

Second Sunday of Advent

THE *Heart* OF
CHRISTMAS

Embracing the passion of those who lived the story

Words and Music

By

Pepper Choplin

Wallace Presbyterian Chancel Choir

December 7, 2025

11 O'clock Worship

WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Second Sunday of Advent/P.A.T.H. Offering

Welcome

Elder Devan Riley

(During this time the friendship pads are passed to be signed.)

Prelude

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

arr. Mark Hayes

Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Announcements

Choral Call to Worship

“Come Emmanuel”

James Chepponis

Come, come Emmanuel. Come Emmanuel.

Lighting the Candles of Hope and Peace:

Hattie B, John-Ward, and Windsor Farrior

*Hymn #82

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Robert H. Lapp

Merciful God, there are days when we lose our way. We forget, or simply don't trust your vision for the world and fail to bear good fruit in our lives. Forgive us and remind us that we are yours. Teach us how to live in peace with ourselves and our neighbors. Help us proclaim your message of hope as we continue our journey to Bethlehem. Amen.

*Responsive Assurance of Pardon

Friends, the God of steadfast love encourages us to continue in the faith. Rejoice, for our God brings forgiveness and healing.

Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Patri

“Glory Be to the Father”

Hymn #581



PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

The Heart of Christmas

Embracing the passion of those who lived the story

A Christmas Cantata

By Pepper Choplin

The Wallace Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir

Advent Procession in Blue

Come prepare the way, make the desert highway straight. Prepare the way of the Lord. Come prepare the way, every valley shall be raised. Every mountain shall be made low. Prepare the way of the Lord. 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. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art. Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh of the world together shall see, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

With Open Hearts

With open hearts, we are waiting. With open hearts, now we pray. In our quietness, we are calling, "Lord, come to us. Lord, come to us today." Emmanuel, O come, Emmanuel, and quench our thirsty souls. Emmanuel, O come, Emmanuel, and make our spirits whole. Our prayer is the same as the meaning of Your name, "God be with us." Lord, come and touch our open hearts 'til our open hearts are full. To the wounded hearts, come and heal them. Let the grieving hearts be consoled. With open hearts, we wait for you.

So Let It Be

Adlyn Casteen, solo

I heard the words of the angel: "Hail, O blessed one. The Lord is surely with you. Now do not be afraid. For you have found God's favor and you will bear a Son." As I listened to the angel, I was moved to say: "May the things you say come to pass. I will obey and do whatever you ask. Your kingdom come, let Your will be done through me. So let it be." You shall call Him Jesus, the Son of the Most High and He shall reign forever, His Kingdom shall never end. So let us be like Mary with a pure and willing heart. So when we hear you calling, we will answer, "Lord, here we are." May the things you say come to pass. I will obey and do whatever you ask. Your kingdom come, let your will be done through me. So let it be.

Joseph, Strong and Faithful Man

Devan Riley, solo

Joseph, Joseph, have you heard the news? Mary is with child, now, what will you do? Will you be noble, and let compassion flow, save her disgrace and quietly let her go? The angel came to Joseph and told him in a dream, "The things they say of Mary are not quite as they seem. The child she carries is divine, full of holy life. Rise up and take dear Mary to be your wedded wife." Joseph, Joseph, will you obey, though you are tempted to turn and walk away? Will you have the courage to live this holy plan and prove what it means to be a strong and faithful man? Then Joseph went to Mary and took her as his wife. And they set out in Bethlehem to begin a fresh new life. Brothers, brothers, what will you do? Sometimes it's hard to be noble and true. When you are tempted to live another plan, prove what it means to be a strong and faithful man. Follow Joseph, strong and faithful man.

From the Heart of God

From the heart of God, love overflowed to earth when holy love came down, a child was born in Bethlehem. For God so loved the world, He gave His own begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should have eternal life and love. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where He lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay. Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

Joy on the Mountain

Let there be joy on the mountain, singing in the valley. Join the holy hosts of angels shouting, "Christ the Lord is born." Shepherds on the hillside, watching all their sheep, everyone is weary, but there will be no sleep. Angels down from heaven bring the news to earth: A child is born, now celebrate His birth. When the shepherds heard the angels, they went into town. They followed their directions and when the child was found, they were so happy when they had seen the boy, they went out shouting for joy. Glory to God, peace on the earth. Christ the Lord is born! Lift up your voice and sing for joy!

Star of Heaven

As the sun falls on the horizon and surrenders to the night, through the blueness of the evening comes a star of kingly light. Set among the constellations, it rules the eastern skies. We're enraptured by its beauty as the wonder fills our eyes. O star of heaven, lead us forward, fill the darkness of our world with your bright celestial pearl of holy light. You're calling, "Come and worship, bow before Him, bring the gifts of love and praise underneath the holy rays of light." We are filled with anticipation, moving closer all the while. We'll express our adoration as we come before the Child. Fill us with your holy light.

Arise and Shine

Arise and shine, for now your light has come, and see the glory of the Lord. When darkness comes and covers all the earth, covers all the people of the world, the Lord shall rise, His glory shall appear unto you. Lift up your eyes and you will see them come, all the nations coming unto you. And when you see, your face will shine, your heart shall thrill and rejoice! Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing. Arise and shine, your light has come! Arise and see the glory of the Lord. Arise and shine!

The Heart of Christmas

Pepper Choplin, composer

Robert Lapp, narrator

Susan Carone, narrator

Parker Thompson, narrator

Vera Coombs, accompanist

Karla Casteen, director

WPC Chancel Choir

**Clint Ayers
Lou Brinkley
Linda Burroughs
Adlyn Casteen
Clara Casteen
Wayne Casteen
Sandy Cobb
Madelyn Coombs
Marney Crayton
Susie Gaus
Geneva Maready**

**Greg Maready
Emory Landen Patrum
Donna Pigford
Glenn Price
Devan Riley
Hollis Skidmore
Stanley Skidmore
Chuck Slemenda
Carol Steen
Jan Zoesch**



GIVING THANKS TO GOD

Prayers of the People with the Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

P.A.T.H. (Presbyterian Answer to Hunger) Offering

Offertory **“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”** arr. Mark Hayes
By thine own sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

*Doxology **“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”** Hymn #606

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #147 (vs. 1-4) **“The First Nowell”** THE FIRST NOWELL

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction	“Arise and Shine”	Pepper Choplin
	<i>Arise and shine, your light has come!</i>	
	<i>Arise and see the glory of the Lord. Arise and shine!</i>	

*Postlude *All who are able may stand



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 7	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
	9:00 am	Choir Practice
	9:45 am	Adult Sunday School Class
	9:45 am	Officer Training, Blue Room
	10:00 am	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 am	Fellowship Time
	11:00 am	Worship/Cantata-The Heart of Christmas
	5:00 pm	Cub Scouts, Pack 35
Tuesday, December 9	10:30 am	Morning Circle, Fellowship Hall
	6:00 pm	Evening Circle, Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, December 10	10:00 am	Bible Study, Room 304 (Matthew 11:2-11)
	6:00 pm	Handbells
Thursday, December 11	12:05 pm	Community Advent Service & Luncheon

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Today we will** receive our quarterly **Presbyterians Answer to Hunger (PATH) Offering**. This offering supports the Hunger Program of the Presbytery which includes feeding programs for children in Haiti and Malawi along with support of local food pantries including our Helping Hands Food Pantry.
- **Advent Wreaths:** If you would like to make a donation toward the expense of an Advent Wreath or other church decorations, please fill out an envelope provided in the pew pockets in honor of or in memory of a friend or loved one, and put it in the offering plate today (December 4 & next Sunday, December 11). A list with the names of those being honored will be in the Bulletin on December 14 and December 21. Thank you!
- **Advent Photo Project** - Please help us express the meaning of Advent with your photographs depicting the themes of the Advent candles (see schedule). Your pictures will be shown after the lighting of the candle. Please submit your photographs to Sandy Cobb (sandycobb54@gmail.com) or Karla Casteen (karla.casteen@gmail.com). Submissions need to be received no later than the Tuesday before the Sunday they will be shared in worship.
- **Reverse Advent Calendar** - Instead of opening a door and taking out a treat, place a grocery item into a bag. There are bags with a list of requested items available at the back of the sanctuary and in Gladden Hall. Once the bag is full, donate it to our Helping Hands Food Pantry.
- **St. Nicholas Project:** WPC will be sponsoring four families again this year. Please pick tags from the tree in fellowship hall and bring the wrapped packages with the tags from the tree on them back to fellowship hall by Sunday, December 14.



The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the Glory of God by Bill and Susan Walters.

Stewardship – In response to the gospel of Jesus Christ, we offer our gifts to God. Thank you for your generosity to the mission and ministry of WPC.





DECEMBER



12/07: Lindsay & Hayes Skidmore
12/14: Mary Laine & Jason Rouse

Charley Farrior, Head
Joyce Ange Hayes Ludlum
David Long

OPENING CHURCH BUILDING

December 1-15: Hayes Ludlum
December 16-31: Dave Long

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

12/07: Sara Matthews
12/14: No Children's Church



COMMUNITY ADVENT SERVICES
Wallace Presbyterian Church
Worship Service: 12:05 P.M.
Luncheon: 12:30 P.M.

THURSDAY, December 11, 2025

*Special Program of Christmas Music.....*Karla Casteen and Vera Simpson
*Organist.....*Vera Simpson

THURSDAY, December 18, 2025

*Speaker.....*Rev. Dr. Martha Highsmith
*Special Music.....*Attie Carlton Handbell Choir
Pianist..... Karla Casteen



Second Sunday of Advent, December 7: Light the Candle of **Peace** and the Chancel Choir presents "The Heart of Christmas".

Third Sunday of Advent, December 14: Light the Candle of **Joy** and the children and youth present "A Super Christmas".

4th Sunday of Advent, December 21: Light the Candle of **Love** and light candles to remember our grief and sorrows on the longest night of the year, and receive **The Christmas Joy Offering**.

Christmas Eve, December 24: Light the **Christ Candle** and celebrate the birth of Christ with our Candlelight Communion Service.