

Worshiping God, Who Loves the Ungodly!

DECEMBER 12, 2021
10:30 AM

PRELUDE *Variations on "Noel Nouvelet"* Marcel Dupre
Dennis Bergin, organ

Christmas comes anew, O let us sing Noel!
Glory to God! Now let your praises swell!
Sing we Noel for Christ, the newborn King,
Christmas comes anew, O let us sing Noel!
French Carol, late 15th Century

WELCOME
Reverend Dr. Russell St. John, Lead Pastor

ADVENT BELL TOLLING

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - THE REDEMPTION CANDLE
Reverend David Barnes, Associate Pastor

Pastor: Today, we light the third candle of Advent – the Redemption Candle.
Matthew 1:18-21
Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

Reader: Ephesians 1:7-10
In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

***WORD OF THE FATHER, LATE IN FLESH APPEARING! NO. 208** *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Angklung: Sara Furlan, Lauren DeGroot, Megan Wicks, Genevieve Ter Maat,

Li Ndindi, Sylvia DeGroot

Carrie Smith, piano; Bill Myers, guitar; Matt Brantley, bass; Greg Wagener, drums;

Nathanael Zanders, timpani

***GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP** Luke 2:8-14

Pastor: There were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

People: And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

Pastor: And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

People: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Pastor: And this will be a sign for you:

People: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

Pastor: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

People: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

***GOD AND SINNERS RECONCILED! NO. 203** *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

***WE INVOKE HIS PRESENCE**

GOD EXPOSES OUR NEED 1 John 1:8

Reverend Dr. Russell St. John

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

WE CONFESS OUR SIN

CHRIST PROVIDES FOR OUR NEED 1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

***TO FREE ALL THOSE WHO TRUST IN HIM! NO. 211** *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen*

WE INVOKE HIS HELP Psalm 79:9

Dan Marcotte, Elder

Help us, O God of our salvation; for the glory of your name; deliver us, and atone for our sins for your name's sake!

GOD CALLS US TO STEWARDSHIP 2 Corinthians 9:8

God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

WE GIVE OUR GRATEFUL OFFERINGS

WE OFFER OUR SACRIFICE OF PRAISE *Hope Was Born This Night*

Sing! Jr.; MS/HS Choir; Sanctuary Choir

Tonight I can see a star shine and its splendor fills up the sky.
It's the same that appeared and the wise men revered when hope was born this night.

Out upon the snowy field there's a silent peace that heals.
And it echoes the grace of our Savior's embrace because hope was born this night.

Glory to God in the highest! Peace on earth, good will toward men.
Let all of the world sing a chorus of joy because hope was born this night.

I can hear the Christmas bells ring as softly a church choir sings.
It's the song used to praise the Ancient of Days when hope was born this night.

There are angels in this place and my heart resounds with praise.
Like a shepherd, so scared, I'll rejoice and declare that hope was born this night.

Gloria! Gloria! Gloria! Gloria!
Gloria! Gloria! Gloria! Gloria!

Glory to God in the highest! Peace on earth, good will toward men.
Let all of the world sing a chorus of joy because hope was born this night.
I know hope was born this night because Christ was born this night!

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GOD PROCLAIMS HIS WORD	Reverend Dr. Russell St. John, Lead Pastor
SERMON SERIES	“Advent”
SCRIPTURE TEXT	Romans 5:6-11 page 942 in the pew Bible
SERMON TITLE	<i>Ungodly, Like Me</i>

***AND WONDERS OF HIS LOVE! No. 195** *Joy to the World!*

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *Reprise: Joy to the World!*

Ungodly, Like Me!

Reverend Dr. Russell St. John, Lead Pastor

Romans 5:6-11 | page 942 in the pew Bible

Since God loves the ungodly, rejoice!

1. When did God love the ungodly?

2. How did God love the ungodly?

3. Why did God love the ungodly?

*Congregation please rise

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