

**FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**  
**December 27, 2009 ~ 10:00 a.m.**  
**A Simple Service of Lessons and Carols**



***WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD***

**Prelude**

*Be Still and Know with Be Still, My Soul*  
Chris Simon, piano

arr. by Mark Hayes

**Words of Welcome and Announcements**

*Please register your attendance and pass the pad to others along your row.*

Rev. Dr. Charlie Parker

**Opening Hymn**

*Once in Royal David's City*

**UMH 250**

**The Opening Prayer**

Beloved in Christ, at this Christmastide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us read and mark in holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious redemption brought us by this holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all his people; for unity and brotherhood within the church he came to build, and especially in this, our own community.

And because this would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are one forevermore.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

**The Lord's Prayer**

**UMH 895**

***WE LISTEN TO HEAR GOD'S VOICE***

*First Lesson:* Genesis 3:8—15

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus, UMH 196*

*Second Lesson:* Genesis 22:15—18

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, UMH 211 (v. 1,2)*

*Third Lesson:* Isaiah 9:2,6—7

*In the Bleak Midwinter, UMH 221(v. 1,2,3)*

*Fourth Lesson:* Micah 5:2–4

*O Little Town of Bethlehem, UMH 230 (v.1,2,4)*

*Fifth Lesson:* Luke 1:26–38

*What Child Is This, UMH 219*

*Sixth Lesson:* Matthew 1:18–23

*While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks, UMH 236*

*Seventh Lesson:* Luke 2:8–16

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly, UMH 229*

*Eighth Lesson:* Matthew 2:1–11

*We Three Kings, UMH 254 (v.1,2,5)*

*Ninth Lesson:* John 1:1–14

*O Come, All Ye Faithful UMH 234*

### ***WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE***

**Offering our Gifts to God**

Andrea Wood

**Dedication of Gifts**

**UMH 94**

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of his only Son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer, so we may, with sure confidence, behold him when he shall come to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

### ***WE ARE SCATTERED TO SERVE GOD IN OUR WORLD***

**Hymn**

*Joy to the World*

**UMH 246**

**Sending Forth**

May the Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into One, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God, Creator, Child, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Go forth in peace and joy, extending the peace of Christ to all you meet.

**Thanks be to God, Alleluia!**

#### **OUR MISSION**

Building an inclusive, caring Christian community that invites others into a deepening relationship with God and challenges them to grow as disciples for the transformation of the world.

#### **OUR VISION**

Extending radical hospitality, transforming lives, and pursuing justice.

#### **OUR CALL**

Praising, Learning, Serving

*Our pianist this morning is Jenna Wood.*

#### **JANUARY SERMON SERIES: "THE WIZARD OF OZ & WICKED"**

The "Wizard of Oz" is about a little girl who takes a journey to a different world and returns a different person, able to see her old circumstances with new eyes. Our journey of faith is a process of seeing our "ordinary" reality through new eyes as well. Join us for this thought-provoking new sermon series!

