

Join us on Facebook at “AndrewChapelUMCVA” for Sunday Worship. Second Sunday of Advent,
December 6th at 10:00 a.m.

This Service will also be posted on our webpage at “andrewchapelumc.org”

Here is the Order of Worship for our online worship experience.

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,
which means, ‘God with us.’”

Matthew 1:23

Greeting and Welcome

Prelude Music

Call to Worship

Call: The Lord is near! Prepare the way of the Lord!

Response: All people everywhere, let us make ready to enter God’s presence.

Call: For the Lord is holy, pure and righteous.

Response: God’s glory fills us.

Call: God calls us to truth, mercy, and peace.

Response: Hearts that are just and kind please God.

Call: Let us enter God’s presence with humility.

Response: The Lord is near! Prepare the way of the Lord!

Choral Introit “Prepare the Way of the Lord” Music: Jacques Berthier and the Community of Taize, 1984. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn of Praise “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” UMH #213 Words: George Weissel, 17th cent.; trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1855. Music: *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

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!
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.
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.

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

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Response to the Lighting of the Advent Candle “Light the Advent Candle” #2090 TFWS (verse 2)
Words and Music: Mary Lu Walker. © 1975 Mary Lu Walker. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163*

2. Light the Advent candle two:
Think of humble shepherds, who
filled with wonder at the sight
of the child of Christmas night.

Refrain:

Candle, candle, burning bright,
shining in the cold winter night;
candle, candle, burning bright,
fill our hearts with Christmas light.

Children’s Moment with Mary Frances McKinley

Anthem “Surely the Time is Near” Words: Jan McGuire Music: Lloyd Larson. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

Prayers of the People

Hymn “Blessed Be the God of Israel” UMH #209 Words: Michael Perry, 1973 Music: Hal H. Hopson, 1983. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. Blest be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free,
who visits and redeems us, who grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy, of rescue and release;
God shall fulfill the promise to bring the gift of peace.

2. Now from the house of David a child of grace is given,
a Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.
Before him goes his herald, forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

3. On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise,
the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes,
to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace;
Oh bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

Gospel Reading Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSV)

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "God in Our Dreams: The Story of Joseph" Rev. Matthew B. Sergent

Handbell Choir "In the Bleak Midwinter" Arr. by James D. Kimball. *Used with permission of Jeffers Handbell Supply. All rights reserved.*

Remembering the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Handbell Choir "Bring a Torch, Janette, Isabella" Arr. by James D. Kimball. *Used with permission of Jeffers Handbell Supply. All rights reserved.*

Hymn "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH#206. Words: and Music: Kathleen Thomerson, 1966. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God sent the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2. I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father.

Refrain:

3. I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

Refrain:

Benediction

God is bringing light to our darkness. We are called to go into the world, confident in God's loving presence, to serve others in need. Go now, bringing hope and peace to a darkened world. Go in God's love. Amen.

Postlude