

# Order of Worship December 16, 2018

*\*Indicates an invitation to stand as you are able.*

*The congregation is invited to respond with the words printed in **BOLD**.*

*Hearing devices and large print bulletins are available from an usher.*

## Music for Gathering

## Welcome and Announcements

*You are invited to silence your cell phones but to keep them handy for taking photos and sending out messages and tweets of things you hear and experience with #DoNotBeAfraid or #morejoy. We are all carriers of God's message of good news!*

## Threshold Moment

\*Thread Song                      Angels Among Us

\*Opening Prayer and Lighting of the Advent Candles

Leader: Holy Living God, Blessed Jesus, Guiding Spirit,

**People: alight within us your flame of joy this day.**

Leader: Grant us openness to hear your message.

**People: Grant us courage to be your messengers in the world, creating more joy in the midst of fear.**

**All: Do not be afraid** *(sung repeatedly)*

\*Hymn #117                      Lift up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

\*Passing the Peace

*You are invited to pass the joy of Christ with your neighbors, for each time we connect with one another, joy grows.*

## Children's Time

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place  
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.  
I can hear the brush of angel's wings,  
I see glory on each face;  
surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

Scripture                      Matthew 1:18-25

Song                              All Earth is Waiting

Sermon                         Do Not Be Afraid: #morejoy

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory                      Angel Carol

by John Rutter  
Bethel Chancel Choir

\*Doxology - Tune: O Come, O Come Emmanuel

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

**Praise God, all Spirit messengers below.**

**Praise God, the source of all our gifts!**

**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!**

**Rejoice! Rejoice!**

**Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Prayer of Dedication

**God of joy and possibility, we offer these gifts so that they may be transformed into your good news for the sake of the world. Amen .**

\*Hymn#132                      Joy to the World

\*Benediction

Postlude                      Chapelle de Guillaume Tell

by Franz Liszt

## Angels Among Us - Worship Notes

Each week we start our worship with an Advent hymn/song and we close with a Christmas carol. Traditionally the church waits until Christmas to sing these songs but in our day, these songs ring through the air on the radio, in stores—just about anywhere holiday tunes are happening. So we will take our encounters with these as messengers," foretelling the good news of the presence of God coming once again in Jesus Christ. This week, when you hear "Joy to the World," stop for a moment, and breathe a prayer that joy will invade the world like a gaggle of angels descending on humankind.

**From the Pastor:** Every week I will give you a mission, "should you choose to accept it." It is a mission with a message. So I'm inviting you to be "hashtaggers of joy" and to share our quote meme for the week from our church to your Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or Snapchat accounts and hashtag it #morejoy. If that all sounds like Greek to you and you are not into social media, I invite you to take the insert in your bulletin and mail it to someone, give it to someone, take a photo of it and send it in a message—whatever you can do in whatever channels of communication are available to you.

### Birthdays this Week

Kim Walsh 12-18  
Bob Quinn 12-19

### Today's Worship Leaders

Readers - Jim Butler, Jeff & Kristy Galvan

Greeter - Mac Macpherson

Ushers - Linda Timmel, Mac Macpherson, Richard Fowler, Donna Fowler

Flowers—Cathy Thoma, Nancy Macpherson

Coffee - Home Perk

Fellowship Food - Wassail Party

Open and Close - Jonathan Schlueter

Sound - Robert Keniston, Jim Keniston

Announcement Slides - David Stewart

Nursery - Megan Griffiths, Kathryn Fairman

PreK-1st - Dawn Bleyle, Hannah Lindsey

Prayer chain requests—[prayer-chain@bethelbeaverton.org](mailto:prayer-chain@bethelbeaverton.org) or 503-625-0910

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**Bethel**  
CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Born of Love

Shaped by Grace

Transformed for Service

David Randall-Bodman, Senior Pastor  
Owen Hofmann-Smith, Director of Music  
Beth Astarte, Program Coordinator  
Chad Halligan, Organist and Accompanist  
Lynne Elbert, Interim Office Administrator

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