

Affirmation of Faith

from Declaration of Faith

Jesus, the long expected Savior,
came into the world as a child,
descended from David,
conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of Mary, a virgin.
He lived as a Jew among Jews.
He announced to his people
the coming of God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth.
We affirm that Jesus was born of woman
as is every child,
yet born of God's power
as was no other child.
In the person and work of Jesus,
God himself and a human life
are united but not confused,
distinguished but not separated.
The coming of Jesus was itself
the coming of God's promised rule.
Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection,
he brings about the relationship between God and humanity
that God always intended

Cantata

The Shepherd's Bell Carol Hannibal/Barrett
Sanctuary Choir with clarinet

Welcome & Announcements

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer (unison)

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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.

*** Hymn #135**

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

Follow

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella

Setting by J. Raney



Our Life Together...

Michael Isaacs, Pastor; Joyce Zigler, Director of Music Ministries/Organist; Janet Scott, Director/Pianist; Emily Pheanis, Worship Assistant; Jim Harris, Sound Technician; Miriam Culley, Clarinetist; Sanctuary Choir; Sanctuary Youth, Renaissance Ringers; Sharon Perkins, Barista.

We warmly welcome clarinetist **Miriam Culley** from Maderia to our worship. Miriam is a free-lance musician, plays in the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra and has a private studio of students. We give thanks for her gifts of music today.

Hearing aids and large print bulletins are available for use during the worship services. Please contact an usher for assistance.

Sensory toys are available outside of the nursery for children who may wish to use them during worship.

The poinsettia in the sanctuary is given in loving memory of **Bill and Jane Rehse** by daughters Ann Veith and Pat Kienlen

Announcements

COVID-19 Reminders: As a general reminder, our COVID provisions include:

- Masks are encouraged for the inclusion of the immunocompromised and children in worship.
- Social distancing is enforced in the sanctuary by the use of alternating pews.
- The length of the worship services be forty-five minutes and not include the passing of any materials.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study will meet on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Youth Room. This week we are continuing our study of the Gospel According to Luke. We will be reading Luke 4.

If you purchased one of the Star of Bethlehem ornaments, please pick it up after worship on Christmas Eve from the Gathering Area Christmas tree.

Christmas Eve: Join us on Christmas Eve at 7:00 p.m. for our Candlelight and Communion Service. Selections of beautiful Christmas music will begin at 6:45 p.m.

Journey to Christmas Cantata

Come, come with us on our *Journey to Christmas*. This quote, “*Know the wonder of grace!*” brings us to our destination of finding the miracle on Christmas Eve. But this is only the beginning of another journey to share the incredible grace of the miracle of Christ’s birth with friends, family and the world. Come, be inspired by the beautiful music of the Sanctuary Choir, Renaissance Ringers and Sanctuary Youth. Be lifted up on this special night while the organ, piano and keyboard play their prelude music together. Be encouraged by the scripture from Luke 2:1-20 and the spoken word. *Come, join us. Come, be blessed by the miracle on Christmas Eve.*

Handbell Ensemble will rehearse Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

Sanctuary Choir will rehearse Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Children's Ministry

Nursery Care is available for infants and children up to 5 years old every Sunday, located next to Room 110. **Sunday School** (children ages 6-12) is offered most Sundays in the Godly Play Room following the Gloria Patri, at which time leaders will escort children to Sunday School. (See PresbyNews for Sunday School schedule.)