

Good Morning!

North Bend Church

a Global Methodist Congregation

Sunday, December 8, 2024

Because God is worthy we worship

GATHERING AND WELCOME

Prelude

Announcements

FRANK'S TREE: Donations to light Frank's Tree this year will be split between TRAM, our local food pantry, and Hope Restored India, Laura Meyers' ministry. Each \$10 contribution lights one colored bulb. Once all those are lit, representing \$200, a white bulb is turned on. After we reach \$2,000, the entire tree is lit up.

CHURCH DIRECTORY: We will publish an updated church directory in January. Please review the lists at the back of the church to add, confirm or update your name, address, phone number, email address and birthday.

YOUNG ADULTS' BIBLE STUDY: Each Wednesday at 7 p.m., Zane and Ashley-May are leading a Bible Study for young adults, ages 18-30. Please invite your friends and family members to experience this wonderful opportunity.

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS: If you have a Kroger Shopper's Card, please consider linking our church to its rewards program. Kroger gives cash to us based on your purchases. Sign in to your Kroger account. Select My Account, then Community Rewards. Enter our church's ID number, GQ626, then Enroll.

(Are there any other Announcements?)

COME BEFORE THE LORD

***Call to Worship¹**

Leader: Welcome today to this time of preparation.

People: Although we have been preparing for celebrations, we come seeking to prepare our hearts to receive God's Good News.

Leader: Get ready! The Lord is bringing to us Hope and Peace.

People: How wonderful it is that the Lord is showering us with Peace.

Leader: Open your hearts and let your spirits be quieted. Be at peace with the Lord.

People: Lord, prepare our lives and bring us peace. Amen.

***Singing**

The First Noel

UMH #245

(vs. 1, 2, 5)

**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:

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

**5. Then entered in
those Wise Men three,
full reverently
upon the knee,
and offered there,
in his presence,
their gold and myrrh
and frankincense.**

Refrain:

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

PRAY UNTO THE LORD

***Praying Together¹**

We have prepared our homes, and our gifts, Lord, but we need help in preparing our spirits to receive your message of Peace. Free us from the stresses and strains of this time and place your peace which passes all our understanding in our hearts. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Joys & Concerns

Silent & Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Anthem

Blessing of Offerings

***Singing** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #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.**

Reading the Scripture

Mark 1:1-8 (NIV)

- 1 The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God,
- 2 as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger

ahead of you, who will prepare your way” —

3 “a voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’ ”

4 And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

6 John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

7 And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

8 I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Proclaiming the Gospel

Be Expectant!

RESPOND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD

***Singing**

Joy To The World

UMH #246

(vs. 1, 2, 4)

**1. Joy to the world,
the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let every heart
prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
(and heaven and nature sing,)
and heaven and nature sing,
(and heaven and nature sing,)
and heaven, and heaven,
and nature sing.**

**2. Joy to the world,
the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
(repeat the sounding joy,)**

repeat the sounding joy,
(repeat the sounding joy,)
repeat, repeat
the sounding joy.

4. He rules the world
with truth and grace,
and makes
the nations prove
the glories of
his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
(and wonders of his love,)
and wonders of his love,
(and wonders of his love,)
and wonders, wonders
of his love.

GO IN THE GRACE OF THE LORD

***Receiving the Blessing**

Postlude

***Singing**

The Blessing

Kari Jobe

**The Lord bless you
and keep you
Make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you
The Lord turn His
face toward you
And give you peace
Amen
Amen, Amen
Amen
Amen, Amen
May His favor
be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family**

**and your children
And their children,
and their children**

Amen

Amen, Amen

Amen

Amen, Amen

¹From "Worship Connection: December 8, 2024," by Nancy C. Townley, ministrymatters.com