



Fourth Sunday of Advent



December 19, 2021

Rev. Lura Kidner-Miesen, Pastor
Eric McKirdy, Organist & Music Director

Welcome!

Announcements

Prelude: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

The Brass Quintet

Invitation to Worship

Kirke Campbell

Eternal God, you are glorious beyond our comprehension!

Yet you came to us as a baby and come to us now through your Spirit.

When life seems dark, give us the faith to see the coming of your divine light.

We await the birth of Christ into our hearts and world! Amen.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Song: *Messiah*

Lonna Capaci, Chaundra Carter &
Eric McKirdy

Scripture:

Matthew 1:18-25

Message: "Joseph's Christmas Decisions"

Pastor Lura Kidner-Miesen

Hymn: *Angles We Have Heard on High*

UMH #238

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Song: *Little Drummer Boy*

Lonna Capaci, Chaundra Carter,
Walt Hammond & Eric McKirdy

Closing Blessing

Postlude



Announcements:

~ Singing is much safer outdoors. After the worship service you are invited to gather outside with your mask on and we'll sing Christmas carols.

~ Donations for the women and children at Oxford House and for our church staff are due today, December 19. Our Christmas Eve offering will go to FISH of Albany. You may donate through our website at albanymethodist.org or make your check out to the church and note which offering it is for. If you bought a gift for one of the CPS children, leave it under a tree in the entryway.

~ There will be an organ recital of Advent and Christmas music in our church Sanctuary today, December 19, at 3:00 p.m. Those who are vaccinated may attend in-person and everyone may watch online.

~ Our Christmas Eve service is Friday at 7:00 p.m. It will be online and in-person. Those who are 12 years old and older must be vaccinated in order to attend the in-person service.

Contact Information:

Rev. Lura Kidner-Miesen
lura@albanymethodist.org
Office: 541-928-3505
Cell: 503-269-1714

Office Manager: Rachel McKirdy
rachel@albanymethodist.org
Office: (541) 928-3505

***New* Office Hours:** T, W, Th 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The First Noel

1. The first Noel the angel did say was
to certain poor shepherds in fields as
they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
(Refrain)

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay.
(Refrain)

We Three Kings

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.

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

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.

2. Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains,
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

3. And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road,
and hear the angels sing!

4. For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the
song which now the angels sing.