

## **CELEBRATION at the MANGER**

Isaiah 9:6

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder;  
and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor,  
The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

(Image on cover: drawing by Oliver Rice)

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Pastor Marc

**PRELUDE** "Good King Wenceslas" Jens Bartel, piano  
Isabella Walter, trumpet  
Eric Staley, trombone  
Emma Lake, clarinet

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Luke 1:46-55

One: My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior  
**All: He has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed.**

For the Mighty One has done great things for me  
**Holy is his name!**

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

**He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly.**

He has filled the hungry with good things...  
**...and sent the rich away empty.**

He has helped his servant Israel...  
**...in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors.**

### **ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

Advent is a season of waiting: waiting for God to break into our lives anew through the story of the birth of Jesus, and through acts of faith, hope, joy, and love. On this third Sunday of Advent, we re-kindle the candles named Hope and Peace. Today we light the candle named Joy.

**We wait – not because we are waiting to hear the story of Jesus for the first time. We wait – not because the Lord is not already and always here.**

We wait with Elizabeth and Zachariah –  
We wait with Mary and Joseph –  
because to wait is to expect something more.  
**To wait is to expect that the story of Emmanuel will enter our hearts and our world in new ways, to bring the change for which we long.**

As we light the candle of joy,  
we remember the stories  
of God's joy in all creation.

**We give thanks for the messengers – the apostles, prophets, artists, sages, faithful ones – present in every age, who bring us the good news of God's restoring love; and we shout with joy, trusting that God is with us and before us, and that joy will be born anew in us.**

(As the candles of Faith, Hope and Joy are lit, the congregation sings vs. 3 of "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" #85.

*Light three candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish the darkness.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway  
for the King of glory.)*

**INTRODUCTION** Lydia Bartel

### **Scene 1: The Prophecy**

Narrator Abbie Curry  
Prophets Brady Saylor, Noel Albarran,  
Oliver Rice

**CAROL** "O Come All Ye Faithful" Choir  
Jens Bartel, piano

Mary Abby Chaney  
Angel 1 Autumn Saylor  
Joseph Anthony Sunderhaus

**CAROL** "Angels We Have Heard on High" Katya Fisher, solo  
Jens Bartel, piano  
Bryson Fears, guitar  
Kylee Fears, bass guitar  
Oliver Rice, violin

### **Scene 2: Bethlehem**

Narrators Elias Jones, Gabriel Jones  
Emperor Oran Rice  
Innkeeper 1 Noel Albarran  
Innkeeper 2 Noel Albarran

**CAROL** "The Little Drummer Boy" Children and Choir  
Jens Bartel, piano

Animals Sadie Chaney,  
Oran Rice, Aiden Todd

### **Scene 3: The Birth**

**CAROL** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" Katya Fisher, solo  
Jens Bartel, piano

"...O morning stars, together proclaim  
the holy birth, and praises sing to God the  
king, and peace to all on earth."  
(During a musical interlude between verses  
2 & 3, please stand and greet those around  
you with the Peace of Christ.)

Narrator Eric Staley

**CAROL** "Away in a Manger" Children  
Jens Bartel, piano

### **Scene 4: The Angels Bring Praises**

Angel 2 Amabel Jones  
Angels Hannah Chaney, Lucy Chaney,  
Cora Murray, Claire Murray,  
Autumn Saylor, Eloise Hofer,  
Emilia Hofer, Lola Albarran,

Shepherd 1 Owen Todd  
Shepherd 2 Oliver Rice  
Shepherd Noel Albarran

**CAROL** "The French Carol" Elias and  
Gabriel Jones, piano

Narrator Bryson Fears

**CAROL** "O Holy Night" Lydia Bartel, Solo  
Jens Bartel, piano

### **Scene 5: The Wise Men Bring Gifts**

**CAROL** "We Three Kings" Wise Men  
Elias Jones, Gabriel Jones, Oliver Rice  
Jens Bartel, piano

Narrator Emma Lake

**CAROL** "Good Christian Men Rejoice" Bell Choir  
Conducted by Gretchen Jones

**OFFERING** (The Offering will be received during the playing of "Good Christian Men.")

### **PRAYER & BLESSING**

**May starlight guide our steps  
towards this place of wonder.  
May angels sing their news  
as we travel to the stable.  
May promise fill these days  
as we watch at the edge of the manger  
and may faith tell us,  
Emmanuel will be with us soon.**

**CAROL** "Joy to the World" Congregation  
Jens Bartel, piano  
Isabella Walter, trumpet

(please stand, if able)

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing,**

MINISTRY NEWS

And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.  
Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.  
No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as, the curse is found.  
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.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Choir – Amy Bartel, Lawrence Bartel, Lydia Bartel, Katya Fisher  
Gretchen Jones, Jeremy Jones, Buzz Green, Matt Lykins

Ushers – Zeke Groom, Cora Friede

Many thanks to the MANY volunteers  
who helped with this program!

Special thanks

Gretchen Jones, Choir Director,  
Jens Bartel, Piano

Isabella Walter, Angel Dance Choreographer

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Join your church family for these worship opportunities  
during this sacred season:

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 22 – 10:00 a.m.

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service  
December 24 – 7:00 p.m.

First Sunday of Christmas  
December 29 – 10:00 a.m.

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Large-print bulletins are available from the ushers. Please sign  
the friendship pads found at the end of the pew and pass  
them to our neighbors.

Greeters: Angels

Acolytes: Elias and Gabriel Jones

Wreath Candle Lighters:

The Albarran family: Juan Carlos, Elena, Noel and Lola

Fellowship Hour hosted by Ginny Scott on behalf of the  
Deacons. Please join us in the Molyneaux Lounge following  
worship.

**Cast Party!** All are invited to join us for a cast party in the  
Seminary Building directly following worship! Join us for a pizza  
lunch and a chance to congratulate our wonderful performers this  
morning.

**Oxford Presbyterian Women's Christmas Tea: Please join  
us TODAY,** December 15 at 2:30 p.m. in the Molyneaux Lounge.  
Jean Derickson will lead us in the carol sing. Karen Simpson will  
read a Christmas Story. Make it a Jolly Holiday with tea, cookies  
and friendship! All are invited to attend!

**Youth Group:** Join us for dinner in the Youth Room at 6:30 p.m.  
Cora Friede and Eli Walter will be leading a discussion on  
cultivating relationships with friends of other faiths. Emily Lykins  
will be leading a lesson for the Middle Schoolers. Bring a friend,  
and we hope to see you there!

**Church Services at The Knolls:** Join us December 17 in the  
Activity Room at 10:00 a.m., as we view a recent Presbyterian  
Church service on DVD. Pastor Marc will be joining us, and his  
visit will include communion.

**CCNS Christmas Presentation:** You're invited to the CCNS  
Christmas Program on Thursday, December 19 and Friday,  
December 20, 2019. The classes will be performing Christmas  
songs in the Sanctuary at 11:30 a.m. before dismissal.

**Let's Go Caroling! Join us Friday evening December  
20** for our annual Christmas Caroling. We will gather at the  
Seminary Church around 5:30 p.m. and head out in groups to  
sing and bring cheer to those members who can't make it to  
church. Following our caroling excursion, we will return to the  
Seminary for a light dinner. Be a part of this meaningful holiday  
event! **Please sign up after worship TODAY - December 15 in the  
Lounge, or call the office at 513-523-6364.** This will help us plan  
groups and numbers for dinner!! We will be joining forces with our  
youth as caroling is the first activity of their Lock-In!!!

**Youth Lock-In! Bowling, Christmas Caroling, and Food!**  
Middle School and Senior Highs are invited to our annual  
overnight lock-in on Friday, December 20th. We will be meeting in  
the Seminary Building at 5:30 p.m. for the caroling excursion.

**Mitten Tree:** Yes, mittens and shoes growing on the same tree!  
**Suggested donations are \$40-50 for mittens and \$12.50 for  
shoes.** Just take the mitten, shoe, or both from the tree and  
bring them into the Molyneaux where you may leave the item  
with your donation.

**It's A Wonderful Life!** Join us for a special Seminary Cinema  
screening of the classic holiday film in the Seminary Building on  
Sunday, December 22nd. Pre-film discussion with Matt Benzing  
begins at 3:30 p.m. Film starts at 4:00 p.m. Bring your children  
and grandchildren...hope to see you there!

**Candlelight Christmas Eve:** Celebrate the incarnation of our  
Lord Jesus Christ this Christmas season with your church family at  
**7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24** at the Christmas Eve  
Service.

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**Oxford Presbyterian Church**  
for a full ministry calendar, please visit:  
<https://oxfordpresbychurch.org/calendar/>

**Lawrence Bartel, Pastor**  
**Marc van Bulck, Associate Pastor**  
**Kent Peterson, Music Director ~ Lynn Jacobs, Organist**

# Third Sunday of Advent



Sunday, December 15, 2019



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[oxfordpresbychurch.org](http://oxfordpresbychurch.org)

Find us on 