

THE MUSICAL OFFERING “*Angels We Have Heard on High*”

O Come, Little Children

IHR KINDERLEIN KOMME

Cherub and Treble Choirs; Jonathan Crutchfield and Megan Mashburn, directors

O there lies the Christ Child on hay and on straw; the shepherds are kneeling before him with awe. And Mary and Joseph smile on him with love, while angels are singing sweet songs from above.

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

The Youth Choir; Ashley Hoffman and Jonathan Crutchfield, directors

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay: Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

A Midnight Clear

Richard Storrs Willis, arr. Sondra Tucker

The Handbell Choir, Jeff Peters, director

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold.

***THE HYMN 23**

Angels We Have Heard on High (verses 1 and 2)

GLORIA

Angelus ad virginem

14th-century Irish carol/arr. David Willcocks

Gabriel to Mary came, and entered at her dwelling. With his salutation glad her maiden fears dispelling: ‘All hail, thou queen of virgin’s bright! God, Lord of earth and heaven’s height, thy very Son shall soon be born in pureness, the Savior of all kind. Thou art the gate of heaven bright, the sinners ‘healer kind.’ ‘How could I a mother be that am to man a stranger? How should I my strong resolve, my solemn vows endanger?’ ‘Power from the Holy Ghost on high shall bring to pass this mystery. Then have no fear: Be of good cheer, believing that still thy chastity in God’s almighty keeping shall all unsullied be.’ Then to him the maid replied, with noble mien supernal, “Lo! The humble handmaid I of God the Lord eternal! With thee, bright messenger of heaven, by whom this wondrous news is given, I well agree and long to see fulfilled thy gracious prophecy. As God my Lord doth will it, so be it unto me!” ‘Hail! Thou Mother of the Lord, who brings of gifts the rarest, peace to angels and to all, when Christ the Lord thou barest! Do thou, we pray, entreat thy son for us our longed redemption himself to win, and from our sin release us; his succor for to give, that, when we hence are taken, we too in heaven may live.”

Sussex Carol

English traditional carol/ arr. David Willcocks

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring – news of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King’s birth.

Angels We Have Heard on High

arr. Robert Russell Bennett

(from *The Many Moods of Christmas, suite 3*)

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o’er the plains: *Gloria in Excelsis Deo!*

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***THE CHORAL RESPONSE** “*Sleepers, Wake!*” *A Voice Astounds Us*

WACHET AUF

***THE POSTLUDE** *Improvisation on “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”* Jonathan Crutchfield



December 13, 2015

11 a.m. Worship

Special Music Sunday

1411 North Morningside Drive, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306

TEL 404.876.7396; Preschool 404.685.8758

EMAIL office@morningsidepc.org; WEB morningsidepc.org

Thank you for making sure your cell phone is off during the worship hour.

THE GATHERING

Baron Mullis

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE PRELUDE

Meditation on "I Wonder as I Wander"
Jonathan Crutchfield, Organist/Choirmaster

John G. Barr

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Nancy Frampton, Christine Butz,
Michael Siedschlag, Brandon Odom

*** Unison Prayer:**

God of grace, ever faithful to your promises, the earth rejoices in the JOY of our Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return. Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes, for he is Lord of all time and space. Amen.

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 12People, Look East*

BESANÇON

THE CALL TO CONFESSION**THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Eternal God, you are from everlasting to everlasting. You, the creator of heaven and earth extend from the furthest reaches of the universe to the depths of Sheol. Yet we forget from whom our blessings flow. We blur the lines between creator and creation and think that we are the authors of our own blessings. But you alone are eternal, you alone are the source of all life and all good. We are chastened and we ask forgiveness. Return us to your marvelous image, remind us that we are fearfully and wonderfully made, and call forth from us the commitment you would have us bring, through Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen.

A MOMENT OF SILENCE *(for examination of conscience and personal prayers of confession)*

* *(The asterisk indicates parts of the worship when the congregation is invited to stand as they are able.)*

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,

People: **But we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.**

Leader: Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Believe the promise of the Gospel:

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.** - Hebrews 4:15-16

*** THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

(Hymn 9)

O come, desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*(Children ages 3-10 are invited to leave after the **Peace of Christ** for special classes. Threes, fours & fives are in Room 011; K-1st grade in Room 001; 2nd-3rd grade in Room 003; 4th-5th grade in worship).*

THE CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

(Visitors and members are invited to sign the blue friendship register pad and pass it down the pew.)

THE OFFERTORY*Variation 7: From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

Walter Pelz

***THE DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

(Hymn 592)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children are always welcome in the Sanctuary during worship. Should you find that your child grows restless, there is child care available. Infants/toddlers are cared for in the Nursery in Room 105, two year olds in Room 012.

ELDER ON CALL: Kim Nuckols 404.405.1877

DEACON ON CALL: Sarah Chatel 404.502.2884

USHERS: Brenda Fishpaw, George Logan, Van Jensen, Nancy Lane

GREETERS: Cindy Humphries, Ellen Landers, Jane Stack, Nancy Collins

COUNTERS: Lysley Tyler, Richard Brownlee

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION HOST: Carol Senf

INFANT/TODDLER VOLUNTEERS: Allie Roach, Laura Ulep

TWOS/THREES VOLUNTEER: Leigh Gobbel

4s & 5s VOLUNTEERS: Sue Ballay, Ibbly Bailey, Alli Lee

K-1ST GRADE VOLUNTEER: Kelly Anderson

2ND-3RD GRADE VOLUNTEER: Lisa Ladds

FELLOWSHIP: Worship Committee (Susan Oder, coordinator)

Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- Philippians 4:6-7

Keep in your prayers...

Connie Crowley (Hugh Bell's sister-in-law)

Hamilton family (friends of the Nuckols)

Ann Herndon (Will's mother)

Penny Hill (Executive Presbyterian)

Finley Holaway

Irwin Family

Braxton Jarratt

Friends and relatives of Linda Johnson: Kaitlin

Andry, Melanie Donnelly, Ellen Hardeman,

Ron and Ann Reggio, Peggy Johnson Smith,

Warren Johnson, Sr.

Timothy Johnson (Hugh Bell's friend)

Vicky Langford (James Beasley's mother)

Rhett Laurens (Sarah and Richard Brownlee's

neighbor)

Annette Lowery (David Lowery's mother)

Bobbie McCrackin

Jan McMahan

Marilyn Neforas (Hugh Bell's friend)

Linda and Mike Robinson (Bill Smith's family)

Bus and Carmen Ryan (Tyler Ryan's parents)

Pat Senak (Ericson Harris' friend)

Greg and Mary Ann Smith and family (friends of the Bach family)

Kent Smith (Hugh Bell's friend)

Dick Stack (Jane Stack's husband)

Jennifer and Jason Swafford (Sandy Jones' friends)

Mike and Amelia Tyler (Lysley Tyler's brother and niece)

John Vytal (Katie Watts' father)

Lincoln Weis (Sienna Weis's dad)

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Welcome to worship at Morningside Presbyterian Church.

•Today, we celebrate **Special Music Sunday** with **Jonathan Crutchfield, Organist/Choirmaster.**

•Large print hymnals and Bibles as well as hearing aids are available; ushers will gladly assist.

•Please complete the information in the Friendship Pad at the end of the pews and pass the pads down and back again during the **Concerns** portion of worship.

•Worship bags and books for children are in the narthex and library. Nursery for infants/toddlers is in Room 105; 2-3 year olds are in Room 012.

•Children ages 3-10 are invited to exit to the narthex after the **Peace of Christ** where their teachers will take them to their classrooms.

Threes, Fours & fives are in Room 011; K-1st grade in Room 001; 2nd-3rd grade in Room 003; 4th-5th grades in worship.

TODAY'S MUSICAL OFFERING

What is it about angels that fascinates us: A body of heavenly beings not of this world but able to communicate with us? Are they just characters in the Christmas story or are they indeed nearer to us than we imagine them to be? The music today reflects the song of the angels, from the angelic chorus who came to the shepherds with news of a newborn babe to a single angel, Gabriel, who visited a mother-yet-to-be. The story is told by all the choirs today: The handbells, the children, the youth, the adults, even the organ and you, the congregation choir. Look for the reference to angels in the first hymn this morning. Hear again the news they brought to us all: Unto you

is born a Savior. My grateful thanks are given to the directors and the singers as they prepared diligently for this service of worship: Jeff Peters (handbells), Megan Mashburn (children), and Ashley Hoffman (youth).

- Jonathan Crutchfield, Organist/Choirmaster



Advent at Morningside

Through December 27

*9:45 a.m. Faith Development
Advent Series*

For the classes' Advent service

project, they are leading the congregation in a clothing drive. The donations will be given to the ICM clothes closet and Rebecca's Tent. Please bring adult men's and women's clothing items only to the Welcome Center and put them in the blue and white wrapped box. Clothes should be clean and in good condition. A list of requested clothing items is also in the Welcome Center.

December 16

9:15 a.m. MPP Carols and Coffee

All are invited to attend.

December 20

7:30 p.m. Service of Healing and Hope

December 24

Christmas Eve Services

4 p.m. Family Friendly Service with Handbells, Young Liturgists, and a Christmas story (nursery provided)

8 p.m. Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols (doors open 7:15 p.m.; childcare provided)

SERVICE OF HEALING AND HOPE

The holidays are wonderful. They are warm and festive. But for those experiencing bereavement, job loss, the breakup of a loving relationship - the holidays can be really a tough time. Morningside will offer our traditional *Service of Healing and Hope* on **Sunday, December 20 at 7:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary. The darkness of the sanctuary on this longest night of the year provides a comforting place to receive prayers of healing and hope and, for those who wish, the laying on of hands by pastors, elders and deacons. If you are in need of healing and hope this holiday season, please come. If you can provide a warm presence for those whose holidays are darker than they wish, please come.

SHEARITH ISRAEL SHELTER

The women's shelter at Shearith Israel has a new director - Tasho Wesley - and a new name - Rebecca's Tent. The shelter has been an important part of Morningside's Mission Program in years past. Volunteers arrive at the shelter (1180 University Drive, 30306) at 6 p.m. to warm and serve the meal to residents as they arrive from work. Leftovers are prepared for lunches the next day and put in the refrigerator, and the area is cleaned up. We leave by 8 p.m. after visiting with the residents. Men are welcome! We have scheduled our volunteer dates - January 13-17 and February 17-21. Please sign up to volunteer on the sheets on the mission bulletin board. - Phyllis Grimes, Shepherd

INTOWN COLLABORATIVE MINISTRIES

Through the month of December, Morningside will collect food for the ICM food pantry. We have been asked to put together "food packs" to give to families for their Christmas dinner side dishes. Each pack should include stuffing mix, green beans, fried onions, mushroom soup, cranberry sauce, yams, and corn and should be

dropped off in the collection baskets or barrel in the Welcome Center. Our goal is to provide them with at least 10 packs. As the feasting season approaches, we will continue collecting a variety of non-perishable edibles for ICM with the goal that no one in our community is hungry for the holidays.

GIFTS OF SECURITIES

A number of Morningsiders choose to fulfill their annual pledge or make special gifts to Morningside through the gift of stock or other securities. We are always happy to accept such gifts; we ask only that you notify MPC Treasurer Randy Parrish when you initiate a transfer of securities so that we can make sure you receive proper credit for your gift. Should you have questions or wish to make a gift of securities, email randyparrish@bellsouth.net. We thank you for your continuing support of the work and ministry of Morningside.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children's worship bags are now available in the narthex for any child to use while participating in worship. These bags are filled with purposeful activities for children to help keep their hands busy and their ears open while they worship with us. Children can also borrow books from the library. Enjoy our worship bags, but please return them when you're done!

MPC NURSERY

Our growing infant and toddler nursery at MPC is in need of additional volunteers during the worship hour on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Claire Burke at claireneal@hotmail.com for details. Volunteers are asked to give of their time on a quarterly basis. Adult and youth volunteers are welcome.

Faith Development at Morningside

ADULT

Next Sunday, December 20 we will continue our series called "Illuminating Advent: Bringing Christ's Hope, Peace, Joy and Love Into Our Lives." For the classes' Advent service project, they are leading the congregation in a clothing drive. This class meets in Room 201 at 9:45 a.m.

CHILDREN

This Sunday, the preschool class will hear about the wise men and their journey.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

9:30 a.m. Coffee and Conversation
9:45 a.m. Faith Development Class
11 a.m. Worship/Special Music Sunday
12 noon Fellowship
12:45 p.m. Christmas Pageant Set-up
5 p.m. Christmas Pageant/Chili Cook-off/Carol Sing
6 p.m. Journey
7 p.m. Youth Christmas Party

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14

9 a.m. MPP
12 noon Arts & Crafts Guild
7 p.m. Mandolin Society
7:30 p.m. Morningside Lenox Park Association

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15

9 a.m. MPP
11 a.m. Yoga
2 p.m. Parkinson Tai Chi
6:30 p.m. Weight Watchers

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

7 a.m. Men's Breakfast
8:15 a.m. MPP Yoga
9 a.m. MPP/Carols and Coffee
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

9 a.m. MPP
11 a.m. Fun with Weights
7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir; Girl Scout Leaders

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

9 a.m. MPP
10 a.m. MPP Creative Movement

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

8 a.m. Virginia Highland 5K Run
9 a.m. Women's AA Meeting
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20
9:30 a.m. Coffee and Conversation
9:45 a.m. Faith Development Class
11 a.m. Worship with Baptism
12 noon Fellowship
7:30 p.m. Healing Service

SAVE THE DATE

Interested in learning how to sing Shape Note music? Come Saturday, February 6, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall. Watch for more information in the new year.

Giving Update—12/6/15

NEEDED WEEKLY—\$16,881
RECEIVED—\$27,140
NEEDED YEAR TO DATE—\$827,168
RECEIVED YEAR TO DATE—\$718,314
Attendance Update
WORSHIP COUNT —197