

Brandon Presbyterian Church

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Morning Worship

The Lord's Day, December 27, 2020

During the prelude, please prepare your heart to worship our gracious, Almighty God together.

Meditation

"O HOLY NIGHT!"

"A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices for yonder breaks a new a glorious morn!"

Prelude

JACQUELYN THORNELL, ORGANIST

"Swiss Noel" by Daquin

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship *

PSALM 8

Leader: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

People: You have set your glory above the heavens.

Leader: Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.

**People: When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,**

Leader: what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

**People: Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly
beings and crowned him with glory and honor.**

Leader: You have given him dominion over the works of your
hands; you have put all things under his feet, all sheep
and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the

heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along
the paths of the seas.

People: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Hymn of Praise *

N^o. 219

"All Praise to Thee, Eternal Lord"

1 All praise to thee, Eternal Lord, clothed in a garb of flesh and blood;
choosing a manger for thy throne, while worlds on worlds are thine
alone.

2 Once did the skies before thee bow; A Virgin's arms contain thee
now: angels who did in thee rejoice now listen for thine infant voice.

3 A little Child, thou art our Guest, that weary ones in thee may rest;
forlorn and lowly is thy birth, that we may rise to heav'n from earth.

4 Thou comest in the darksome night to make us children of the light,
to make us, in the realms divine, like thine own angels round thee
shine.

5 All this for us thy love hath done; by this to thee our love is won: for
this we tune our cheerful lays, and shout our thanks in ceaseless praise.

Invocation *

Hymn of Praise *

N^o. 225

"Once in Royal David's City"

1 Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother
laid her baby in a manger for his bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus
Christ her little child.

2 He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all, and
his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall: with the poor, and
mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

3 And through all his wondrous childhood he would honor and obey,
love and watch the lowly maiden in whose gentle arms he lay: Christian
children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.

4 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above, and he
leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

5 Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by, we shall see
him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high; when like stars his
children crowned all in white shall wait around.

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.*

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Footnotes: "descended into hell" = descended into the place of the dead, not of eternal punishment. "catholic church" = the church exists universally, not just in one culture or denomination.

Pastoral Prayer

Special Music

SOLO

Dismiss Children For Children's Church (3 & 4 year olds)

Reading of Holy Scripture

HEBREWS 1:1-2:4 (NIV)

1 ¹ In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. ³ The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. ⁴ So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will

be my Son"? ⁶ And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." ⁷ In speaking of the angels he says, "He makes his angels spirits, and his servants flames of fire." ⁸ But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom." ⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy." ¹⁰ He also says, "In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. ¹¹ They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. ¹² You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end." ¹³ To which of the angels did God ever say, "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"? ¹⁴ Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation? **2** ¹ We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. ² For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, ³ how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. ⁴ God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

Sermon

REV. WYLIE LOWRY

"Recapture the Wonder"

Hymn of Praise *

N^o 226

"As with Gladness Men of Old"

1 As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold; as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright; so, most gracious God, may we evermore be led to thee.

2 As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly cradle bed, there to bend the knee before him whom heav'n and earth adore; so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.

3 As they offered gifts most rare at that cradle rude and bare; so may we with holy joy, pure, and free from sin's alloy, all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'nly King.

4 Holy Jesus, ev'ry day keep us in the narrow way; and, when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

5 In the heav'nly country bright need they no created light; thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down; there for ever may we sing alleluias to our King.

Offertory Prayer

Doxology *

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Benediction

* Congregation Standing

Sermon Notes

Hebrews 1:1-2:4

“Recapture the Wonder”

1. Lest we drift

2. Such a great Salvation

Announcements

Office Closed: The church office will be closed Dec 29th.

Communion: Please prepare your hearts to receive the Lord's Supper on Jan 3rd.

2020 Giving: 2020 has been a very challenging year for many reasons but your heart for giving has shone through. Thank you for your faithful support of our Church with your tithes and offerings and I encourage you to continue using any giving method you prefer. For online giving, simply go to the website below. It's a website that the Presbyterian Church in America's Foundation has set up for us: <https://secure.egsnetwork.com/donate/CAA2067B89F8403>

It is best if you choose ACH (electronic bank transfer) rather than using a credit card because BPC is not currently charged a fee for ACH. If you are not comfortable with the online giving then you can continue to bring or mail your tithes to the church.

I'd also like to remind the congregation that any contributions you would like to have credited to your 2020 giving statement must be postmarked or delivered to the church before Jan 1st. If you have any questions please contact me via email: luther@brandonpres.com or (601) 209-0231.

2021 Offering Envelopes: Offering Envelopes are in the breezeway.

Flowers: 2021 calendar is on the bulletin board downstairs. If you have a date you prefer please sign up early to reserve that date.

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The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God.
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Brandon Presbyterian Church

209 South College Street, Brandon, MS 39042

Phone: (601) 825-5259 Email: secretary@brandonpres.com

www.brandonpres.com

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 AM — 12:30 PM

IN PRAYER

- **MTW Missionary of the Month:** Michael and Mary Lott (SE Asia)
 - **Ministry of the Month:** Palmer Home
 - **Shepherding Group of the Week:** Gary Morrison and John Thompson
 - **Child(ren) of the Week:** Avery Thompson
 - **College Student of the Week:** Lauren Groebe
 - God would bless us with new **conversions, visitors, families, & members.**
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- **Ken Bramlett:** still having pain in his legs and trouble with his balance.
 - **Cindy** (Julie Rogers' sister-in-law): had open heart surgery; remains in a coma due to the anesthesia; husband, Gary, is not allowed to see her due to COVID regulations; they live in WI.
 - **Jennifer & Michael McDonald** (Julie Rogers' daughter & son-in-law): both have COVID; Michael has recovered; Jennifer is better but has not regained her sense of smell and taste.
 - **Jean Beasley** (Jeanne Monsour's neighbor): moved to Select Specialty Hospital where no visitation; still requiring a lot of medicines for seizures.
 - **Cheryl Marbury** (Jeanne Monsour's sister-in-law): thankful to be making progress from her back surgery.
 - **Bob Booth:** has ALS; receiving physical, occupational and respiratory therapies, as well as, home health.
 - **Bill Glover:** still experiencing many problems due to Parkinson's; hopeful of seeing his doctor soon.
 - **Julie Rogers:** Dr. says shoulder is looking good, started physical therapy; back at work. Thanks for the prayers and help.
 - **Debbie Ford** (Beeg Ford's daughter-in-law): had heart surgery Dec 3rd.
 - **Amy Kaiser:** Amy's mother passed away on Nov 24th.
 - **Taylor** (Ken & Nancy Bramlett's grandson): back home, improving.
 - **Jerry Moore:** please pray for him to regain strength and for his new medications to be effective.
 - **Daisy Lucas** (Kathy & Jim Smith's niece): chronic liver disease; continues to improve; doctors have been able to further reduce her steroids and other medications; she is feeling much better.
 - **Steve Pilgrim** (Charlie Moak's son-in-law): COVID-19; much improved but still weak.
 - **Brandi Brock:** had gastric sleeve surgery on Nov 9th; hopes she can lose enough weight to be eligible for a kidney transplant.

Loved ones battling cancer:

- **Will Glover** (Marsha & Bill Glover's Son): cancer has reappeared on the brain stem; got a good report from his recent MRI; continuing avastin and will be evaluated again soon for physical therapy; will see his eye specialist, may have surgery to correct double vision problems soon.
 - **Kala Richardson** (Kerri Matthews' friend): small cell lung cancer; metastasized to her liver; recently began treatment.
 - **Robin Marbury Morris** (Jeanne Monsour's Niece): liver & colon cancer; continuing chemo but getting weaker.
 - **Terry McGinty** (Kerri Matthews' Uncle): prostate cancer; has metastasized to the bone; much weaker, having difficulty walking; receiving treatment.
 - **Gib Vredeveld** (Julie Rogers' Father): esophageal cancer; slowly getting worse, starting to have more bad days; sees the oncologist in January.
 - **Sarah Parks Martin** (relative of Bob and Carol Booth & PCA pastor's wife): breast cancer; through with Chemo, doing well.
 - **Jim Smith:** pancreatic cancer; next scan will be on Dec 15th; please pray for another stable scan.
 - **Andrew Gerrard** (Jo Stanford's Nephew): Desmoplastic small round cell tumor (DSRCT); approved for clinical trial at MSK and 6 week treatment began on Nov 9th; Praise the Lord! Please pray for shrinkage of the tumors and successful management of the concerning fluid build up.
 - **Anna Taylor** (wife of Jim Taylor, Pastor of The Pointe): cancer in her back; back at work; continuing chemo.
 - **Andrew McCall** (Son of Rev. & Mrs. Perry McCall): acute leukemia.
 - **Steven Bell** (Tiffany Glover's brother): liver/colon cancer; doing well.
 - **Presbyterian pastors in MS fighting cancer:** Alan Stanton, Pinehaven in Clinton (brain tumor); Richard Owens, Westminster Pres, Greenwood (brain tumor); Jerry Long, Batesville Pres (kidney cancer).
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- **Service members:** Glenn Stewart (S. Korea; Sam Heath's nephew); Isaac Jay (Army, Fort Polk; Elton & Sonia Jay's grandson); Jesse Thomas Dickey; Matthew Hellier (Japan); S.T. Heath; Joey Brown (Barbara Fowler's nephew)
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- **Nursing home residents & shut-ins:** Dr. John Adams, Martha Baker, Joe Berryhill, Ken Bramlett, Evelyn Culpepper, Elsa Davis, Bob & Jody Nelson, Laverne Parks, Laverne Roberts