



Let Us Worship God!

December 11, 2022—10:30 AM



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A HYBRID WORSHIP AND COMMUNION EXPERIENCE IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

Today's worship team—Music Director: Jayne McDonough. Worship Leader: Beverly Mate
Message: Rev. Dr. Kevin Yoho. Worship Production: Norris Clark.



WELCOME! WORSHIP YOUR WAY!

So glad you're here today! Enjoy worship with your neighbors and be spiritually energized. Mask wearing is optional. Join us in-person in our beautiful, historic Red Brick Church or online: www.coldspringworship.com.

MESSAGE PREVIEW

This third week of Advent is about experiencing our Christmas DNA in the margins. On the edges of life. While we often gravitate towards the center, We will find God's joyful intervention in our world at the curbs and outer boundaries, where we least expect it. Just ask John the Baptizer. He was wondering if Jesus was the One because, from his point of view, something about Jesus wasn't adding up. We will see how Jesus sets him straight with the crowds surrounding the prophet John by the Jordan. We will also hear Isaiah's shocking prophetic message for everyone to rejoice as God leads us to discover hope and healing. This week, find hope and encouragement to live your very best life not only in the center but also in the margins.

MUSIC AND VIDEO PREVIEW

We begin with our Advent countdown that sets the theme for our worship experience. Jayne McDonough will accompany Beverly Mate singing "The Snow Lay on the Ground". This is one instance where we can see how one Christmas Carol was built upon another as the refrain quotes the original Latin refrain of O Come Let Us Adore Him. Our first hymn today is "The First Nowell." Nowell is the English form of the French Noel, a shout of joy formerly used at Christmas. We close with a Christmas favorite, *Angels From the Realms of Glory*. This familiar carol was first published as a poem in the Christmas Eve 1816 issue of a newspaper in Sheffield, England. The tune name celebrates the location of a prominent Presbyterian Church in London, sometimes called the "Presbyterian cathedral."

COUNTDOWN TO ADVENT WORSHIP

GREETING: PASTOR KEVIN (10:24)

PRELUDE: JAYNE MCDONOUGH (10:27)

WELCOME: (10:30)

CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVELY) BEVERLY MATE (10:32)

Welcome to our Advent adventure to nurture our spirit and inspire our faith!

During these days of anticipation and hope, we step out together to experience hope.

Everyone is included on our journey to Bethlehem, where justice is born, love is displayed, and our lives are transformed.

Jesus is the Gift of salvation promised long ago, the One who comes to us today.

Let us worship God!



LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE: JOY

This Sunday we light the candle of Joy. As a break from the heaviness of Advent's preparations, this Sunday offers a reprise from our dark longings to offer joy's glimmer of light. Even in the midst of darkness, we are called to rejoice as we light a pink candle representing the color of joy. Rejoice! For our Lord is coming into the darkness of oppression's exile to lead us home, as we hear in Isaiah 35:1-4: "The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing!"

SHARING THE JOY OFFER AN EXPRESSION OF JOY IN CHRIST TO THOSE NEAR YOU

GOD WELCOMES ALL (UNISON)

**God welcomes all,
strangers and friends;
God's love is strong
and it never ends.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (UNISON)

**Loving God, open our hearts and
minds to the Good News as we learn,
grow, and serve. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: ISAIAH 35:1-7 (NIV)

Wilderness and desert will sing joyously,
the badlands will celebrate and flower—
Like the crocus in spring, bursting into
blossom, a symphony of song and color.
Mountain glories of Lebanon—a gift.
Awesome Carmel, stunning Sharon—gifts.
God's resplendent glory, fully on display.

God awesome, God majestic.

Energize the limp hands, strengthen the
rubbery knees. Tell fearful souls, "Courage!
Take heart! God is here, right here, on his
way to put things right. And redress all
wrongs. He's on his way! He'll save you!"
Blind eyes will be opened, deaf ears

unstopped, lame men and women will leap like deer, the voiceless break into song. Springs of water will burst out in the wilderness, streams flow in the desert. Hot sands will become a cool oasis, thirsty ground a splashing fountain. Even lowly jackals will have water to drink, and barren grasslands flourish richly.

MESSAGE FOR KIDS- *TIME FOR JOY*

PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

(10:38)

MUSIC - *THE SNOW LAY ON THE GROUND* - BEVERLY MATE

GOSPEL READING : MATTHEW 11:2-14 (MSG)

John, meanwhile, had been locked up in prison. When he got wind of what Jesus was doing, he sent his own disciples to ask, “Are you the One we’ve been expecting, or are we still waiting?” Jesus told them, “Go back and tell John what’s going on:

The blind see,
The lame walk,
Lepers are cleansed,
The deaf hear,
The dead are raised,
The wretched of the earth learn that

God is on their side.

“Is this what you were expecting? Then count yourselves most blessed!”

When John’s disciples left to report, Jesus started talking to the crowd about John.

“What did you expect when you went out to see him in the wild? A weekend camper? Hardly. What then? A sheik in silk pajamas? Not in the wilderness, not by a long shot. What then? A prophet? That’s right, a prophet! Probably the best prophet you’ll ever hear. He is the prophet that Malachi announced when he wrote, ‘I’m sending my prophet ahead of you, to make the road smooth for you.’ “Let me tell you what’s going on here: No one in history surpasses John the Baptizer; but in the kingdom he prepared you for, the lowliest person is ahead of him. For a long time now people have tried to force themselves into God’s kingdom. But if you read the books of the Prophets and God’s Law closely, you will see them culminate in John, teaming up with him in preparing the way for the Messiah of the kingdom.

Looked at in this way, John is the 'Elijah' you've all been expecting to arrive and introduce the Messiah.

MESSAGE: *ETHOS: THE EDGES OF CHRISTMAS*

MATTHEW 11:2-14 REV. DR. KEVIN YOHO



PRAYER AND SILENT REFLECTION

MUSIC VIDEO LYRICS - THE FIRST NOWELL HYMNAL #56

1. The first Noel the angel did say
Was to Bethlehem's shepherds in
fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their
sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so
deep
Noel Noel Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel

2. Then wise from a country far
Looked up and saw a guiding star
They traveled on by night and day
To reach the place where Jesus lay
Noel Noel Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel

3. At Bethlehem they entered in
On blended knee they worshipped
him
They offered there in his presence
Their gold, and myrrh, And
frankincense
Noel Noel Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel

4. Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly lord
For Christ has our salvations wrought
And with his blood mankind has
bought
Noel Noel Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

We may not know the time, but our every moment is held in God's hands. We may not do and say what we should or could, but God offers us forgiveness. Join me as we pray together, saying...

PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS (UNISON)

God of our lives, sometimes it is hard to walk in joy. When our joy is shrouded, show what only you can reveal as we become beacons of light.

Forgive us, God of Advent, and have mercy. Fill us with the joy of your Spirit, as we expect you to come in people and places which surprise us, just as you did in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

SILENT REFLECTION

HEAR THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE (RESPONSIVE)

In the name of Jesus Christ, God loves and forgives us to live a life of faith, justice, hope, and love.

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

THE GLORIA

(3) (10:56)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

MOMENT FOR GIVING

God calls us to lives of grateful generosity. If you believe in our mission, thank you for supporting our mission. To give during worship, you may use the Giving Box as an usher passes. You may also give as you leave, or give online anytime.

THE DOXOLOGY

(5) (10:58)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above the heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE

COMMUNITY NEWS



WREATHS
across
AMERICA

www.coldspringchurch.com
780 Seashore Rd. Cold Spring, NJ 08204
Near Historic Cold Spring Village
609-884-4065

**Join in the Wreaths Across America Tradition
Saturday, December 17, 2022 12 PM**



Handel's Messiah

*Featuring soloists
Judy Ann Curtis, Ellen Rutkowski,
Wes Poole, and Kevin Grace
with the Cape Classical Chorus and Orchestra*

Directed by Dr. John Curtis

*Saturday December 17, 7:30 pm
Cold Spring Presbyterian Church*

**Experience Christmas Eve
at Cold Spring Church**

*Enjoy our beautiful
6PM candlelight service
in-person or online*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Let us pray for: Verna Shiflett (hospice). Bob Stiles recovering from surgery. Dr. Regina Olsen recent transplant. Bob Fite (hospice) and his friend Elizabeth (hospice). Pam Smith and Tara Garton's Christmas mission trip to Alabama. Pat, Jayne's sister, in hospital, Adelia and Rob Jonas. Ted Lewis. Eileen Stalford. Police officer Ben needs additional work hours. Those rebuilding after Hurricane Ian and Hurricane Nicole, and for those suffering from severe weather events. Dolce Alvarez (missing). Eileen and David Word. Lorraine. Ronald Walker. Glenn & Marie. Denise's mom. Janet. Pastor Kevin, Mike, Steve, Rickey, Lorraine, Carl, Kate, Candy. Paul Hagg. Janice Olszewski.

We mourn gun violence in across our country. We pray for the people of Ukraine. We pray for those suffering from Covid-19 and for God to bless those serving in healthcare, law enforcement, fire, government, armed forces, education, and business.

LORD'S PRAYER

(11:03)

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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

FRESH EXPRESSION OF COMMUNITY

(11:24)

Once we were strangers,
Now we are neighbors.
Once we were strangers,
Now we are friends.

MUSIC HYMN: *ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY*

HYMNAL #22

**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
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
Come and worship come and worship
Worship Christ the newborn King**

**3. All creation join in praising
God the Father Spirit Son
Evermore your voices raising
To the eternal Three in One
Come and worship come and worship
Worship Christ the newborn King**

BENEDICTION: PASTOR KEVIN

POSTLUDE: JAYNE McDONOUGH

(11:27)

Go in peace. See you next week!

So glad you've joined us. Please Like and Subscribe on our YouTube channel, Facebook, and Instagram. Worship at any time on YouTube. Invite others to join you next week.

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1. *God Welcomes All* - CCLI Song #5495557
2. *The Snow Lay On the Ground*: ital. folk Melody, harm. Leo Sowerby; text: Anglo-Irish Carol: CCLI Song #7109388
3. *The First Noel*: English Carol, Public domain: CCLI Song #31047
4. *Gloria* - public domain
5. *Doxology*: CCLI #42555
6. *Angels from the Realms of Glory*: Text- James Montgomery v. 1-3 Salisbury Hymn Book 1857 v. 4; Music- Henry Thomas Smart: CCLI Song #31669