

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ABERDEEN

*December 19, 2021 at 10 am  
Fourth Sunday in Advent*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE CALL TO WORSHIP

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### LUKE 1:39-45

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup> and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup> and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup> And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup> For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

## HYMN #22 - ANGELS, FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

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1 Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

### Refrain

Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

2 Shepherds, in the field abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing;  
Yonder shines the infant light:

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations;  
Ye have seen His natal star.

4 All creation, join in praising  
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising  
To the eternal Three in One.

## LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

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### JOHN 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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## THE CORPORATE CONFESSION - THE APOSTLES' CREED

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*I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.*

*And in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, 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 sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.*

*From there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

*\*catholic means universal*

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## HYMN #36 - IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

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*Bob Neisinger Solo*

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## THE READING AND PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

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*Sermon: "Holy and Wholly Loved" - Pastor Dave Emery*

### LUKE 1:26-38

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup> But she was greatly troubled at the saying and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

<sup>34</sup> And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

<sup>35</sup> And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God.” <sup>38</sup> And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

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### **WE RESPOND TO GOD’S LOVE WITH OUR OFFERINGS**

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The ceramic jars in the offering plates are designated for the Deacons’ fund. Our deacons provide care, support, and financial assistance to those in the congregation in need.

**\*\* OFFERTORY MUSIC – INSTRUMENTAL \*\***

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### **HYMN #308 - O SING A SONG OF BETHLEHEM**

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1 O sing a song of Bethlehem,  
Of shepherds watching there,  
And of the news that came to them  
From angels in the air:  
The light that shone on Bethlehem  
Fills all the world today;  
Of Jesus’ birth and peace on earth  
The angels sing away.

2 O sing a song of Nazareth,  
Of sunny days of joy,  
O sing of fragrant flowers’ breath,  
And of the sinless Boy;  
For now the flowers of Nazareth  
In every heart may grow;  
Now spreads the fame of His dear Name  
On all the winds that blow.

3 O sing a song of Galilee,  
Of lake and woods and hill,  
Of Him who walked upon the sea  
And bade the waves be still:  
For though, like waves on Galilee,  
Dark seas of trouble roll,  
When faith has heard the Master’s word,  
Falls peace upon the soul.

4 O sing a song of Calvary,  
Its glory and dismay;  
Of Him who hung upon the tree,  
And took our sins away:  
For He who died on Calvary  
Is risen from the grave,

And Christ, our Lord, by heaven adored,  
Is mighty now to save.

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## COMMUNION

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*Celebration of the Lord's Supper*

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### HYMN #31- HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

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1 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King.  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

#### Refrain

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time, behold Him come,  
Offspring of the virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell,  
Jesus our Emmanuel.

3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that we no more may die.  
Born to raise us from the earth,  
Born to give us second birth.

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

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