

# *Mt. Zion United Church of Christ*

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Rev. Danielle E. Neff, Senior Pastor

Rev. Amy Northridge, Transitional Minister

Mr. Denny Daugherty, Adult Choir Director & Tech Director

Mr. Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church Administrator

Christmas Cantata

10:30 AM

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## *Make Ready: Give Love The Candle of Love*

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS JOYS & CONCERNS**

#### **SCRIPTURE**

*Isaiah 40: 1-5*

#### **ANTHEM**

*Prepare the Way of the Lord*

by Rowan

#### **INTRODUCTION<sup>1</sup>**

Matt & Tami Grimes

#### **ANTHEM**

*Come Lord of Love*

by Page & Shafferman

### **CALL TO WORSHIP & LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF HOPE<sup>2</sup>**

Leader: "Make ready! We're going to have a Savior!" Let us prepare for His presence.

**Congregation: Make ready our spirits to be a gift, a presence in someone's life this Advent season.**

Leader: Make ready! The Prince of Peace invites us to experience the peace He gives.

**Congregation: Make ready our hearts to share the peace of Christ with those whose hearts are filled with turmoil.**

Leader: Make ready to share the joy of this holy season.

**Congregation: Make ready our voices to lift joyful praise to God so that the earth rings with the sound of celebratory songs.**

Leader: Make ready to be wrapped in God's love as Mary swaddled God's only Son.

**Congregation: Make ready! God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son...not to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. Today we light the candle of Love.**

**HYMN NO. 213** (UM Hymnal, see p. 5)

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

## **TIME OF CONFESSION**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All: God you have called us to be a people set apart, but too often we spend much of our energy conforming the trappings of this world rather than opening our hearts to your presence. We confess our holiday plans are full of planning, coordinating, and budgeting but lack space for reflection and preparation. We jump to celebration without preparing ourselves for the One we are celebrating. Help us to prepare our hearts to receive you as we anticipate Christ's arrival and eventual return. May our hearts be wide open to receive your love and grace revealed to us, and help us to actively make ready, ourselves, to live out that love more fully each day. Forgive us for being complacent when we focus more on our own plans than making our hearts ready to follow where you lead us; for sometimes not hearing your knock on the door of our hearts amid the hustle and bustle. Help us to make room in our hearts for you to abide with us so that our whole spirit, soul, and body are fully dedicated to you and ready to be your disciples.**

**ACT OF PRAISE** (vs. 1 & 3 see p. 6)

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

**ALL: Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see, Christ whose birth the angels sing.  
Come adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**CHILDREN'S BELL CHOIR**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Traditional

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE & BOX OPENING**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** (sung by Denny Daugherty)

*Born on that Day*

by Maher

**SPECIAL MUSIC** (sung by Catie Kiefer & Caitlin Damon)

*Here With Us* by Williams

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL:** 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**HYMN** (see p. 7)

*Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light*

**ANTHEM**

*Love Has Come*

arr. Larson

**ANTHEM**

*Is There Room In Your Heart for a King?*

by Stewart & Hayes

**HYMN NO. 102** (BH, see p. 8)

*O How Shall I Receive You*

**ANTHEM**

*Love Came Down at Christmas*

by Burrows

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Thank you to our Advent team for decorating our altar and planning our worship for this season. The Advent team members include Cindy Hogentogler, Lana Fritz, Connie Wolfe, Melissa Shindler, Deb Herlocker, Pastor Danielle, Denny Daugherty, & Travis Pinci. Also, thank you to the Dallam family for setting up the lights on the altar and to Jodi Bender for staining the wood! A special thanks to Lee Brown for his donation of our Christmas tree and wreaths!

<sup>1</sup> Pre-recorded voices: Matt & Tami Grimes, text written by Cindy Hogentogler

<sup>2</sup>Written by Deb Herlocker

*Thank you to all who participated in the Cantata!*

**Worship Choir**

**Soprano**

Debbie Butcher  
Lana Fritz  
Cindy Hogentogler  
Barb Neff

**Alto**

Brenda Beyer  
Helen Burns  
Paula Strayer

**Tenor**

David Firestone  
Mike Gibbs

**Bass**

Tom Bair  
Braden Bicher

**Choir Director**

Denny Daugherty

**Accompanist**

Travis Pinci

**Special Musicians**

Caitlin Damon

Denny Daugherty

Catie Keifer

**Children's Bell Choir**

Jack Bicher	Hayden McCarthy
Benjamin Damon	Macey McCarthy
Caitlin Damon	Leyla Morcos
Mason Damon	
Addie Bickleman	

**Tech Team**

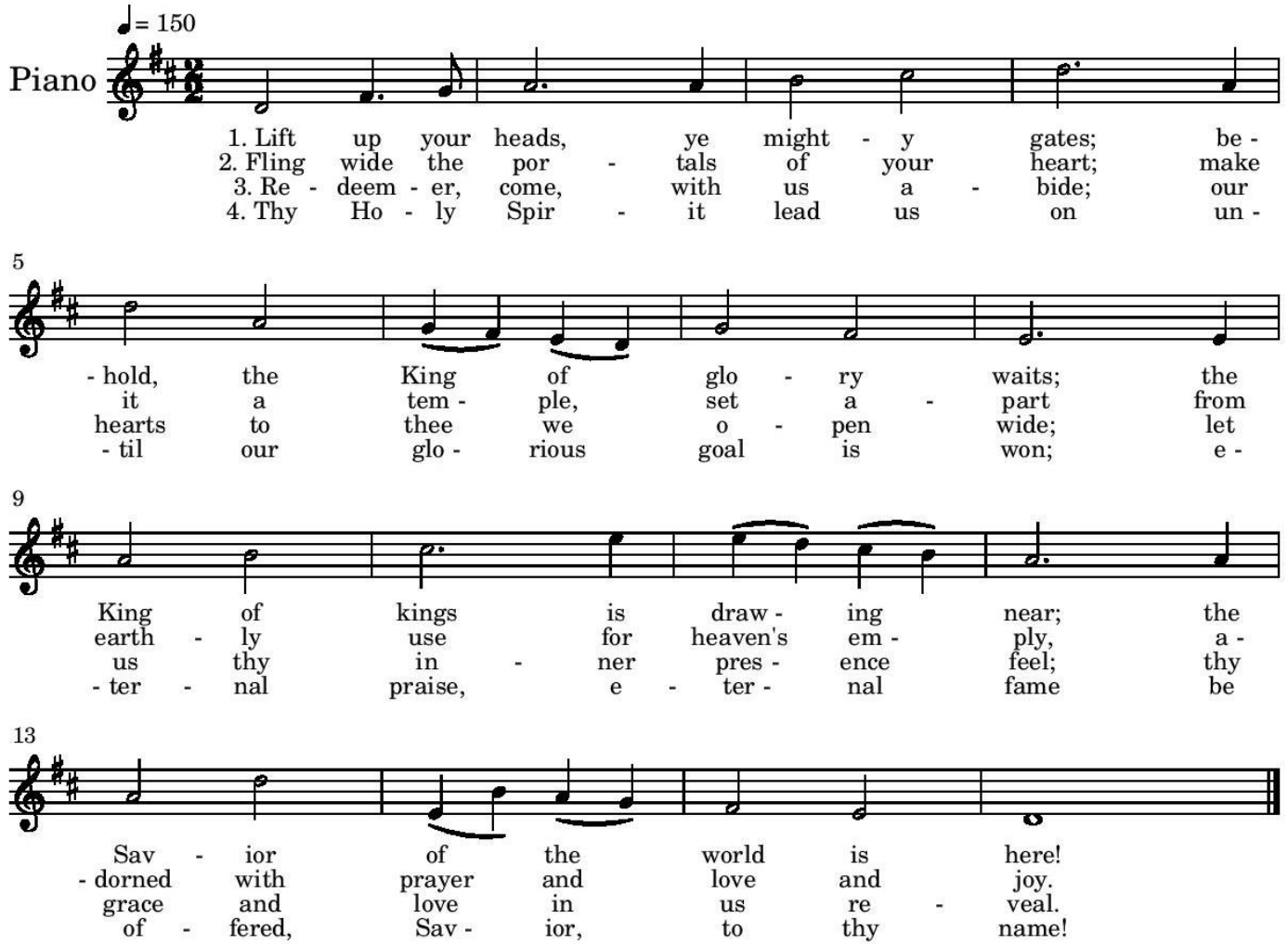
Elaine Bevivino	Jack Herlocker
Jim Firestone	John Kollasch

**Welcome Team**

Tori Everhart	Barb Stebbins
Tammy Gordon	

# Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Piano  $\text{♩} = 150$



1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be -  
 2. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make  
 3. Re - deem - er, come, with us a - bide; our  
 4. Thy Ho - ly Spir - it lead us on un -

5  
 - hold, the King of glo - ry waits; the  
 it a tem - ple, set a - part from  
 hearts to thee we o - pen wide; let  
 - til our glo - rious goal is won; e -

9  
 King of kings is draw - ing near; the  
 earth - ly use for heaven's em - ply, a -  
 us thy in - ner pres - ence feel; thy  
 - ter - nal praise, e - ter - nal fame be

13  
 Sav - ior of the world is here!  
 - dorned with prayer and love and joy,  
 grace and love in us and re - veal.  
 of - fered, Sav - ior, to thy name!

# Angels We Have Heard on High

Piano  $\text{♩} = 80$

1. An-gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing-ing  
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Christ whose birth the

4

o'er the plains, and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their  
an - gels sing; come, a - dore on bend - ed knee, Christ the Lord the

8

joy - ous strains Glo -  
new - born King.

12

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo -

16

ri - a, in ex - cel - sis

20

De - o.

# Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Piano  $\text{♩} = 150$

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music. Each system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The piano part is a simple harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are provided below the vocal line. There are fermatas over the notes 'ing.' and 'ing.' in the first and fifth systems.

1. Break forth O beau-te-ous heav-enly light and ush - er in the  
2. Break forth O beau-te-ous heav-enly light to her - ald our sal -

5  
morn - ing. O shep-herds shud - der not with fright but hear the an - gel's  
- va - tion. He stoops to earth the God of might our hope and ex - pec -

9  
warn - ing. This child now weak in in - fan - cy our con - fi - dence and  
- ta - tion. He comes in hu - man flesh to dwell our God with us Im -

13  
joy shall be the power of Sa - tan break - ing our peace e - ter - nal  
- man - u - el the night of dark-ness end - ing our fal - len race be -

17  
mak - ing.  
friend - ing.

# O How Shall I Receive You

Piano 

1. O how shall I re - ceive you, how  
2. Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love  
3. You come, O Christ, with glad - ness, in

4 

meet you on your way, blessed hope of ev - ery peo - ple my  
brought you un - to me; your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro -  
mer - cy and good - will, to bring an end to sad - ness and

8 

soul's de - light and stay? O Je - sus, Je - sus, give me now  
- cured my lib - er - ty. O love be - yond all tell - ing, that  
bid our fears be still. In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we

12 

by your own pure light, to know what - e'er is plea - sing and  
led you to em - brace in love, all loves ex - cel - ling, our  
live for that great day when a re - newed cre - a - tion your

16 

wel - come in your sight.  
lost and fall - en race.  
glo - ry shall dis - play.



