

A close-up photograph of a Christmas tree branch. The branches are densely packed with green needles. Various decorations are visible, including a large clear glass ornament with a patterned design, several smaller red and silver ornaments, and some metallic streamers or tinsel. In the background, more branches and decorations are visible, though slightly out of focus.

Greensboro WORSHIP

Sunday Worship
December 26, 2021
9:30 am



Service for the Lord's Day: 1st Sunday of Christmas
December 26, 2021 – 9:30 am

Welcome & Introduction to UKIRK Greensboro

Please sign the online friendship pad making use of your smartphone camera to do so. This allows us to know you are worshipping with us this morning. You may also include any prayer requests or concerns you may have with Pastor Kathryn.



Prelude

Away in a Manger
Glory to God Hymnal #115

Jay Wood

Away in a manger, no
crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid
down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky
looked down where he
lay,
the little Lord Jesus
asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the
poor baby wakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no
crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus;
look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until
morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I
ask thee to stay
close by me forever and
love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children
in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to
live with thee there.

Prayer of the Day

God of light, in this season of Christmas, we cast our eyes upon Bethlehem, shepherds, wise men, angels on high, and a child lying in a manger. We sense a change in the air, an excitement we can't fully grasp. We just know something is different. Shed light upon us as we engage the mystery of this season. Birth new understandings within us so that we might see your power, majesty, and love displayed among the vulnerable, weak, and innocent of the world. **Amen.**

Call to Worship

- Leader: The wilderness shall be glad and the desert blossom and rejoice.
People: Like the crocus it will blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing.
Leader: Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.
People: Say to those who are fearful, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.”
Leader: Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.
People: Then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
Leader: For water shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.
People: Let us worship God!

Opening Hymn #134

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Joy to the World

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

CONFESSTION & RECONCILIATION

Invitation to Confession

God entered our world, being born in human likeness, disregarding equality with God as something to be exploited. Yet, we exploit others and play the role of gods, ignoring the example of Christ, born unto us this season. So let us now claim the ways we have sinned, so that we may be forgiven. Let us pray together.

Prayer of Confession

Magnificent God, time and time again, you tell us not to be afraid. You bring us good news of great joy for all people—that a Savior is born to us, the Messiah, Christ the Lord. Yet, in spite of what you tell us, we live in fear, afraid of what people may think of us, afraid of failure, afraid of being alone. Your good news is just too good to be true. We doubt it. We take it for granted. Forgive our lack of faith, O God! During this season, inspire our glance heavenward, where we find a star guiding us to Bethlehem. Enable our words to be words of peace, hope, and faith, thus sharing the good news of great joy to all surrounding us, in the name of the child lying in a manger, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

A Promise of Forgiveness

Rejoice! Rejoice! The story is true. Through Jesus Christ, born to us in Bethlehem, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

The Peace of Christ

The Peace of Christ will also be shared in American Sign Language.

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Worship for All Ages

“*What is God Like?*” by Rachel Held Evans & Matthew Paul Turner

HYMN #119*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel. [Refrain]

Refrain:

Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth. [Refrain]

WORD & SACRAMENT**Scripture Reading – Luke 2:41-52 (Read from Common English Bible translation)**

One: Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Reading – Luke 2:15-21 (Read from Common English Bible translation)

One: Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon*...about this child**Rev. Katie Barrett Todd*

Affirmation of Faith from A Declaration of Faith, chapter 6, II

The Word which was with God from the beginning was embodied in Jesus Christ. We hold that what God says to us and does for us centers in Jesus Christ our living Lord as he is remembered, known, and expected. In Christ, God’s Word of acceptance takes flesh: by grace through faith we are set right with God, adopted as children of God, not because of anything we have done, but because of what Christ has done.

THANKSGIVING & OFFERING**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be 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 debt as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

OFFERING

Offertory #126

Jesus, Jesus, O What a Child
Jesus, Jesus, O what a wonderful child.
Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild;
new life, new hope the child will bring.

Listen to the angels sing:
“Glory, glory, glory!”
Let the heavens ring.

Offertory Response #608

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, receive now our offering which is just a portion of the blessings you have given to us. Use these gifts, and use each one of us as a living offering to you, for your glory and for your work of healing and wholeness in our world, our campus, in our congregations, in our homes, and wherever you send us to go or need us to be. Amen.

Sending Hymn #113

Angels we have heard on
high,
sweetly singing o'er the
plains,
and the mountains in
reply
echoing their joyous
strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Angels We Have Heard on High

Shepherds, why this
jubilee?
Why your joyous strains
prolong?
What the gladsome
tidings be
which inspire your
heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and
see
him whose birth the
angels sing;
come, adore on bended
knee
Christ, the Lord, the
newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Charge & Benediction

Postlude

God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen
arranged by Marilyn Thompson

Olivia Carratello

Worship Participants

<p>Rev. Katie Barrett Todd <i>Executive Director & Campus Minister M.Div /MACE, Union Presbyterian Seminary</i></p>	<p>Charlie Taylor <i>Whispering Pines, North Carolina SCC, Computer Engineering, Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church</i></p>
<p>Emily Ann Wright <i>High Point, North Carolina UNCG, BFA Acting, First Presbyterian Church</i></p>	<p>Lane Wilson <i>Huntersville, North Carolina UNCG, Kinesiology, Huntersville Presbyterian Church</i></p>
<p>Olivia Carratello <i>Greensboro, North Carolina UNCG, Kinesiology, Westminster Presbyterian Church</i></p>	<p>Ellie Dieth <i>Columbus, Georgia Guilford College, Peace and Conflict Studies/Sustainable Food Systems First Presbyterian Church</i></p>
<p>Ashley Wilkie <i>Greensboro, North Carolina UNCG, Elementary Education, Westminster Presbyterian Church</i></p>	<p>Jay Wood <i>Claremont, North Carolina UNCG, Nursing, First Presbyterian Church Newton</i></p>
<p>Elvice Kotangonda <i>Greensboro, North Carolina GTCC, Starmount Presbyterian Church</i></p>	<p>Bella Miller <i>Mebane, North Carolina UNCG, Education, Church of Reconciliation</i></p>
<p>Katelyn Watkins <i>Greensboro, North Carolina UNCG, Birth to Kindergarten Education, Faith Presbyterian Church</i></p>	

Rev. Katie Barrett Todd is the Executive Director and Campus Minister at UKIRK Greensboro, and an ordained Teaching Elder in the PC(USA). She holds an MDiv/MACE from Union Presbyterian Seminary. Katie enjoys writing and adapting curriculum resources for use in local congregations, and some of her work is regularly published on Storypath through Union Presbyterian Seminary. She has also been published with Chalice Press for InsideOut, a camp/conference resource, as the writer for the younger youth age group; twice with Montreat Conference Center for the Small Group Leader Manual for Montreat Youth Conferences; and four times with Seasons of the Spirit: SeasonsFusion from Wood Lake Publishing. Katie has two young children, and her husband serves as a transitional pastor in Lexington, NC.

Worship Notes

- Liturgy adapted from “*UWorship Resource*,” a liturgical publication of UKirk Collegiate Ministries of the PC(USA)
- Prelude music is **Away in a Manger**, performed by Jay Wood on flute
- Postlude music is **God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen**, arranged by Marilyn Thompson, performed by Olivia Carratello
- All hymns performed by UKIRK Greensboro students and found in *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*
- Scripture texts are from the Contemporary English Bible translation
- Children’s message book is *What is God Like?* by Rachel Held Evans & Matthew Paul Turner, used with permission
- *CCLI License 11488414; OneLicense.net A-731070.*

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

- Gail and Greg French mourn the passing of Gail’s mother, **Evelyn York**, who died this week. Visitation will take place today at Jonesboro Presbyterian Church from 2-3 pm.
- **Libby Ansel** (Lesa Layno’s sister) has been diagnosed with cancer and is undergoing further testing.
- Blake Tickle requests prayers for the family and friends of his friend, **Noah Cameron**, who died in a car accident on December 19.
- The Fellowship Family mourns with the rest of the Salem Presbytery community at the passing of **Rev. James Rissmiller**, who died earlier this week. Rev. Rissmiller served in many roles in Salem Presbytery, including as one of its General Presbyters. We grieve with his family and colleagues.
- Phyllis King has shared some prayer requests: her nephew, **Scott Loupos**, is recovering for a hospital stay for infection, and her sister in law, **Fern Horwat**, needs an aortic valve replacement pending testing.
- Betsy Craver requests prayers for her cousin, Jenny George, who has had a reoccurrence of Ovarian cancer and is starting a new round of chemo.
- **Kurt**, friend of Fred Campbell, has been hospitalized for over a week with COVID. Fred is grateful for prayers for his friend’s recovery.
- Traci Rankins seeks prayers for **Richard Turner**, her Erik’s stepfather, who has entered hospice care.
- Continued prayers for our church members: **Melissa Johnson, Lea Groves, Donna, Katie & the Steele family, Nancy Baughman, and Bruce Weaver**, and **Marjorie Van Horn**.
- Continued prayers for the family and friends of our congregation: **the Votaw Family (Erin, Trent, Lucas, and Ben)** after their house burned down on November 27. **Erin** was a teacher at Fellowship Day School, **Felicia Schaps** (Lindahl’s daughter-in-law’s mother), **Teresa** (Terry Anderson’s coworker), **Ashley Long** (Joel and Ann Long’s daughter-in-law), **Gail Keefe** (John Archambault’s colleague), **John Fair** (FPC’s former organist), **Joyce Berger** (Kandee’s mother), **Gwen Flowers & her family** (Linda Ueland’s sister), **Dorothy & Edward Archambault** (John Archambault’s parents), **Roe Roe Tucker** (friend of Lesa & Charles

Layno), **Arch Gravely** (Peggy Koppel's cousin), **Tim King family** (Phyllis King's son), **Roger Eliason** (Tye Wittmann's coworker).

If you have any additional prayer concerns, please contact Linda Ueland (336-314-5481) or call Martha at the church (336-288-5177).

Announcements

- **End-of-Year Giving:** Financial contributions must be received **by noon or postmarked by December 31** to be recorded and recognized in 2021.
- **Pastor Kathryn is on vacation this week.** If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Rev. Blake Tickle at 336.710.3201.
- **Adult Education** will resume on January 2 in the library by looking at how faith and current events meet at the crossroads using The Wired Word curriculum.
- ***Realm is Coming!*** The Outreach Committee is asking for the Fellowship Family to participate is by joining *Realm*. *Realm* is an online platform of the church's database that provides for better communication within and through the Fellowship Family, including an online directory, church calendar, and an ability to both RSVP for upcoming events and give online. The Outreach Committee thanks you, in advance, for opting-in and completing your online profile. Please visit <https://onrealm.org/fellowshippresbyterian> to complete your profile. If you have questions, please ask Pastor Kathryn.
- **Volunteering with Applewood, Backpack Beginnings, and Greensboro Housing Authority:** Fellowship has started an ongoing partnership between Backpack Beginnings, GHA, and The Applewood Community. Please contact Mary Howe to sign up for one of the Wednesday opportunities (maryhowe0712@gmail.com or call/text 336-698-6541). A signup is also available online and in the Dogwood Lobby. ***The volunteers for December 29th are Tom and Jeanie Harrison.***
- **Guidelines for Safe Return to Worship** are posted at the Office and Dogwood Lobby doors for your review. ***Despite the lifting of the Guilford County mask mandate, the mask rule is still in effect in the building as per the December 7 Session meeting.*** If you have questions, please contact Pastor Kathryn or Julie Davis, Clerk of Session.

Upcoming Events

- **December 26:**
 - **9:30am:** Virtual Worship with UKirk on Facebook Live
 - **10:30am:** No Fellowship Time
 - **10:45am:** No Education Hour
- **December 27-29:**
 - Offices Closed in observation of Christmas
- **December 30:**
 - Office Hours: 9am - 12pm; 1pm-4pm
- **December 31:**
 - Office Hours: 9am-12pm (*Financial contributions must be received by noon on December 31 to be recorded and recognized in 2021.*)
- **January 2:**
 - **9:15-11:15am:** Professional Childcare available in the “Preschool” Classroom
 - **9:30am:** Worship – in-person (with masks), on Facebook Live, Zoom and YouTube
 - **10:30am:** Fellowship Time – in Dogwood Lobby
 - **10:45am:** Education Hour in the Library
 - **After worship (10:30) until noon** – Food Drive for Urban Ministry
- **January 3:**
 - Offices Closed in observation of New Year’s Day