

Order of Worship
December 20, 2020
Livestreamed from the Meetinghouse

Prelude (Simon)

Welcome/Invocation/The Lord's Prayer (Carleen)

Opening Hymn #155: Once in Royal David's City (Lisa Feltes)

Announcements (Carleen)

Lighting of the Advent Candles (Nancy Moll)

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,^[a]
we were like those who dream.

² Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
"The Lord has done great things for them."

³ The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.

⁴ Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.

⁵ May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.

⁶ Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

Joel 2: 28

^[d] Then afterward

I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men shall see visions.

Matthew 1: 18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah^[1] took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son;^[1] and he named him Jesus.

Pastoral Prayer (Laura)

Invitation to the Offering (Laura)

Offertory Hymn #149: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (Lisa)

Prayer after the Offering (Laura)

Sermon: “When I Waked, I Cried to Dream Again” (Steve)

Concluding Hymn #141: The First Nowell (Lisa)

Benediction (Steve)