their hearts. Blessed are those who walk in God's light. Blessed are all who say 'yes' to God's call. Let the heavens proclaim the wonders of God. Let all the earth rejoice in Christ's coming. MORNING PRAYER (read by Lay Reader) We bring our spiritual hungers to this place, O God, hoping to be fed. We bring our weariness, expecting to find rest for our souls. We bring our dullness asking that we might be alerted to those things that you consider important. We come because we want the scattered fragments of our lives to come together in a meaningful wholeness. You have promised to be with us. Reveal yourself to us here, we pray in the name of One who came to share our common lot. Amen. *HYMN HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, in whom all things are possible, we confess that we have doubted what we cannot explain. We have sought strength and enjoyment apart from you. We have taken pride in ownership more than giving praise through stewardship.

We have, at times, neglected to thank you, either in good times or when you have supported us during days of uncertainty. We have resisted the newness you offer. Forgive us we pray, for installing ourselves as reigning deities. Lead us, rather, in paths of trust and obedience. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God does not turn away from giving unending love, even when we are unfaithful. The rock of our salvation keeps covenant with us despite our iniquity. God's mercy is for all who humbly seek it. God fills the hungry with good things, but the rich are sent away empty. If we have chosen to receive forgiveness and to move away for self-absorption, we will understand God's pardon and live joyously within it.

*GLORIA PATRI

#805

SPECIAL MUSIC	Joseph Deters	O Come O Come Emmanuel
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM- (PRE RECORDED)		
*HYMN O LITTLE TOWN OF E	BETHLEHEM	#155
PERIOD OF GUIDED PRAYER Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer		
OFFERINGS OF GIFTS AND TITHES		
OFFERTORY Hannah Deters 8	Rebecca Deters	Friendly Beasts
*DOXOLOGY		#809
*OFFERTORY PRAYER (unison)		

Our best we give to you, loving, God for you have given your best to us in the mystery of the incarnation. May our offering proclaim Jesus in ways that will be received with joy. Send your Word to the world in this season through our caring service. May we share it with one another in ways that help us all to grow. We are your servants. The gifts we dedicate are already yours. Thank you for all the ways you have provided for us. Amen.

#133

*HYMN O COME O COME EMMANUEL vs. 1. 3. 5 ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Inspired by God's presence, spread the good news.

Strengthened by the gospel, go out to serve.

Our spirits rejoice in the Savior's nearness.

Our lives are blessed by a merciful God.

God has granted a beautiful earth for our home.

God appoints us as caregivers of the land and its people.

We are a covenant people, shaped by love. Wherever God sends us, we will go.

God's steadfast love will go with you every day.

You will know the strength of God's mighty hand. We will work with God to lift up the lowly. We will share good things with those who are hungry. Amen *BENEDICTION *CHORAL RESPONSE "Amen" African POSTLUDE The First Noel

African American Spiritual English Carol

*All those who are able, please stand.

ORGANIST Diana Mann CHOIR DIRECTOR Diana Mann SINGERS Becca Nelson, Julie Radke, Tim Delnay, Bill Handy VMIX Lynn Adams, SOUND Rob Sanders PRODUCTION Lynn Adams and Ernie Bliss CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM Cheryl Drevlow and Lynn Adams

Church office hours Monday--Friday from 8:15 a.m. to noon Rev. James Deters, Pastor upccpastor@gmail.com Kate Bernardo, Administrative Assistant <u>kate.uppc@gmail.com</u> Church office phone 715-682-3093

Thank you to all the families who worked with their children to produce the wonderful videos used in today's Children's Christmas Program - Cheryl & Lynn

 Website:
 https://upcchurch.org

 Like us on Facebook at
 United Presbyterian Congregational Church

 Join our Facebook group at UPCC Connection



United Presbyterian/Congregational Church 214 Vaughn Ave, Ashland, Wisconsin 54806

PASTOR: Reverend James Deters

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 am SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 am

Illustration by Ben Cogger

BIRTHDAYS

- 23 Mike Yankee
- 25 Tim Walworth
- 26 Kristen Mathisen & Judi Holevatz

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

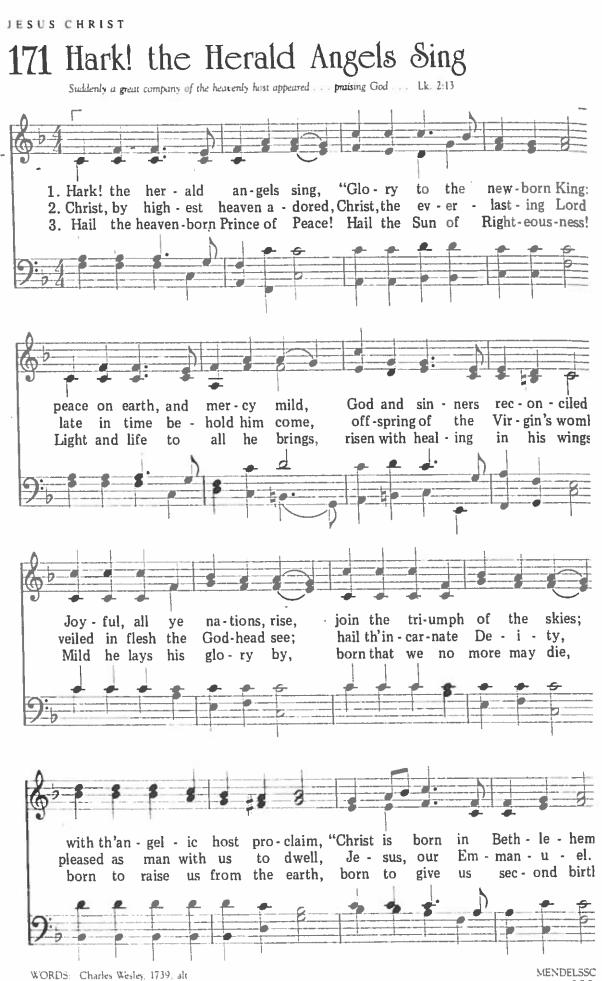
Children's Chats We are looking for volunteers to do children's chats via video for our Sunday streaming services. If you would like to volunteer, need help with this, or need to learn how to do this please email <u>ladams1055@gmail.com</u> or text or call Lynn at 715-209-6784.

Communications Committee In an effort to keep the congregation informed of events and activities of interest to the church family, please submit announcements for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin. The submission deadline is noon every Tuesday. Please send your information to the church office via email to info@upcchurch.org.

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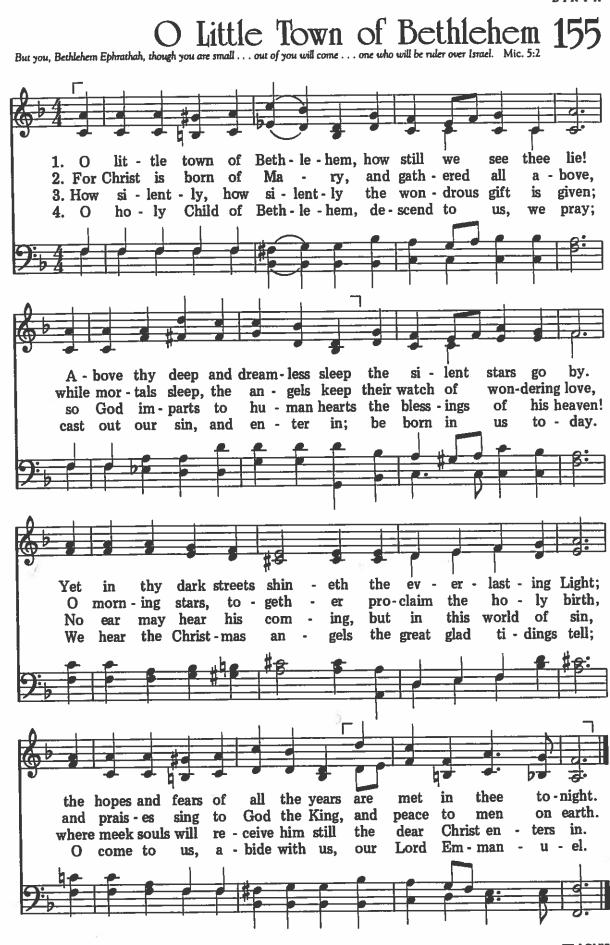
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MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; adapt. William H. Cummings, 1856

7.7.7.

BIRTH

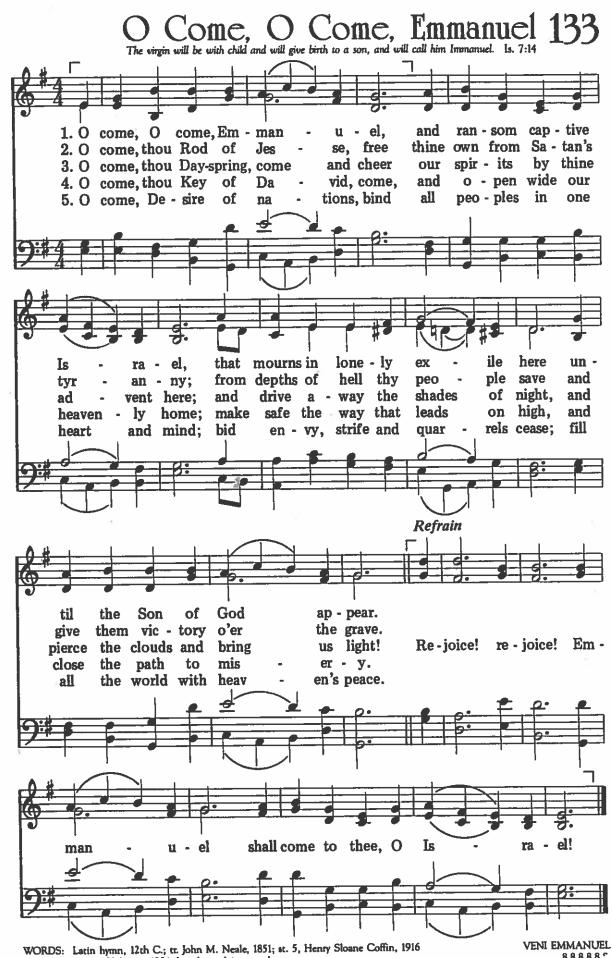


WORDS: Phillips Brooks, 1868 MUSIC: Lewis H. Redner, 1868

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ST. LOUIS 8.6.8.6.7.6.8.6.

ADVENT



MUSIC: Thomas Helmore, 1854; based on plainsong phrases

8.8.8.8.8 °