

# December 11, 2022

Third Sunday in Advent



## Come Worship the Living



**PRELUDE**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES**

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel* UMH# 204

**HYMN**     *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

UMH# 220

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:

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of nations;  
ye have seen his natal star:

Refrain:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Refrain

2 Shepherds, in the field abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing;  
yonder shines the infant light:

4. Saints, before the altar bending,  
watching long in hope and fear;  
suddenly the Lord, descending,  
in his temple shall appear:

Refrain

Refrain

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

## SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12

### NRSV

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, 2 asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." 3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, 4 and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

6 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.' "

7 Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned

### NLT

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, 2 "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him."

3 King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. 4 He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?"

5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they said, "for this is what the prophet wrote:

6 'And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah, are not least among the ruling cities of Judah, for a ruler will come from you who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.' "

from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." 9 When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

7 Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. 8 Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!"

9 After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! 11 They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

12 When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

# SERMON

*God Guides the Wise*

Pastor Claudia Stallings

## PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, which 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.

## CONSECRATING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

### DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,

Praise Him all creatures here below,

Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### HYMN

*We Three Kings*

UMH# 254

1 We three kings of Orient are;  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.

2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign.

Refrain

3 Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising, voices raising,  
worshiping God on high.

Refrain

4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Refrain

5 Glorious now behold him arise;  
King and God and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain

## DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Virginia Abbott	Erica	Frances Owen
Alice Alford	Jimmie Early	David Pittman
Matt Amason	Mitch Early	Sara Katherine Reid
Sheryl Baird	Cicero Gainer	Vance Richardson
Betty Lou Brame	Jackie Gray	Amy Salley
Peggy Burch	Sibyle Harmon	Janet Sheek
Mabel Campbell	Leroy Harris	Nell Simmons
Melinda Campbell	Elnora Holmes	Hazel Stewart
Justin Chamberlain	Nancy Hulon	Darlene Thomas
Mitzie Conner	Brittany Johnson	Tim
Ralph Conner	Maureen	Helen Wallace
Lois Crafton	Joe Miller Sr.	Curtis Walsh
Dot Davis	Debbie Mullins	Iris Ward

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Full calendar can be found at [www.ramseymemorial.org](http://www.ramseymemorial.org)

December 15	Prayer Group	(11:00am)
December 18	Advent Bible Study	( 9:00am, Sanctuary)
December 18	Christmas Cantata	(10:00am, Sanctuary)
December 22	Prayer Group	(11:00am)
December 25	Christmas /Pajama Sunday	(10:00am, Sanctuary)
December 29	Prayer Group	(11:00am)
January 1	NO SERVICE	—————

Scan the QR code below to be  
directed to our online giving  
resource!



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ADVENT STUDY

During Advent, Ramsey Church is studying together *Because of Bethlehem: Love is Born, Hope is Here* by Max Lucado.

WHEN: Sundays, November 27 - December 18 9:00AM

WHERE: Church Sanctuary

Student books are available. To receive a copy, call or email the church office at 804-276-4628 / [admin@ramseymemorial.org](mailto:admin@ramseymemorial.org).

A donation of \$9 is appreciated but not required.



## 65th LIVING NATIVITY & BETHLEHEM

It's that time of year!

Ramsey will be presenting our **65th** Living Nativity and Bethlehem from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

- Thursday, December 22nd (Bethlehem and nativity)
- Friday, December 23rd (Bethlehem and nativity)
  - Saturday, December 24th (nativity only)

Make the Living Nativity part of your Christmas celebration this year and please invite others to join you! If you are interested in helping, contact Debbie Garrett ([dsgarrett08@comcast.net](mailto:dsgarrett08@comcast.net)).

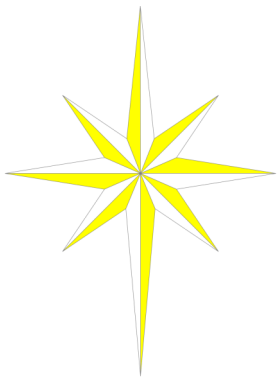


## BETHLEHEM SETUP AND TAKE DOWN

Help is appreciated to set up and take down Bethlehem. Below are the dates and activities planned. We anticipate each event will take less than 2 hours.

- December 12 at 3:30 – transform classes
- December 19 at 3:30 – stock tables in the Marketplace
- December 29 at 1:30 – inventory and pack items left in Marketplace
- December 29 at 3:30 – transform rooms back to Sunday School layout

We are in need of small toys that cost under \$2 for our visitors to purchase in the Marketplace (matchbook cars, plastic animals and dinosaurs, puzzles) and gloves for adults and children. Please email Debbie Garrett ([dsgarrett08@comcast.net](mailto:dsgarrett08@comcast.net)) if you can help with any of these efforts.



## 2023 CHURCH DIRECTORY

Ramsey is in the process of putting together an updated church directory for 2023. If you have an information change (phone, address, family additions, etc.) please let the office know by Friday, December 16 at noon. There is a prototype directory available in the back of the Sanctuary where you can see the current information we have for you.



Please either notate changes in the physical directory provided or email your changes to the church office at [admin@ramseymemorial.org](mailto:admin@ramseymemorial.org).

**MERRY  
Christmas**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

Join us at 10:00am for Pajama Sunday (or whatever you want to wear)!

**NEW YEARS DAY**

There will be no in-person or  
livestream service.

Pastor Claudia will share a prerecorded meditation  
online.

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**