

Come Down Home

ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES



Assisting in Worship Today:

Gary Roberson, Liturgist
Mountainside Choir
Dora Scheer and Beverly Spears, vocalists
Dee Short, Organist
Karen Blackmore, Pianist

Mountainside United Methodist Church

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Rev. W. Douglas Mills, PhD

Tifani Vincent – Director of Children, Youth and Fellowship Ministries

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

December 24, 2017

Celebration of Worship

Welcome

**Indicates congregation standing as able*

*Opening Song “Away in a Manger” #217

*Welcome and Announcements
Please sign the registration notebook when it is passed along your row.

*Call to Worship:

Leader: Greetings, favored ones!
Do not be afraid.
The Lord is with you.

**People: Holy Spirit, come upon us.
Power of the Most High,
overshadow us.**

*Christmas Song: “Angels from the Realms of Glory” #220

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Introduction

Hymn:

**All (singing): “O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind.
From dust thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly
strife.”** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” stanza 7, 211

“Our souls magnify the Lord and our spirits rejoice in God for God has looked with favor on us, God’s servants.”

“God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly. God has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.”

God of Justice, God of Peace, we open our hearts to you. Give us grace to be instruments of your righteousness.

God, give us courage to turn away from distractions and distortions and turn toward the home you have made, are making, and will complete through Christ.

All: We, God’s people, sing songs of joy with the prophet, “I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God.” (Isaiah 61:10)

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, the morning of Christmas Eve, we light this candle, turning with courage toward the One who makes a home among us.

(Light all four Advent candles.)

All (singing): “Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.”

Children’s Sermon

*Children are invited to come to the front to spend some time with the pastor.
Afterwards, the children (ages 3-10) may go to children’s church, although children are always welcome to stay in the sanctuary.*

Joys & Concerns

A tan card is available for prayer concerns that you would like to have added to our weekly prayer list or email distribution

Pastoral 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.

Anthem What Strangers Are These? Mountainside UMC Choir

Scripture Luke 1:26-38

Message God Makes this World Our Home Pastor Mills

Offering

Offertory “Gesù Bambino” Dora Scheer and Bev Spears

*Doxology Hymnal No. 95

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

*Hymn “Joy to the World” #246, vv 1-2

*Benediction