

| COMMUNION |
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| Come and receive of the feast that Jesus offers those who follow him. During this time, we remember Jesus’ sacrifice and are nourished by his Body that was broken on the cross for us and Blood that was poured out for the sins of many. There are also members of the congregation and Prayer Team available for prayer along the back wall during and after communion. |

HOW DEEP THE FATHER’S LOVE FOR US

TOWNEND

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| How deep the Father's love for us | It was my sin that left him there |
| How vast beyond all measure | Until it was accomplished |
| That he should give his only Son | His dying breath has brought me life |
| To make a wretch his treasure | I know that it is finished |
| How great the pain of searing loss | |
| The Father turns his face away | I will not boast in anything |
| As wounds which mar the chosen one | No gifts, no power, no wisdom |
| Bring many sons to glory | But I will boast in Jesus Christ |
| | His death and resurrection |
| | Why should I gain from his reward |
| | I cannot give an answer |
| | But this I know with all my heart |
| | His wounds have paid my ransom |

Written by Stuart Townend ©1995 Thankyou Music (EMI) CCLI 1558110

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

KING JOHN/WADE

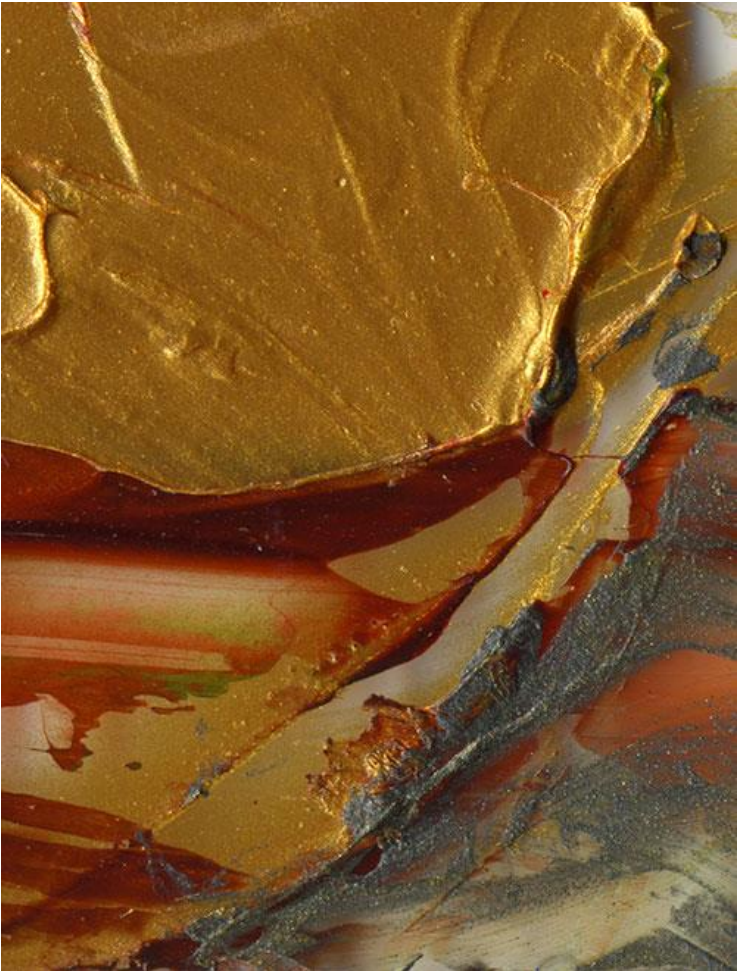
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|--|--|
| O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant | Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation |
| O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem | O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above |
| Come and behold him, born the King of angels | Glory to God, all glory in the highest |

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him
O come, let us adore him, Chris the Lord

Lyrics by John Francis Wade (1751) and by King John IV of Portugal (Public Domain)

| UPCOMING www.allgather.org/calendar | CONTACT | GIVING REPORT www.allgather.org/giving |
|---|--|---|
| December 14: Children's Christmas Performance | | |
| December 24: Joint Christmas Eve Service with Oak Church | | |
| For more details on all our December events, please visit: http://www.allgather.org/christmas-at-gathering-church/ | Office at Hamilton Centre 1415 W NC54 Ste 114 Durham, NC 27707 | 2014 Budget Goal: \$360,000 |
| December Potluck Plan: we will have just one, big potluck this month, on Dec. 14. Please plan ahead to participate! | p919.797.2884 f919.908.1171 | |
| During the month of December, we are accepting nominations for Leadership Team members . To nominate someone, please fill out a ballot at the back table. You may nominate more than one person. You can also nominate someone by visiting: http://www.allgather.org/nominate/ | @allgather @markacuff #seriousjoygc | 2014 YTD Through Nov: \$269,106 |
| Fill out a blue card to receive our church-wide midweek email keeping you abreast of news and opportunities. | Access a password-protected Church Directory at: www.allgather.org/info/directory/ | |

December 7, 2014
Luke 1:67-79



Prepare, by Jan Richardson

Second Sunday of Advent

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.

-Charles Wesley

COME DOWN, O LOVE DIVINE

Come down, O love divine
Seek thou this soul of mine
And visit it with thine own ardor glowing
O Comforter, draw near
Within my heart appear
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing

GENTLE WOLVES

Let holy charity
Mine outward vesture be
And lowliness become mine inner clothing
True lowliness of heart
Which takes the humbler part
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing

O let it freely burn
Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming
And let thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming

And so the yearning strong
With which the soul will long
Shall far outpass the power of human telling
For none can guess its grace
Till love create a place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling

Lyrics – Bianco de Siena (1434) Music – arr. by Gentle Wolves (2011)

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

KING JOHN/WADE

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

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
 O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above
 Glory to God, all glory in the highest

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord

Jesus, to thee be glory given
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing

Lyrics by John Francis Wade (1751) and by King John IV of Portugal (Public Domain)

WELCOME

Welcome to the Gathering Church. We are a church that is growing in doing three things well: being present to God in worship, being connected to each other in community, and being engaged in the world by serving and sharing God's love. Thank you for gathering this morning to worship the Lord.

HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS SING

WESLEY/MENDELSSOHN

Hark, the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful, all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With the angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark, the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Hail the incarnate deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark, the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace
Hail the Son of Righteousness
Light and life to all he brings
Ris'n with healing in his wings
Mild he lays his glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark, the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see

Written by Charles Wesley (Lyrics) 1739 and Felix Mendelssohn (Music) 1840 (Public Domain)

THE FIRST NOEL

WESLEY/PRICHARD

The first noel, the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep
Noel, noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel

This star drew nigh to the northwest
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest
And there it did both pause and stay
Right o'er the place where Jesus lay
Noel, noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night
Noel, noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made heaven and earth of nought
And with his blood mankind has bought
Noel, noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel

Traditional English Christmas Carol "The First Nowell" (Public Domain)

BROKEN VESSELS

HOUSTON/MYRIN

All these pieces broken and scattered
In mercy gathered mended and whole
Empty handed but not forsaken
I've been set free, I've been set free

Oh I can see you now
Oh I can see the love in your eyes
Laying yourself down
Raising up the broken to life

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I am found
Was blind but now I see

You take our failure, you take our weakness
 You set your treasure in jars of clay
 So take this heart Lord, I'll be your vessel
 The world to see your life in me

Written by Joel Houston, Jonas Myrin © 2014 Hillsong Music Publishing CCLI #7019974

DISMISSAL OF THE CHILDREN & THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

SERMON NOTES

[Something I have learned.]

[Something I will share.]