



North Bethesda United Methodist Church

December 21, 2025
Lessons and Carols
Fourth Week of Advent

Prelude

Simon Charette

Welcome & Announcements

Prayers Around the Advent Wreath

The Law/Fioresi Family

Introduction

Sung Response: ***So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,***

Come, peasant, king to own him.

The King of Kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Sung Response: ***This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:***

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Prayer of Invocation: **Here, at the nativity of your birth, give us the courage to face this moment with a steadfast love that casts out fear. Open us to new understandings of the unfolding story of your presence among us. Show us how to be with and for one another in ways that add to the flourishing of all creation. We pray in the name of the Child, the Love Enthroned in our hearts and lives. Amen.**

*Opening Hymn

"People, Look East"

UMH 202

Word for All Ages

Tsitsi Sithole

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Introduction

First Scripture Lesson

John 1:1-5, 9-14

Joye Jones

Anthem

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

NBUMC Choir

Second Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-14

John Welton

Anthem

"A Maiden Most Gentle" (arr. Andrew Carter)

NBUMC Choir

Third Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7

Kim Santoro

Isaiah 40:1-5

Hymn

"Toda la Tierra/All the Earth Is Waiting" v.1-3

UMH 210

Fourth Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

Jenna Love Sinclair

Anthem

"The Angel Gabriel" (arr. John Leavitt) Paula Chipman & Janet Replogle

Fifth Scripture Lesson
Hymn

Luke 2:1-6
"The Friendly Beasts" (*Congregation joins for v. 6*)

Kathleen Edelman
UMH 227

Sixth Scripture Lesson
Anthem

Luke 2:8-14
"Il Est Né le Divin Enfant" (arr. David Willcocks)

Hannah Williams
Raymond Ghattas

Prayers of the People

Seventh Scripture Reading
Offertory

John 4:7-16
"Gesu Bambino" (Pietro Yon)

Mark Aehele
Raymond Ghattas
Paula Chipman

Closing
Anthem

"Jesus Child" (John Rutter)

Scott Roby
NBUMC Choir

*Benediction

As we prepare to go into the world,
let us ask and answer the question we came with: What child IS this?

This is the one surrounded by sacrificial love.

What child IS this?

This is the one who would go on to great sacrifice in the name of love.

What child IS this?

This, this is the one "Enthroned by Love"

who invites us into more love than we thought was possible.



QR Code
for Online
Giving

*Sending Hymn

"Love Came Down at Christmas"

UMH 242

Postlude

Simon Charette

*Indicates rising in body and/or spirit. The worship series and liturgy throughout our Advent series are the work of Dr. Marcia McFee and used with permission from Worship Design Studios, Inc. We thank Tatiana Loisha for joining us as an accompanist today.

Take Note!

- We look forward to seeing you for our **Christmas Eve services** at 5:00pm (worship leadership by children and youth) and 9:00pm (worship leadership by our choir and brass quartet)!
- Next Sunday, December 28th, we will have our annual Pajama Zoom service at 10am, with **no in-person worship**. Let the church office know if you don't receive regular church emails and need the zoom link!
- Registration for our **MLK Day Rise Against Hunger** event is live! Our annual service event in which we pack 25,000 meals for places experiencing hunger crises is scheduled for Monday, January 19th. Volunteers of all ages and abilities are needed to help with the different steps of this assembly-line-style effort. You may choose a time slot (set up, first packing shift, second packing shift, and/or clean up) and register via the QR Code below. We are also grateful for donations to help us make our \$4000 fundraising goal to purchase the meal components. You may donate via check, online donation, or as part of your registration.

Staff Contacts

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Rise
Against
Hunger
Sign-Up



@lovingallneighbors



NBUMC Weekly Podcast



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