

POLLOCKSVILLE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



December 13, 2020

Pastor: The Reverend Thomas Wesley Moore, IV
 311 Main Street / P O Box 205 / Pollocksville, NC 28573
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Pollocksville Presbyterian Church

3rd Sunday of Advent

Order of Worship

11:00 a.m.

December 13, 2020

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*Unison*) (Source-*Third Space*)

This Advent, we hope and pray for joy as we journey together, sight for the blind and healing for the sick, freedom for the prisoners and good news for the poor, release for the oppressed with justice for all and love for each other. And the coming of God's reign here on earth.

Prayer of Invocation

*The Peace of Christ

Leader: ...The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

*Opening Hymn

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

See Insert

Lighting of the Advent Candles (Source- *Rev. Will Ryan*) – *Lyle & Amber Swanger*

Last Sunday we lit the candle of Hope, remembering the hope which comes in Christ, and we lit the candle of Peace, remembering God's dream of a peaceful world. Today we light the third candle of Advent, the candle of Joy.

In Advent, we are in a time of waiting. Like the Israelites who wandered through the Wilderness, waiting to come into the Promised Land, we wait for the coming of the Joy of Ages. We wait for the day where we can join our voices with the angels to sing "Joy to the World, the Lord is come!" We wait for the day when everlasting joy will be on each of us.

We light this candle in Joy.

On this day, we remember the Spirit who breathes joy into our lives.

Response

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*"O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.*

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *(Responsive)* (Source- Joanna Harader)

When our spirits despair and we deny our blessedness,
Forgive us, O God.

When we ignore the mighty things you have done and doubt your mercy,
Forgive us, O God.

When we are proud in the thoughts of our hearts,
When our power rests on the oppression of others,

When our wealth causes others to go hungry,
forgive us, O God.

Help us, your servants,
according to the promises you have made.

Silence is observed

Assurance of God's Pardon *(Responsive)* (Source- Isaiah 12:3-4)

With joy, let us draw water from the springs of salvation. Give thanks to the LORD! Call on God's name. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

Anthem

"The Snow Lay on the Ground" ~ Sowerby ~
~ Amber Swanger & Rev. Thomas Wesley Moore, IV

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

John 1:6-8, 19-28 (Common English Bible)

6 A man named John was sent from God. **7** He came as a witness to testify concerning the light, so that through him everyone would believe in the light. **8** He himself wasn't the light, but his mission was to testify concerning the light.

19 This is John's testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him, "Who are you?" **20** John confessed (he didn't deny but confessed), "I'm not the Christ."

21 They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?" John said, "I'm not." "Are you the prophet?" John answered, "No." **22** They asked, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" **23** John replied,

*"I am a voice crying out in the wilderness,
Make the Lord's path straight,*

just as the prophet Isaiah said." **24** Those sent by the Pharisees **25** asked, "Why do you baptize if you aren't the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" **26** John answered, "I baptize with water. Someone greater stands among you, whom you don't recognize. **27** He comes after me, but I'm not worthy to untie his sandal straps." **28** This encounter took place across the Jordan in Bethany where John was baptizing.

Sermon

"A Voice Cries Out" ~ Rev. Thomas Wesley Moore, IV

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer and 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. AMEN.

*The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. AMEN.

*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

*Closing Hymn

“What Child Is This”

See Insert

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

Please rise in body or spirit / **Bold: Congregation Speaks*

For Congregational Use: Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Daily Readings for December 13 – 19 use the following web link:

<http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/devotions/month-month-lectionary-reading-list/>

Prayer List Additions as of 12/13/2020

281,000 lost to COVID, Walter Byrd (Jane Sobotor's brother), Cheryl Coeyman (lung cancer), Filling Station, Grove Presbyterian Church, The Family of Mac Hoffman (Dana Meadows Bender's Great-Uncle), Gera & Bob Howe (Bob's treatments), The Family of Leon Matthews (Gera Howe's brother passed away), Chris Moore, Deanie Moore (COVID -requested by Pastor T. Wes), Tom Moore (Pastor T. Wes' Dad – COVID), PPC Family not able to attend, yet are with us in spirit, Sobotors as they care for Walter

Please keep in your prayers those struggling to cope due to this pandemic. Continue to pray for the schools – Remember the administration, teachers, students, and parents during this difficult time.

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1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; you, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing;
 beam a - far; seek the great de - sire of na - tions;
 Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 yon - der shines the in - fant light: come and wor - ship,
 you have seen his na - tal star: come and wor - ship,
 to the e - ter - nal Three in One:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king!

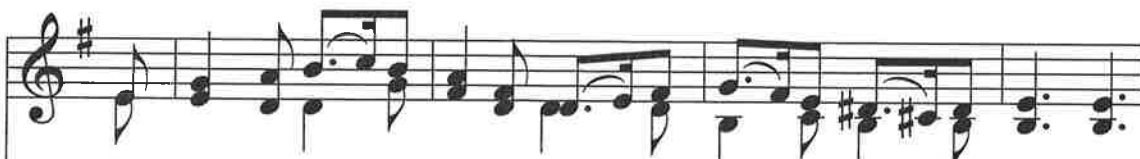
This familiar carol was first published as a poem in the Christmas Eve 1816 issue of a newspaper the author edited in Sheffield, England. The tune name celebrates the location of a prominent Presbyterian Church in London, sometimes called the "Presbyterian cathedral."

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What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
 Raise, raise the song on high. The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!



This Victorian text gains scope and power by having the original second halves of stanzas two and three restored. They give a stark forward glimpse of what lies ahead for this "babe, the son of Mary!" The tune is much older, dating from Tudor England.