

WORSHIP HANDOUT
December 27, 2020



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Office Closures

Special Offering for Meals on Wheels, you can still get it on this.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come away, come away, come today to Bethlehem.

Come adore on bended knee, one whose birth the angels sing.

**Come away, come away from your noisy celebration,
to a place of quietness and peace.**

**Come with wonder, come with awe.
Take your place among sheep and cattle.**

***Sing with joy, praise God, for the time of promise has come.
Sing the good news of Emmanuel: God-with-us!
The Christ has come!***

**Come away, come away, come today to
Bethlehem. Amen.**

~ Ruth C. Duck in *Bread for the Journey*. Posted on the Andrew Chapel UMC Church website. <http://andrewchapel-umc.org/>

HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing! UMH 240

TIME OF PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER

It may seem naive,
in a world of grief,
to choose to live in joy;

It may seem foolish,
in a world where solemnity is power,
to sing and dance to a different tune;
It may seem cruel,
in a world of suffering and injustice,
to speak of light and celebration;

But you have come, Jesus,
to bring joy into our grief,
light into our darkness,
singing into our mourning;
and it is an act of healing and proclamation
to believe and embrace the joy you offer.
Joy to the world!
The Lord is come!
Hallelujah!

Amen.

— Copyright © 2010 John van de Laar, on his excellent Sacredise.com website.

SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYER (MUSIC)

LORD'S PRAYER

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
trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For

thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LESSON

CEB

Luke 2:22-40

²² When the time came for their ritual cleansing, in accordance with the Law from Moses, they brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. (²³ It's written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male will be dedicated to the Lord.") ²⁴ They offered a sacrifice in keeping with what's stated in the Law of the Lord, *A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.*

²⁵ A man named Simeon was in Jerusalem. He was righteous and devout. He eagerly anticipated the restoration of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ The Holy Spirit revealed to him that he wouldn't die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ Led by the Spirit, he went into the temple area. Meanwhile, Jesus' parents brought the child to the temple so that they could do what was customary under the Law. ²⁸ Simeon took Jesus in his arms and praised God. He said,

²⁹ "Now, master, let your servant go in peace according to your word,

³⁰ because my eyes have seen your salvation.

³¹ You prepared this salvation in the presence of all peoples.

³² It's a light for revelation to the Gentiles and a glory for your people Israel."

³³ His father and mother were amazed by what was said about him. ³⁴ Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "This boy is assigned to be the cause of the falling and rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that generates opposition ³⁵ so

that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your innermost being too.”

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, who belonged to the tribe of Asher. She was very old. After she married, she lived with her husband for seven years. ³⁷ She was now an 84-year-old widow. She never left the temple area but worshipped God with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ She approached at that very moment and began to praise God and to speak about Jesus to everyone who was looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When Mary and Joseph had completed everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to their hometown, Nazareth in Galilee. ⁴⁰ The child grew up and became strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God’s favor was on him.

L: This is the Word of God for all people.

P: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

“Customer Service Reviews”

HYMN

Angels we have heard on high UMH 238

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

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.

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

POSTLUDE