

Cassie Segal, 8:45 am
Laurie Phillips, 11 am

Magnificat: God Who Is Mighty

Refrain: God Who is mighty has done great things for me,
holy, holy, holy is His name.

My being proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit finds joy in God, in God my Savior. **Refrain**

For He has looked upon His servant in her lowliness;
all ages to come will call me blessed.

God Who is mighty has done great things for me,
holy is His name. **Refrain**

His mercy is from age to age on those who fear Him,
He has shown might with His arm;
He has confused the proud in their inmost thoughts. **Refrain**

He has deposed the mighty from their thrones
and raise the lowly to high places.

The hungry He has given ev'ry good thing,
while the rich He has sent away empty. **Refrain**

He has upheld Israel His servant, ever mindful of His mercy;
even as He promised our fathers,
promised Abraham and His descendants forever. **Refrain**

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:46-56

HOMILY *The Gospel before the Gospel*

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION* *see insert, 8:45 am*

When Morning Gilds the Skies 185

Be Thou My Vision 451

We welcome you, as your mask remains on, to come forward to share the Bread and Cup. Upon receiving the Meal, simply remove your mask at that moment, then return to your pew with your mask on. Or, if you would like to remain where you are, we welcome you to utilize the Communion packet at your pew.

HYMN *People, Look East* 202

BENEDICTION Go now in peace.
Stand firm in your faith. Be strong. Be brave.
Let everything you do be done in love.

POSTLUDE *Passacaille* François Couperin, 11 am



Rayne
Memorial United Methodist Church

for 145 years shining the light of God's love and grace

3900 Saint Charles Avenue - New Orleans, Louisiana 70115
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THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 19, 2021



Poinsettias were given to the glory of God
and in memory of Mrs. Roy M. Inabnett and Ms. Sallie F. Inabnett
and in honor of Anne P. Inabnett and Ms. Elizabeth A. Heger by Joe Inabnett.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE GOSPEL

Welcome to All!

All are invited to participate in any of our activities,
and to become a part of this community of faith and love.

GATHERING

Rev. Jay Hogewood
God of Mary, Son of Mary: Neither birth nor death diminished you. Neither power nor pain destroyed you. Neither plenty nor little distracted you. So lift up our arms in strength so that we may lay down our arms and our armies, our fears and our prejudices. Because with Mary we know that the silenced have words to speak. Amen.
Corrymeela Community, Daily Prayer

PRELUDE

Prelude on Consolation Charles Callahan, 11 am
Marcus St. Julien

CALL TO WORSHIP* *responsively*

When Mary visited her cousin, Elizabeth, their lives were forever changed. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and Mary proclaimed faith in God, her savior.
The children they carried in their wombs heralded expectation and hope for the world.

We are heirs of this expectation and hope. We are heirs of this promise of God.

Come! Let us worship.

HYMN* *My Soul Gives Glory to My God* 198

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Mary faced both a burden and a gift; she needed someone who knew a little of what she was going through. Mary was looking for a place to hide until the reality of her condition could become something real. So she ran to her cousin, Elizabeth. And Elizabeth grants Mary a blessing: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." By God's grace, this blessing would become the means through which God would love the whole world. Today, we also seek God's blessing. We light these candles, the candle of hope, of peace, of joy and of love, as a sign that we experience God's blessing and that we practice sharing the love God shares with us.

May we find the love we long for in God's blessing; and may we share that love with others around us.

Lighting of the fourth candle, which signifies love.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen.

*The People Standing

RESPONSE *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* 196

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.	Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.
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PRAYER

The blessing of God's love in Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray: **God of creative love, come to us this day. May the miracles in our lives fill us with wonder. May an encounter with your goodness and grace cause our hearts to leap within us. Receive us into the arms of your mercy that we may feel you near us and that we may rest secure in your many blessings.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER 11 am

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM 11 am

Jane Adele Wisner
Born on October 28, 2021
Parents, Elizabeth and Daniel Wisner
Brother, Thomas Hawthorne Wisner

THE RED STEP A Special Time for Our Children

At this time, children age 3 years old through 2nd grade may attend children's church in the education building.

OFFERING

Ushers with offering plates will pass by each pew. Please pass your gift to the usher or place in the box on the table in the rear of the sanctuary.

HYMN*My Soul Gives Glory to My God*

198

1. My soul gives glory to my God. My heart pours out its praise. God lifted up my lowliness in many marvelous ways.
2. My God has done great things for me: yes, holy is this Name. All people will declare me blessed, and blessings they shall claim.
3. From age to age to all who fear, such mercy love imparts, dispensing justice far and near, dismissing selfish hearts.
4. Love casts the mighty from their thrones, promotes the insecure, leaves hungry spirits satisfied; the rich seem suddenly poor.
5. Praise God, whose loving covenant supports those in distress, remembering past promises with present faithfulness.

COMMUNION HYMNS *When Morning Gilds the Skies*

185

1. When morning gilds the skies my heart awaking cries: May Jesus Christ be praised! Alike at work and prayer, to Jesus I repair: May Jesus Christ be praised!
2. The night becomes as day when from the heart we say: May Jesus Christ be praised! The powers of darkness fear when this sweet chant they hear: May Jesus Christ be praised!
3. Let all the earth around ring joyous with the sound: May Jesus Christ be praised! In heaven's eternal bliss the loveliest strain is this: May Jesus Christ be praised!
4. Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine: May Jesus Christ be praised! Be this th' eternal song through all the ages long: May Jesus Christ be praised!

Be Thou My Vision

451

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that thou art; Thou my best thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my Wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, and I thy true son, Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.
3. Great God of heaven, my victory won, May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

HYMN*People, Look East*

202

1. People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.
2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.
3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.
4. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**All are welcome at the table!***INVITATION**

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION

Our God, who seeks the lost and gathers the weary,
we confess we neglect your loving care.
We tend to go our own way,
even when that threatens the peace you want to grant us.
We are sorry, and we humbly repent. Lead us back with your light.
Guide our paths that we might serve you
and walk in your way that leads to life.

*(silence)***PARDON**

Jesus, who eats with sinners and collects the wandering,
still seeks us and forgives the sin of the entire world.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we
praise your name and join their unending hymn:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are
full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in
the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.
And so in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living
sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER