

Traditional Worship Service

Messiah

December 15, 2024

Heart the Grew Three Sizes

Length
in mins

5:00 **Prelude**

1:30 **Live Stream Startup**

5:00 **Welcome & Announcements**
Cody

1:00 **Call To Worship**
Cody Anderson

Leader: This morning, we gather to celebrate the joy the fills our hearts during this Advent season.
People: This joy reminds us of the glad tidings that Christ brings to our lives.
Leader: Even in the midst of challenges, we choose to rejoice in God's goodness and grace.
People: Our hearts are filled with joy as we reflect on the love and light of Christ!
Leader: Come, let us worship the God of joy who brings us gladness and celebration!
People: We come to worship with joyful hearts, ready to share the good news!

3:00 **Opening Song**
"Angels We Have Heard On High" UMH #238

1:00 **Lighting of Advent Candles**
Candle Lighters: The Handel family

Reader:
Hear these words from Luke 2:10-11:
But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

This passage speaks to the joy that the birth of Jesus brings to all people. The joy that transformed the Grinch's heart is akin to the joy that the angels proclaimed at Jesus' birth. Both reflect the idea that true joy comes from love and relationships rather than material possessions.

As we light the third candle of Advent, we celebrate this gift of joy. The joy of Christmas is not in the gifts we receive but in the love and connections we share.
(light 2 purple and 1 pink candles)

Prayer:
Joyful God,
We thank You for the joy that fills our hearts during this season. Just as the Grinch found joy in the love and laughter of the Whos, help us to recognize and share the joy that comes from knowing You. May this candle remind us that true joy is found in our relationships with You and with one another. Fill our hearts with joy as we celebrate the coming of our Savior.
Amen.

1:00 **Scripture Readings**
Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSV)
Laura to read

5:00 **Message**
Pastor Laura Rainwater

2:00 **Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**

**Length
in mins**

0:00 Handel's Messiah Performance

Handel's Messiah Program - Scott Nauman, Conductor

"Overture", Orchestra

"Comfort Ye My People", Soloist William Kretzer

"Ev'ry Valley Shall Be Exalted", Soloist William Kretzer

"And The Glory Of The Lord", Chorus

"And He Shall Purify", Chorus

"Behold, A Virgin Shall Conceive", Soloist Elizabeth Gore Stanley

"O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings", Soloist Karen Suppes

"For Behold, Darkness Shall Cover The Earth", Soloist Nathan Smith

"The People That Walked In The Darkness", Soloist Nathan Smith

"For Unto Us A Child Is Born", Chorus

"I Know That My Redeemer Liveth", Soloist Pearl Rutherford (Offertory)

"There Were Shepherds Abiding In The Field", Soloist Alicia Pope

"And Lo, The Angel Of The Lord Came Upon Them", Soloist Alicia Pope

"And The Angel Said Unto Them", Soloist Alicia Pope

"And Suddenly There Was With The Angel", Soloist Alicia Pope

"Glory To God", Chorus

"Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter Of Zion", Soloist Pearl Rutherford

"Then The Eyes Of The Blind Shall Be Opened", Soloist Elizabeth Gore Stanley

"He Shall Feed His Flock Like A Shepherd", Soloist Lenore Odekirk

"Hallelujah", Chorus
(Congregation Please Stand)

1:00 Offering Our Gifts to The Lord During Messiah Performance- Breakthrough Prayer

Laura to announce.

O God, we offer ourselves to you. We are your people and this is your church. Use our gifts and breakthrough in new ways as we seek to love our neighbors and be a beacon of Christ-centered hope to our community. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen

3:00 Closing Song

"Sleigh Ride" Orchestra

1:00 Benediction

2:00 Postlude

23:00