



# DOUGLAS UCC

A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

**Order of Service for Sunday, December 26, 2021**

**First Sunday after Christmas**

**\*- stand if you wish to, and are able.**

**Thank you for joining us today.**

For Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Prayer List, [visit this week's E-Pistle here](#), where you can also subscribe to receive it by email, if you like:

**Prelude**, *Do You Hear What I Hear?*, Peter Black

*(Please use this time for quiet reflection and preparation for worship)*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Lighting of Altar Candles & Ringing in the Hour**

Let us recognize the light of the world within us and ring in the hour of worship.

**Introit** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (Black New Century Hymnal, 133)

**O little town of Bethlehem how still we see you lie**

**Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.**

**Yet in they dark streets shines forth, the everlasting light,**

**The hope and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight**

**For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above**

**While mortals sleep and angels keep their watch of wondering love**

**O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth**

**And praises sing and voices ring with peace to all on earth.**

**Call to Worship** Psalm 148

**Reader: Lynne Snyder**

One: Praise God! Praise God from the heavens;

**Many: Praise God! Praise God in the heights!**

One: Praise God, you sun and moon;

**Many: Praise God, all you shining stars!**

One: Praise God, you highest heavens;

**Many: Praise God, you waters above the heavens!**

One: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

**Many: Beasts of the forest and all cattle, crawling things and flying birds!**

One: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

**Many: Let us praise God whose name alone is exalted; Praise be to God!**

**\*Opening Hymn,**

*'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime*

(Black New Century Hymnal No.151)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

**Unison Prayer**

Still-Creating God, you make all things new and you hold out a new day and a new year for us. Yet, how often we squander the opportunities, letting our doubts overwhelm us, letting our troubles bind us, letting our fears stop us? You offer us new dreams, and we succumb to old weaknesses; you offer us hope, and we choose the comfortable. Forgive us, O God, and fill us with the joy of living and the spirit of giving as we approach the new year. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Master Teacher. Amen.

**Assurance of Grace and Peace**

One: Peace be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

**\*Passing the Peace** *Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child* (NC 136)

*Jesus, Jesus, O what a wonderful child.*

*Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild.*

*New life, new hope, the child will bring, listen to the angels sing*

*Glory, glory glo-ry let the heavens ring. (Repeat)*

### **Words of Integration & Guidance** by Syma Kharal

The end of the year is much more than a time of shopping, errands, and gatherings. It is a sacred time infused with light, holding the possibility for bright new beginnings as we consciously close the door to the past. It is a time when God gifts us with a bridge to leave behind what no longer serves us and to cross over onto a new and illuminated path. Before going forward, it is important to take this time to reflect on the ups and downs of the closing year. Give thanks for all the wonderful experiences that enriched your life and your soul. It's time to also think about the relationships, situations, and patterns that gave you a lot of grief—whether that showed up as anger, resentment, judgment, scarcity, anxiety, or any other form of negativity. Whenever we let something go, we create room for something new to enter. After releasing old emotional baggage, we are now ready to consciously create a blissful beginning for the year ahead. Let us pray, *“Loving God, I surrender to you all that no longer serves me for healing, cleansing, and purification. Align my vision that I may see everything from your enlightened perspective and move forward with wisdom, grace, strength, and love. Amen.”*

## **All Things New**

### **The Words of Holy Scripture**

One: A Reading of Scripture from 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel Lesson**

One: The Holy Gospel according to Luke 2:41-52

Many: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Homily** "Making All Things New!" Rev. Salvatore Sapienza

**Offering & Offertory** *"I Will Never Be (the Same Again)"*  
Jeff Spangler & Peter Black  
Composer: Geoff Bullock

**Joys & Concerns/Tibetan Prayer Bell**

One: Thanks be to God!

**Many: Alleluia!**

One: O God,

**Many: Hear our prayer.**

**\*Doxology** *O Come All Ye Faithful (NC 135)*

*O Come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him, born the king of angels.  
O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

**\*Celebration of Holy Communion**

One: God be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**Many: We lift them up to God.**

One: Let us give thanks to God.

**Many: It is good to give God thanks & praise**

**\*Creation's Praise** *Angels We Have Heard on High (New Century Hymnal, 125)*

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply, echo back their joyous strains  
Glo - - ria, in excelsis Deo, Glo - - ria in excelsis Deo.*

*(Please be seated)*

## **Sharing of the Bread & Cup**

Receive the Bread of Life. **Amen.**

The Cup of Love, the Drink of Compassion. **Amen.**

## **New Life, New Hope**

### **\*The Lord's Prayer**

Our Mother/Father, always and everywhere, 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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.  
Amen.

**\*Hymn of Sending** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*  
*(Black New Century Hymnal No.144)*  
*(Find Music at the End of this Program)*

### **\*Benediction**

**Postlude** *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*, Peter Black

Have a great week! Keep up with the Douglas UCC community  
and the work of our service groups here:

[www.douglasucc.org](http://www.douglasucc.org)

<https://www.youtube.com/douglasucc>

<https://www.facebook.com/douglasucc>

<https://www.instagram.com/douglasucc>

## 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

Matt. 1:23; Luke 2:11

Jean de Brébeuf, c. 1643

Transl. Jesse Edgar Middleton, 1926; alt.

*(Flute, bells, or voice)*

Unison

1 'Twas in the moon of win-ter-time, when all the birds had fled, that  
 2 With - in a lodge of bro-ken bark the ten-der babe was found; a  
 3 The ear-liest moon of win-ter-time is not so round and fair as  
 4 O chil-dren of the for-est free, O seed of Man - i - tou, the

might-y Git - chi Man - i - tou sent an - gel choirs in - stead; Be -  
 rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en - wrapped his beau - ty round; But  
 was the ring of glo - ry on the help - less in - fant there. The  
 ho - ly Child of earth and heaven is born to - day for you. Come

fore their light the stars grew dim, and won-dering hunt-ers heard the hymn:  
 as the hunt-er braves drew nigh, the an - gel song rang loud and high:  
 chiefs from far be-fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea-ver pelt.  
 kneel be - fore the ra - diant Child, who brings you beau - ty, peace, so mild.



## Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Luke 2:10-11, 25-32; 24:46-51;  
1 Thess. 4:13-18; Isa. 60:19-20

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the Christ-child bring;  
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ the ev - er - last - ing Lord!  
3 Hail the Bear - er of God's peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous-ness,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ner rec - on - ciled!"  
Late in time the Sav - ior comes, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life our Sav - ior brings, risen with ra - diant, heal - ing wings.

Joy - ful, all you saints a - rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh, the God-head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,  
Mild - ly lay - ing glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

With the an - gel host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased on earth with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.  
Born to raise us all from earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

CHRISTMAS

*Refrain*

Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the Christ-child bring!"

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The music is written in a simple, homophonic style. The lyrics are placed between the two staves, aligned with the notes. The first staff contains the melody, and the second staff contains the bass line. The lyrics are: "Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing, 'Glo-ry to the Christ-child bring!'"