

Gilead Presbyterian Church
December 20, 2020; 4th Sunday of Advent, Year B
Pageant Sunday

Convinced of God's Grace, we affirm that there can be no exclusiveness in the body of Christ. We welcome all regardless of race, ethnic heritage, national origin, age, ability, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic standing; and we encourage the full participation of all in the life of our congregation.

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME

OPENING MUSIC

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

by John Wade
arr. by Martha Meir

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Jadine Deriada

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

People: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

Leader: The Lord will give you a sign.

People: Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son.

Leader: And she shall name him Immanuel (God is with us).

People: God is with us!

BLUE HYMNAL #56

"The First Nowell"

1. The first Nowell the angel did say

Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;

In fields where they lay a-keeping their sheep,

On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, 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.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we come to worship with deep need, and a joy so deep it is sometimes hard to feel. Sing to us a song of redemption, a song of hope and renewal. We pray for joy in our hearts, hope in our God, love to forgive, and peace upon the earth. We ask for your light of salvation for all our family members and

friends, and we pray your blessings on all people. May there be bread for the hungry, love for the unlovable, healing for the sick, protection for our children, and wisdom for our youth. We pray for the forgiveness of our sins and abundant life in Christ. Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with your love and power. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen. (adapted from Rev. Lia Icaza Willetts)

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† THE OFFERING

BLUE HYMNAL #23

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

**1. 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.**

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua and Evan Steinberg

A long time ago, the angel Gabriel appeared to a young woman named Mary, who was engaged to a man named Joseph. And the angel said to her, “Mary, you have found favor with God. You will have a child, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great. God will make him King of Kings, ruling over all, and his kingdom will have no end.” And Mary said, “How can this be? I’m not yet married.” Gabriel said, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you and your child will be holy, the Son of God. Nothing is impossible for God.” And Mary said, “Here I am. Let it be with me as you’ve said.” (Luke 1:26-38)

SCRIPTURE READING

Jackson and Addy Palmieri

And Mary said, “My soul shines with the Lord. I rejoice in God who favors me. Surely everyone will call me blessed. God has shown greatness to me, and to all who came before me. God has brought down kings and lifted up those who had nothing. God has taken riches away from those who don’t share and fed the hungry. God has always taken care of our people, and always will. (Luke 1:46-55)

REFLECTIONS

“The Season of Miracles”

Rev. Martin McGeachy



featuring the Holy Family, portrayed by Gianna, Vincent, Emilia and Andrew D’Ascoli

CHRISTMAS LAUGHTER

Ben Warren

SOLO

“Mary’s Boy Child”
Eric Mueller, baritone

By: Jester Hairston

THE NATIVITY

Hannah Behan

WE SEAL THE WORD

ADORNING THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Gia and Vincent Cambigianis

BLUE HYMNAL #40

“Joy to the World!”

- 1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room, And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and heaven and nature sing.**
- 2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns: Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**
- 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.**

WE BEAR THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BLUE HYMNAL #31

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

- 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!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**
- 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.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

BENEDICTION and PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

"Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella"

Old French Carol
arr. by John W. Schaum



*Poinsettias adorning the Gilead chancel this Christmas
are lovingly donated by:*

*Margery and Laura Amato, in memory of Greg Amato
Bob and Linda Dutra, in memory of loved ones
Julie and Eric Koehler, dedicated to Jean & George Giove
and Timothy Baden Jones*

*Martin and Liz McGeachy, in memory of Dan McGeachy
Mary Temple, in honor of loved ones
Mary Temple, in memory of loved ones
Marj Williams, in honor of loved ones*

*The flower arrangement this week is given to the glory of God and in
celebration of Julie Koehler's birthday, by her Secret Pal.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ▶ You may still purchase a Christmas poinsettia for the chancel in honor of a loved one. Please contact Pastor Martin or Margery Amato. The cost is \$12.
- ▶ If you would like a hymnal to use at home for our streaming worship, please contact Pastor Martin.
- ▶ If you would like to purchase gifts for a needy family this Christmas, there is a link in the weekly email for an Amazon wish list, and instructions how to order.
- ▶ Look for email links to our Zoom Gilead Christmas Party, "Share the Light," and Facebook Live on Christmas Eve at 7:30. Have your candles ready!



† We accept offerings through the "Online Giving" link on our website, www.gileadchurch.org, or mail checks made out to Gilead Presbyterian Church, 9 Church Street, Carmel, NY 10512. Or give elsewhere if you see a need. In doing so, we brighten the world, and brighten our hearts.

GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Martin McGeachy, Pastor
Mary Temple, Music Director
Diana Drake Behan, Church School Superintendent

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