

4. He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Benediction .....Dr. Dew

Postlude ..... Clay Whittington  
*Hail to the Lord's Anointed* by Gesangbuch der H. W. k. Hofkapelle



**Thank you for your continued support of Spilman Memorial Baptist Church during this time!**

### Announcements

Dec 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>  
Dec 28<sup>th</sup>

Church Office Closed  
Last tithes offering deposit for year

### Music Credits

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# SPILMAN MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

**Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 20, 2020**



**We will be broadcasting via Facebook Live from the Sanctuary at 10:30 a.m.**

**601 Madison Avenue, Kinston, NC 28501**

**[www.spilmanbaptist.org](http://www.spilmanbaptist.org)  
[info@spilmanbaptist.org](mailto:info@spilmanbaptist.org)**

**252.522.3011**

*The Worship of God – December 20, 2020*  
*Fourth Sunday of Advent – Faith and Love*

**COMMUNION WITH GOD**

Meditation and Silent Prayer

Prelude ..... Clay Whittington  
*Away in a Manger with "Brahms' Lullaby"* by Arr. Tom Fetteke

Welcome, Announcements, and Concerns .....Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr.

**PRAISE AND ADORATION**

Call to Worship ..... Hymn 88  
*Hark the Herald Angels Sing* by Felix Mendelssohn

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild;  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Refrain:*

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King."

2. 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 God-head see,  
Hail th'incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with men to dwell,  
Jesus our Immanuel.

*Refrain*

3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun 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.

*Refrain*

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation ..... Dr. Dew

Hymn of Birth.....Hymn 85  
*The First Nowell* a Traditional Christmas Carol

1. The first Nowell the angel 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.

*Refrain:*

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.

2. For all to see there was 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.

*Refrain*

3. And by the light of that same star  
The wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.

*Refrain*

4. Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord  
Who hath made heav'n and earth of naught,  
And with His blood mankind hath bought.

*Refrain*

## WORSHIP THROUGH WORD AND PRAYER

Lighting of the Advent Candle .....Dr. Dew

Scripture Reading ..... Luke 2:1-20

Prayer of Intercession ..... Dr. Dew

**(Please review our prayer list and pray for those listed.)**



God's Promises Fulfilled

Theme: Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promise.

Object: A wedding ring, a letter in an envelope ready for mailing, a credit card

Scripture: *The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."* Luke 4:20-21 (NIV)

People make promises every day. Sometimes we give something to another person as a sign of our promise, sometimes we sign our name to seal our promise, other times we just give our word to another person that we will do something.

I'm sure you have all seen a ring like this. (Show the wedding ring.) When a man and woman get married, they usually make promises to one another. They say something like, "I promise to love you for better or worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health as long as we both shall live." Then they exchange rings as a symbol of that promise.

This is an ordinary letter like the ones we receive in our mail box every day. Right in the middle is the name and address of the person for whom it is intended. What do you see up here in the corner of the envelope? Right! It is a stamp. When the Postal Service sells you this stamp and you put it on a letter, it represents their promise to deliver it to the person to whom the envelope is addressed. It doesn't matter if it

is cloudy or sunny, raining or snowing, hot or cold, the mail gets delivered. That is the promise that this stamp represents.

You are too young to have a credit card, but one day you probably will. Most adults have a credit card which they use to buy things. When you buy something using your credit card, you have to sign a ticket. When you sign the ticket, you are promising that you will pay for the items you purchased using the credit card. Your signature is your promise.

People make promises every day. Do they always keep their promises? Unfortunately, some people don't. God makes promises too. The Bible is full of God's promises. Does God always keep his promises? Yes he does! One of my favorite verses in the Bible is one that says, "For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. (2 Cor. 1:20) That is what our Bible lesson teaches us today.

Jesus was in the city of Nazareth on the Sabbath day so he did what he always did on the Sabbath. He went to the synagogue. He stood up and began to read the words of the prophet Isaiah from the scripture. He read where it says, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the Lord's favor has come."

When he had finished reading, he sat down. All eyes were on Jesus. Then he began to speak to them. "The scripture that you have just heard read has been fulfilled this very day!" Jesus came to earth to fulfill the promises of God. All of God's promises are fulfilled in him.

Wouldn't it be great if you and I were as faithful in keeping our promises to God as he is in keeping his promises to us?

*Our Father in heaven, thank you for your faithfulness in keeping your promises. Help us to be faithful in keeping our promises to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

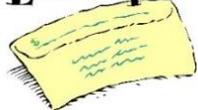
## WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC AND GIVING

Hymn of Birth..... Hymn 86

*O Little Town of Bethlehem* by Lewis H. Redner

1. O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary,  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth!
3. How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessing of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him still  
The dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
Be born in us today!  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Immanuel!

### Offering Envelopes



**Enclosed is a general offering envelope for your convenience if you wish to mail in your offering.**

## WORSHIP THROUGH PROCLAMATION



### Three Christian Sermons

By Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr.

Luke 2:1-20

(See Enclosed Sermon)

Special Music ..... Clay Whittington

*Mary, Did You Know?* By Mark Lowry

*The Shepherd's Song (God With Us)*

By Craig Felker, Michael Farren, & Joel Purdy

*While You Were Sleeping* by Mark Hall

## WORSHIP THROUGH COMMITMENT

Hymn of Birth.....Hymn 87

*Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come* by George Frederick Handel

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.