

Join us on Facebook at “AndrewChapelUMCVA” for Sunday Worship. Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 20<sup>th</sup> 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*** Based on Luke 1 (*Note: This Call to Worship will not be on the video screen. Worship Leaders will lead the Call to Worship*)

God looks kindly on us when we are at our lowest.

**Rejoice in God our Savior.**

God has done great things for us in times past. God will do great things for us in days to come.

**Rejoice in God our Savior.**

Christ’s mercy is upon us, offering hope in times of despair.

**Rejoice in God our Savior.**

Christ’s love has made us whole.

**Rejoice in God our Savior.**

The Spirit’s power disarms our pride and prejudice.

**Rejoice in God our Savior.**

The Spirit’s power strengthens our mercy and compassion.

**Rejoice in God our Savior.**

Even as we are filled this day, may we go forth to nourish a world in need.

**Rejoice in God our Savior.**

### ***Opening Prayer***

Pastor: Mighty God, pour out your Holy Spirit on all of us this day. As we follow in Mary and Joseph’s footsteps, open our hearts, that we might be filled with your goodness and your love. Live in us, that we might bear the Christ light for all to see. Overshadow us with your presence, that we might truly be blessed and offer your blessing of love to the world. Amen.

***Choral Introit*** “Prepare the Way of the Lord” Text: Trad. English carol. Music: Trad. English carol; harm from Christmas Carols New and Old. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

***Opening Hymn of Praise*** “The First Noel” UMH #245 Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876. Music: Richard Storrs Willis, 1819-1900. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. The first Noel the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east, beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night.  
(Refrain)

3. And by the light of that same star  
three Wise Men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went.  
(Refrain)

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
and there it did both stop and stay,  
right over the place where Jesus lay.  
(Refrain)

5. Then entered in those Wise Men three,  
full reverently upon the knee,  
and offered there, in his presence,  
gold and myrrh and frankincense.  
(Refrain)

### ***Lighting of the Advent Wreath***

***Response to the Lighting of the Advent Candle*** "Light the Advent Candle" #2090 TFWS (verse 4)  
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*

3. Light the Advent candle four:  
Think of joy forevermore;  
Christ Child in a stable born,  
Gift of love that Christmas morn.

*Refrain:*

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

**Anthem** “Softly, So Gently, He Comes” Words and Music: David N. Davenport. Arranged by: Douglas E. Wagner. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

### **Children’s Moment by Pastor Matt**

**Hymn** “What Child Is This” UMH#219 Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898. Music: 16th cent. English melody. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. What child is this who, laid to rest,  
on Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?

*Refrain:*

This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.

2. Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.  
(Refrain)

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
come, peasant, king, to own him;  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
(Refrain)

### **Gospel Reading** Luke 2:1-7 (NRSV)

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended

from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** "Let Us Journey to Bethlehem to Find the Christ of Christmas" Rev. Matthew B. Sergent

***Prayers of the People***

**Handbell Choir** "Ding Dong! Merrily on High" Arr. by James D. Kimball. *Used with permission of Jeffers Handbell Supply. All rights reserved.*

**Hymn** "Sing We Now of Christmas" UMH #237 Words: Trad. French Carol. Music: Trad. French Carol; harm. by Martin Shaw, 1928. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. Sing we now of Christmas,  
Noel, sing we here!  
Hear our grateful praises  
to the babe so dear.

*Refrain:*

Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!  
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

2. Angels called to shepherds,  
"Leave your flocks at rest,  
journey forth to Bethlehem,  
find the lambkin blest."  
(Refrain)

3. In Bethlehem they found him;  
Joseph and Mary mild,  
seated by the manger,  
watching the holy child.  
(Refrain)

4. From the eastern country  
came the kings afar,  
bearing gifts to Bethlehem  
guided by a star.  
(Refrain)

5. Gold and myrrh they took there,  
gifts of greatest price;  
there was ne'er a place on earth  
so like paradise.  
(Refrain)

***Benediction***

May God strengthen you according to the gospel. May the proclamation of Jesus Christ dwell in your hearts and in your lives. And may the power of the Holy Spirit be with you now and forevermore. Amen.

***Postlude***