

**Oak Grove Church of the Brethren**  
**December 13, 2020**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

---

**Prelude, concluding with *O come, O come, Immanuel* (vs. 1)**  
(Ben Tatum, piano)

**Gathering Prayer**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

*The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn (Isaiah 61:1-2).*

In the beginning was the Word: spoken and breathed, a promise made and kept.

**Persevere in hope, keep the faith—God's promise is true!**

The Word was in the beginning, and through him all things come into being.

**Eternal and near at hand, already and not-yet, God's promise is the foundation of all life.**

Keep going! Persevere in joy, giving voice to God's presence yet again.

*Lighting the Advent candle of joy*

**Hymn** *Joy to the world* (vs. 1, 4) # 318

**Moment for Mission**

**Response** *Gloria* # 204

**The Christmas Story** Children and Junior High Youth

**Song** (215) *What Child is This?* Dix/Greensleeves  
(Keith Robinson, solo)

## Hearing from God's Word

### Scripture

Isaiah 61:1-11

<sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; <sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; <sup>3</sup>to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. <sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

<sup>5</sup>Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines; <sup>6</sup>but you shall be called priests of the LORD, you shall be named ministers of our God; you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory. <sup>7</sup>because their shame was double, and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot, therefore they shall possess a double portion; everlasting joy shall be theirs.

<sup>8</sup>For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. <sup>9</sup>Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. <sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. <sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

### Message

*Joy comes to unexpected places*

### Pastoral Prayer, with the Lord's prayer

**Our Father in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**Hymn**                              O come, O come, Immanuel (vs. 1, 4, 6)                              # 172

**Benediction**

**Congregational Response**              *Until Jesus Comes*                              # 3050

**Postlude**                              *Until Jesus Comes*                              Dean McIntyre

Instrumentalists

- Stephen Wills – keyboard*
- Joe Blaha – recorder, hymn arranger*
- Sam Phillips – viola*
- Kathie Robinson – flute*
- Judy Saunders - guitar*

Quartet

- Amanda Marcum – soprano*
- Eleanor Brogan – alto*
- Sara Blaha – tenor*
- Mike Tyler – bass*

Prayers

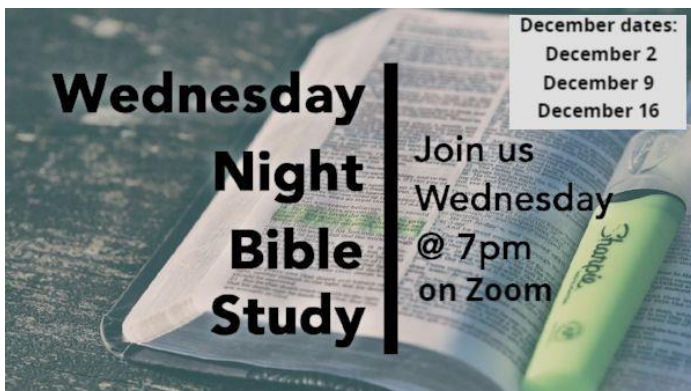
Rachel Mabe, treatment for breast cancer

Mark Detweiler, treatments every Friday for a medical blood problem.

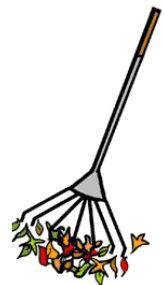
Evan Jacobs and his mom, Susan Simmons. They are both sick with COVID-19.

Judy Saunders has COVID-19. Winston is doing better but still very tired.

Randall Eakin’s mother, Doris Eakin, positive for Covid-19 and other health issues.



*Thank you to those who helped at our church workday yesterday!*



Financials Through November 2020

Offering	\$271,234
Expenses	\$249,122
Surplus	\$ 22,112

## **Children & Youth Christmas Program – 2020**

In the beginning  
When all was new  
Before the stars glowed at night  
And the day sky was blue –

**Gavin**

John 1 – 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 apart from Him not even one thing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of mankind.

**Advent**

**Mason, Max, Maddox, and Miles**

The angels sang.  
    A baby smiled.  
Shepherds came  
    To see the Child.  
And wise men too  
    For the beautiful star  
Lead them to Jesus  
    From afar.  
We too have found  
    God's only Son  
He is King of kings,  
    The Wonderful One.  
Joy to the world!  
    Peace on Earth!  
Let us remember our  
    Savior's birth.

**Jesus**

**Julz and Rylee**

He was the Son of God.  
    *He was the Son of Man.*  
He came down from heaven.

*He was born in a stable.*  
Kings came to his cradle.  
*His first home was a cave.*  
He was born to be a king.  
*He was a child of Mary.*  
He was the greatest among rulers.  
*He was the least among servants.*  
He was loved and honored.  
*He was despised and rejected.*  
He was gentle and loving.  
*He made many enemies.*  
He counseled perfection.  
*He was a friend of sinners.*  
He was a joyful companion.  
*He was a man of sorrows.*  
He said, "Rejoice."  
*He said "Repent."*  
"Love God with all your heart."  
*"Love your neighbor as yourself."*  
"Don't be anxious."  
*"Count the cost."*  
"Deny yourself."  
*"Ask and receive."*  
In Him was life.  
*He died on a cross.*  
He was a historic person.  
*He lives today.*  
He was Jesus of Nazareth.  
*He is Christ the Lord.*

### **"The Nativity" CHRISTMAS POEM**

**Isaac (Joseph)**

To Joseph long ago, an angel came  
And told him do not fear and feel no shame.  
For Mary is to be a mother mild,

To bear on earth God's Son, a holy child.

**Amelia (Mary)**

Oh, Mary, virgin pure, the chosen one  
To be the mother of God's only Son.  
To Bethlehem, you came by law's decree  
God's plan for us, so told in prophecy.

**Cooper (Shepherd)**

Then on that holy night in Bethlehem  
No room was there to house our God made man.  
An innkeeper, in kindness, saw their plight,  
A manger was Christ's bed that blessed night.

**Lincoln (Shepherd)**

Oh Jesus, holy babe, from heaven above,

**Rex (Shepherd)**

You came to earth to be God's saving love.

**Eli (Shepherd)**

The shepherds watched the sky o'er Bethlehem;  
They saw a star aglow and wondered then.  
The heavens soon were filled with angels bright  
Who told them of the Savior born that night.

**Graeme (Wise Man)**

The wisemen came from lands afar  
They searched for the new king, lead by a star.

**Ryan (Wise Man)**

They brought him gifts of frankincense, myrrh and gold.  
And left without a word, as they were told.

**Connor (Wise Man)**

Oh Jesus, holy babe, from heaven above,  
You came to earth to be God's saving love.

**Vincent (Wise Man)**

With angels' joyful news, may hearts be stirred,  
The plan for our salvation, God's own Word.

**Gemma (Angel)**

Then, sing we now the angels' song again,

**Donovan (Angel)**

"Glory to God on high, and peace on earth."

# The Best Gift of All

Lucy

The best gift of all wasn't found in a stall –  
 Nor under a Christmas tree.  
 He was wrapped in soft cloth and laid in the hay.  
 Not bought in a store, not tied up with yarn,  
 God's gift to the world was born in a barn.  
 But the joy He has brought, and the love He has taught.  
 And the peace He has given ---  
 All are gifts sent from heaven!

# Gloria

204

GLORIA III

Canon

1 Dm Gm C F 2 Dm Gm C F

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

3 Dm Gm C F 4 Dm Gm C F

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Jacques Berthier  
 Copyright ©1979 Les Presses de Taizé (France). Used by permission of G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

CHRIST'S GRACIOUS LIFE

PROMISED COMING

3050

# Until Jesus Comes

(♩ = 100)

C7 F A7 Dm

Un - til Je - sus comes, un - til Je - sus

4 Cm7 F7 Bb F Dm7 G7

comes, I'll be watch - ing and wait - ing un - til Je - sus

8 C7 F A7 Dm

comes. Un - til Je - sus comes, un - til Je - sus

12 Cm7 F7 Bb F Dm7 G7 C7 F

comes, I'll be watch - ing and wait - ing un - til Je - sus comes.

WORDS: Dean McIntyre  
 MUSIC: Dean McIntyre

PAROUSIA  
 55.75 D

© 2005 The General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church

PROCLAIMING: Kingdom

318

# Joy to the world

ANTIOCH CM extended

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him room, and  
play while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, re -  
ground. He comes to make his bless - ings flow far  
prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,