

# Wesley United Methodist Church

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

December 18, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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*At Wesley we foster a sanctuary culture by creating a safe environment where all feel welcomed, loved, accepted, valued, and affirmed for who they are, through intentional practices such as empathy, compassion, generosity, hospitality, and inclusion.*

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*For the safety of every worshipper, please observe the following guidelines regardless of your vaccine status.*

- **Wear a mask covering your mouth and nose all the time during worship.**
  - **Please let an usher know if you have questions, need assistance, or have a concern about health or safety.**
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Prelude

Blessed be the God of Israel  
Still, Still, Still  
Away in a Manger

Wesley Ringers  
William Ness  
Marjorie Ness  
Marjorie Ness

Greeting & Announcement

\*Advent Candle Lighting

Gifty Bentum-Asante, Liturgist

One: The Holy Spirit has come to fulfill what has been promised by the prophets.

*[The first three Advent candles are relit.]*

One: God will save the people from their sins.

**Many: God will be with us!**

One: God will restore us and reveal our salvation.

**Many: We see the light of God dawning over the land.**

One: We light a fourth candle in anticipation of Immanuel.

*[The fourth Advent candle is lit.]*

**All: We will prepare room for the Light of lights, Jesus Christ our Savior.**

\*Hymn

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

UMH 216

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.  
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,  
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;  
with Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.  
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,  
when half spent was the night.

\*Please stand in body or in spirit.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,  
dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.  
True man yet very God, from sin and death now save us,  
and share our every load.

\*Praise Songs

Desmond Cheetham, keyboard  
Jennifer Quansah, lead singer

### **We Will Celebrate Our God**

We will celebrate our God! ...  
Let his banner be raised, let his glory be seen.  
We will celebrate our God! ...

### **God You So Good**

God you're so good. God you are kind.  
God you are wonderful. My God, you are excellent...  
  
Excellent is Thy name. Excellent is Thy might.  
God you are wonderful. My God you are excellent...

Common Prayer (*unison*)

**God of grace, you chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Savior.  
Now fill us with your grace, that with her, we may rejoice in your salvation, and in all things,  
embrace your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Veni, veni Emmanuel”

Wesley Choir  
David Potts, director  
Zoltan Kodaly 1882–1967

\*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

\*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People, & the Lord's Prayer

“Like a Child”

TFWS 2092, v.3

Like a child born to pray and to show us the way,  
like a child here to stay, Jesus comes.  
Like a child we receive all that love can conceive,  
like a child we believe, Jesus comes.

**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, forever. Amen.**

*Gospel Reading		Matthew 1:18-25
Anthem		Wesley Choir
	“In the Bleak Midwinter”	Harold Darke 1888–1976
	Adrienne Hall-Phillips and Peter Hansen, soloists	UMH 221
Message		Rev. Byungmoo Lee
*Hymn	“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”	UMH 204
	Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.	
Giving Thanks to God for the Life of the Late Mr. Collins Osafo		
*Shalom		Mensah Essilfie
	God’s peace be unto you, We wish you Shalom! The peace of God which transcends all understanding be with you forevermore.	
Nativity Presentation		Wesley Children and Youth
	Away In a Manger (stanzas 1, 2)	UMH 217
	While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks (stanzas 1, 2, 4)	UMH 236
	Angels from the Realms of Glory (stanzas 1, 3, 4)	UMH 220
Benediction		
Benediction Response	“People, Look East” (v. 4)	UMH 202
	Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east: Love, the Lord, is on the way.	
Postlude		William Ness, organ
	Away in a Manger (Mueller)	Griffith Bratt 1914-2014

Advent Candle Lighting – by F. Richard Garland, The United Methodist Church Discipleship Ministries.  
Common Prayer – *Book of Common Worship*, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1993, p. 176 ALT.  
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