

GOLETA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 27, 2020

PRELUDE:

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing arr Kevin Hildebrand
Of the Father's Love Begotten arr Kevin Hildebrand
Joy to the World by Kevin Hildebrand
O Come, All Ye Faithful arr by Kevin Hildebrand

WELCOME:

Call to Worship: Jeannie Cavender, CRE

“Kneeling in Bethlehem” Ann Weems

HYMN OF PRAISE: “I Wonder As I Wander” Deb Artz

Verse 1

I wonder as I wander out under the sky
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die
For poor ornery people like you and like I
I wonder as I wander out under the sky

Verse 2

When Mary birthed Jesus, all in a cow's stall,
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all,
But high from the heavens a star's light did fall;
The promise of ages it then did recall.

Verse 3

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing,
Or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing,
He surely could have it, 'cause he was the king.

Verse 4

wonder as I wander out under the sky
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die
For poor ornery people like you and like I
I wonder as I wander out under the sky

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE Jeannie Cavender, CRE

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: ISAIAH 49:1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
² He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.
³ And he said to me, “You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”
⁴ But I said, “I have labored in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord,
and my reward with my God.”
⁵ And now the Lord says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,

and my God has become my strength—
⁶ he says,
“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

⁷ Thus says the Lord,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
“Kings shall see and stand up,
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:22-35

²² When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not

see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷ Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

MESSAGE:

Leigh Ann Robinson

HYMN OF RESPONSE: “The First Nowell”

Marilyn Gross, Ernie & Alison Tamminga

Verse 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

Verse 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

Verse 3

And by the light of that same star

Three wise men came from country far

To seek for a king was their intent

And to follow the star wherever it went

Verse 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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jeannie Cavender, CRE

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.

CLOSING SONG: "Go Tell It On the Mountain"

Don Davis, Anne Lawler, Kris Warner

Refrain

Go tell it, go tell it, go tell it, Jesus Christ is born.

Go shout it, in the valley, on the mountain, Jesus Christ is born.

Verse 1

While shepherds kept their watching, O'er silent flocks by night

Behold, throughout the heavens, There shone a holy light

Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and every where

Go, tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born

Verse 2

The shepherds feared and trembled When lo! Above the earth

Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior's birth

Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and every where

Go, tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born

Verse 3

Down in a lowly manger, The humble Christ was born

And God sent us salvation, That blessed Christmas morn

Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and every where

Go, tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born

That Jesus Christ is born, That Jesus Christ is born

BENEDICTION:

Postlude: "Angels We Have Heard On High"

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