

*He Will Be Called
'Holy, the Son of God'*

Luke 1:26-38

**The Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 20, 2020
10:30 a.m.**

As We Gather

We stand at the threshold not only of an old and familiar story but also that of an old yet familiar mystery, the greatest mystery ever told. It doesn't appear on any list of greatest novels or plays written by earthly authors. It is the mystery of God. More specifically, it is the mystery of His love for the salvation of the world. But as we prepare to review the mystery of God—the Son of God becoming incarnate in our human flesh and born of the Virgin Mary—the greater mystery is that He, Jesus, looks over your shoulder now in the retelling and hearing of Christmas. The greater mystery is that you not only know the old, familiar story but also that you believe it. And believing brings about the best mystery of all—that your sins are forgiven, that you have a new, eternal life, that you are forever a child, a son, a daughter born of God. The Gospel—the wisdom and mystery of God—is no longer a secret. For it is told by your own mouth singing of God's love and salvation in Jesus Christ.

Preservice Music

***God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
Sing We Now of Christmas***

Kate Peters, Emalee Peters, Dawn Tayon, saxophone trio

Invocation

Opening Sentences

Psalm 89:1–5; antiphon Ps. 89:1

Pastor: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

**People: For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever;
in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."**

Pastor: You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:

**People: 'I will establish your offspring forever,
and build your throne for all generations.'"**

Pastor: Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

**People: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all
generations.**

All The Earth by Andi Rozier, Jason Ingram, Jonathan Smith, Meredith Andrews

**From the rising of the sun
To the ending of the day
One name alone be praised
Ev'ry nation tribe and tongue
All creation lifting up
Your name alone we raise**

Chorus

**Praise the Lord all the earth all the earth
Bless His name only one name now and always**

**Jesus You have rescued us
You are good and You are just
One name alone be praised
From the heights and from the depths
In ev'ry heart with ev'ry breath
Your name alone we raise Chorus (twice)**

Bridge

**Ev'ry sky is filled with wonder
All creation lifting higher
The only King who reigns forever
Who is like our God who is like our God (say) (REPEAT)**

**Chorus (twice)
Bless His name only one name now and always**

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: That our eyes and our ears may be open to receive the mystery of God's love, let us first empty ourselves of everything that has closed our hearts to God, confessing our sin and need of forgiveness and life.

People: **At the Lord's own invitation and command, I confess all my sins to God, the very thoughts, words, and deeds with which I have offended Him and hurt my neighbor. I come now in the sincere hope of the forgiveness of God, made known in the mystery of His Son, Jesus Christ, who has sacrificed His own flesh and blood for me. Remove my sin and guilt for His sake, and restore a right spirit within me. Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness

Grace Of God With Us by Ben Fielding, Aodhan King, Brett Younker

**Wonderful and wise in counsel
Forever mighty God
Precious Father everlasting
Blessed Prince of Peace**

Chorus

**(Oh) Glory to God in the highest
Jesus our Savior the grace of God with us**

**The kings of earth rest on Your shoulders
You rule on David's throne
Your kingdom here is now established
Christ our Lord of lords Chorus**

**Born that we might know forgiveness
Born that we should live
With joy and hope and expectation
Our King will come again
Our King will come again Chorus**

Old Testament Reading

2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16

¹Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." ³And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵"Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"'" ⁸Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from

the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. . . .

¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

Epistle

Romans 16:25–27

²⁵Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Ukrainian Bell Carol

Saxophone Trio

Holy Gospel

Luke 1:26–38

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

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

³⁵And 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. ³⁶And 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. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸And 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.

The Apostles' Creed

God With Us by Jason Ingram and Leslie Jordan

**Oh You've come to bring peace to be Love
To be nearer to us
You've come to bring life to be Light
To shine brighter in us
Oh Emmanuel God with us**

**Chorus
Our Deliverer You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over ev'rything our Redemption
God with us
You are God with us**

**Oh You've come to be Hope to this world
For Your honor and name
And You've come to take sin to bear shame
And to conquer the grave
Oh Emmanuel God with us Chorus**

**Bridge
You are here
You are holy
We are standing in Your glory (Lord)
(REPEAT)**

**Our Deliverer You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over ev'rything our Redemption God with us
Our Deliverer You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over ev'rything our Redemption
God with us You are God with us
You are God with us**

[illegible]

[illegible]

King Of Kings by Brooke Ligertwood, Scott Ligertwood, Jason Ingram

**In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes**

**To fulfill the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt**

Chorus

**Praise the Father Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings**

**To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross**

**For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died** Chorus

**And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death**

**And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored**

**And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint**

**By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me** Chorus

Lift Our Hearts in Prayer

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

The Blessing

Hope Has A Name by Jacob Sooter, Kristian Stanfill, Sean Curran

**Breaking through the silence With glory in the highest
The hope of all creation Resting in his mother's arms**

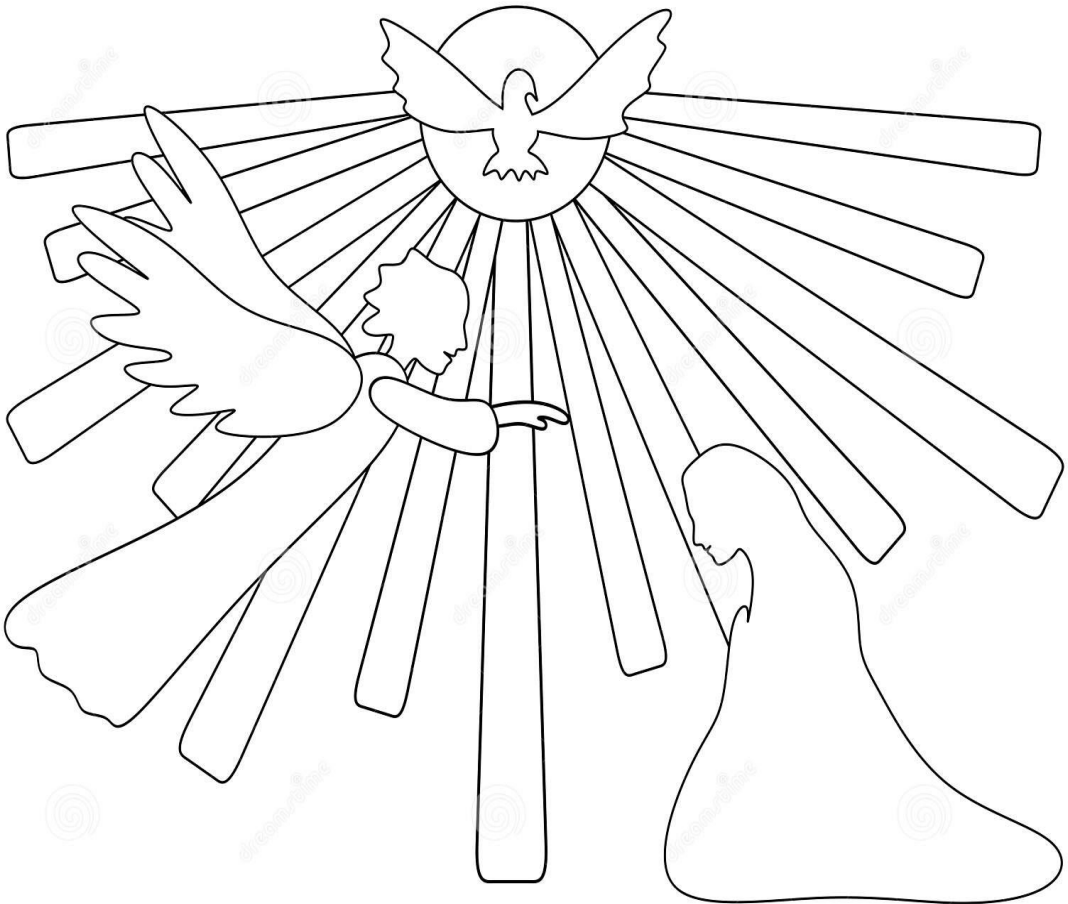
**A song on the horizon Ringing through the heavens
The long-awaited Savior Come to set the captives free
Come to set the captives free
Come set us free**

**Chorus
Hope has a name Emmanuel
The Light of the World
Who broke through the darkness
All hail the King Emmanuel
The Light of the World
The Glory of Heaven**

**We didn't see it coming
The story of redemption
What started in a manger
Ended in an empty grave
Oh I know that Chorus**

**Bridge
Come if you're broken Come if you're searching
If you need healing He's where you find it
Lay down your burdens And breathe in forgiveness
If you need freedom Yeah He's where you find it
Oh if you need freedom
Yeah He's where you find it
Yeah He's where you find it oh Chorus**

The Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her she would bring forth a song, and to call His name JESUS.



Worship Leaders:	Pastor Brian E. Downs, Proclaiming Pastor Pastor Chris A. Spelbring, Presiding Pastor
Elder on Duty:	Bill Keel
Children's Message(on-line):	Pastor Chris Spelbring
Vocals and Band:	Vocals—Jean Downs, Donna Summers, Josh Davis; Guitar— Josh Davis, Jake Meyers; Bass Guitar—Bill Heizer; Drums— Russell Hayes; Keyboard—Dawn Tayon
Sound/Video:	Frank Rudolph/Logan Rudolph/Michele Brown

Acknowledgments

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Season of Hope

Advent and Christmas Worship Opportunities

Christmas Eve Worship "The Hope of Christmas" December 23

5 p.m. Candlelight Communion

A joyful worship using carols and modern songs

7 p.m. Candlelight Communion

Celebrating God's love with age-old Christmas carols

Christmas Eve Worship "The Hope of Christmas" December 24

5 p.m. Candlelight Communion

A joyful worship using carols and modern songs.

7 p.m. Candlelight Communion

Celebrating God's love with age-old Christmas carols

Christmas Day Worship December 25

10 a.m. Worship with Communion