



Worship Bulletin and Herndon UMC News December 15, 2024

If you are new to Herndon UMC, welcome! We are so glad that you have chosen to worship with us. Please introduce yourself to a staff member or send an email to [**welcome@herndonumc.org**](mailto:welcome@herndonumc.org).

LAST CHANCE TO SIGNUP FOR CHRISTMAS ORCHESTRA ON 12/22, [**bit.ly/christmaso2024**](https://bit.ly/christmaso2024). Musicians in the 7th grade and older are invited to participate in this seasonal orchestra offering music at the 10am worship service on 12/22. Rehearsals are 12/18 and 12/21.

ADVENT STUDY – Pathfinders continues *The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem* by Adam Hamilton at 11:15am in Rooms 115/116. For more information, contact Pastor Pam at [**pam@herndonumc.org**](mailto:pam@herndonumc.org).

THE NEXT TOS DINNER IS TONIGHT. Help make dinner in the big kitchen. Sign up or just show up at 4 pm in the app, on the clipboard on the Connection Corner, or at [**bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds**](https://bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds).

"ROOM FOR CHRISTMAS" & FELLOWSHIP DINNER on 12/18 at 6pm in Doe Fellowship Hall. Be an active participant in the show by bringing a gently used item that will help keep someone warm--coats, mittens, scarves, etc--as a donation for the Closet to the performance. The dinner is brought to you by the Herndon Youth as a fundraiser for the Summer Youth Mission Trip.

LINK FOOD AND LOVE BAGS are now available in the Welcome Centers. Please return bags with food on the second Sunday of the new year.

December 15, 2024

HELP REACH 1000 BY THE END OF THE YEAR. Mary Martha's goal is to reach 1000 pairs of socks by the end of the year. These donations for the homeless may be dropped in the basket in the cabinet in Room 105.

THE CLOSET VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON 1/4. Help support The Closet. Sign up in the app, on the clipboard, or at bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS. Make a contribution (\$20 suggested) in memory or honor of a loved one or friend. The money donated will pay for the poinsettias and the remainder will go to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund which assists local families in need. A special listing of all donors will be available on 12/22. Please complete this form. The deadline is 12/18.

STAFF LOVE OFFERING – Each year, the Resource Management Team offers a special opportunity to give in appreciation of the efforts of the Herndon UMC staff over the last year. You may give through any of the usual methods, but please specify LOVE OFFERING. The deadline is 1/5.

LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP -- 12/22 at 4 pm in the Sanctuary & YouTube. The Longest Night service hopes to create a safe and sacred space for those struggling to feel the joy and light of this holiday season due to loss of any kind. It is not meant to be a service of healing, for what we lose cannot always be replaced. Instead, may this service acknowledge the hole that grief leaves in one's heart while simultaneously remembering that we worship a God who is with us, even in the darkest of times.

TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS EVE, 12/24 -- Both services offer Holy Communion and Candlelight. Come at 5 pm for kid-friendly candles and a pop-up pageant. At 9 pm, enjoy the Herndon UMC's Christmas traditions. Come early to get a seat and hear a special Christmas Eve prelude. At 9 pm, you may also worship live or later on YouTube from wherever you are!

Get the latest news in Herndon UMC app or from herndonumc.org (under News and select Weekly eNews).

Worship—10 AM

Gathering Music | *Come as You Are* | David Crowder | played by Jane Waldrop

Welcome & Announcements | Rev. Pam Bentley

Lighting of the Advent Wreath | KIDS Club Volunteers and Kids

[Voice A] Today we light the candle of joy.

[Voice B] Joy is here.

[Voice A] We sing, "Joy to the world!"

[Kids] Joy to the world.

[Voice B] The whole world.

[Voice C] The world God holds in his hands.

[Voice A] The world that seems to be spinning faster every day.

[Voice B] The world of seas and mountains, rivers and streams.

[Voice C] The world of snow days and firesides, lights and evergreens.

[Kids] Joy to the world!

[Voice A] Joy to this world—

[Voice B] To every person and to every dream.

[Voice C] Joy to you and joy to me.

[Kids] Joy to the world!

[Voice A] For love is real, and God is here.

[Voice B] The sun will shine.

[Voice C] Darkness will not overcome it.

[Kids] Joy to the world!

[All] Joy to the world. Amen.

Opening Song | *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* | UMH 213 | led by Jane Waldrop and Margaret Tobat

[V. 1] Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;

behold, the King of glory waits;

the King of kings is drawing near;

the Savior of the world is here!

**[V. 2] Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.**

**[V. 3] Redeemer, come, with us abide;
our hearts to thee we open wide;
let us thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in us reveal.**

**[V. 4] Thy Holy Spirit lead us on
until our glorious goal is won;
eternal praise, eternal fame
be offered, Savior, to thy name!**

Opening Prayer | Rev. Pam Bentley | from Ministry Matters

Lord, we have come to this place from a world of demands and schedules. We have sought hope and peace and have found them here. Now we seek the inner joy that only your presence can bring to our lives. Open our hearts and our spirits to your love. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Passing of the Peace | Rev. Pam Bentley

**Special Music | *Jesus Jingle Bells* | Mary Beaudry | Grace Notes Ukuleles,
Margaret Tobat, Director**

**Jingle bells, Jingle bells, Jingle all the way.
Oh what fun to sing and praise, Our Savior born today! Hey
Jingle bells, Jingle bells, Listen while we say,
Jesus came into my heart this happy Christmas Day!**

**To shepherds in the field,
An angel came to say,
That Jesus Christ is born,
In Bethlehem today!
The shepherds ran to town,
They hurried down the street,
And when they found the Son of God
They worshiped at his feet**

**Jingle bells, Jingle bells, Jingle all the way.
Oh what fun to sing and praise, Our Savior born today! Hey
Jingle bells, Jingle bells, Listen while we say,
Jesus came into my heart, this happy Christmas Day!**

**To shepherds in the field,
An angel came to say,
That Jesus Christ is born,
In Bethlehem today!
The shepherds ran to town,
They hurried down the street,
And when they found the Son of God
They worshiped at his feet**

**Jingle bells, Jingle bells, Jingle all the way.
Oh what fun to sing and praise, Our Savior born today! Hey
Jingle bells, Jingle bells, Listen while we say,
Jesus came into my heart, this happy Christmas Day!**

Scripture | Zephaniah 3:14-20 and Luke 3:7-18 NRSVUE | Chris Miller

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has turned away your enemies. The king of

Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival." I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What, then, should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap

of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Message | Rev. SeongJae Jo

Invitation to Giving | Rev. Pam Bentley

Offertory | *Angels We Have Heard on High* | UMH 238 | Grace Notes
Ukuleles, Margaret Tobat, Director

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

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

Advent Doxology | *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow* | Text and tune adapted by Dean McIntyre | led by Jane Waldrop and Margaret Tobat

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

**Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Praise God, the Son and Holy Ghost.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing,
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe the son of Mary.**

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer | Rev. Pam Bentley

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Closing Song | *A Savior Born, A Gift of Joy* | HURSLEY | led by Jane Waldrop and Margaret Tobat

**[V.1] A Savior born — a gift of joy!
A manger bed, a star of light,
A mother's laugh, a tiny boy,
A father's prayer — such gifts that night!**

**[V.2] A life for all — our hope restored!
God's Word of love, a healing touch,
A cross and grave, the Risen Lord —
God's endless joy, now shared with us.**

**[V.3] An answered call, a pastor's love,
A worker's toil, a church well-blessed!
A cry for help — eyes turned above —
A gift of joy: a need addressed!**

**[V.4]
O God of love, your joy uplifts —**

December 15, 2024

**The poor now laugh and know their worth.
May we your church give Christmas gifts
That bring your joy to all the earth.**

Benediction | Rev. SeongJae Jo | *God Our Father* | traditional melody | Grace Notes Ukuleles, Margaret Tobat, Director

God Our Father, God our Father
Once again, Once again,
Thank you for our blessings,
Thank you for our blessings,
Amen. Amen.

Leaving Music | *Jesus is Coming Again* | John W. Peterson | played by Jane Waldrop