

# First Universalist Church of Minneapolis

*In the Universalist spirit of love and hope, we give, receive and grow*



## Christmas Pageant

December 24, 2021, 4 p.m.

## **Welcome to First Universalist Church of Minneapolis**

We are so glad you are here! Our regular Sunday services are in person at 9 and 11 a.m., and live streamed at 11 a.m. *Please note: worship on Sundays, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2 will be at 10 a.m. online only.* For more information, visit [firstuniversalistchurch.org](http://firstuniversalistchurch.org) or check out our Facebook page. To contact us, call the church office at 612-825-1701.

### **Visiting with Children?**

Children join their families in the Sanctuary for the Pageant. To learn more about our Sunday programs for children and youth, please visit [firstuniversalistchurch.org](http://firstuniversalistchurch.org).

### **Offering Recipient**

Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism - *Learn more at [blacklivesuu.org](http://blacklivesuu.org)*

### **Worship Leaders**

Rev. Jen Crow, Senior Minister

Lauren Wyeth, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries

Aimee K. Bryant, Vocalist and Song Leader

Barbara Brooks, Pianist

Luna Kilgore, Chalice Lighting Reader

### **Pageant Voices**

Storytellers                Lucien Randolph-Tarrant and Rasana Mamdani

Mary and Joseph        Alice Pinney and Anika Yorkhall

Head Angel                Katy Carberry

Lead Wise Ones        Erin Enright and Georgia Guin

Star                         Luna Kilgore

Dove                         Ruby Delaney

Singing Shepherds     Willa Gebhard, Ada and Celia Hendrickson, Lucy Johnson,  
Kate Mitchell-Crow, and Lilia Yorkhall

*First Universalist's Christmas Pageant has been adapted over many years by Lauren Wyeth, Rev. Ruth MacKenzie and Rev. Laurie Bushbaum, from the Gospels and a story by Phyllis Root.*

## Christmas Pageant Order of Service

### Music for Gathering

#### *Gloria*

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, gloria! Alleluia, Alleluia!

### Words of Welcome Call To Worship

### Opening Hymn

#### *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
God of glory, God of love.  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
Hail thee as the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
drive the pain of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the joy of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,  
earth and heav'n reflect thy rays.  
Stars and planets sing around thee,  
center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
blossoming meadow, flashing sea.  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain  
call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blest.  
Wellspring of the joy of living,  
ocean depth of happy rest.  
Ever singing march we onward,  
victors in the midst of strife.  
Joyful music lifts us sunward  
in the triumph song of life.

### Lighting the Chalice

Love is the spirit of this church, and service is its law.  
This is our great covenant: To dwell together in peace,  
to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

James V. Blake Printed by permission from UUA

### Carol Shout

*Suggested from Hymns 224 - 259*

## The Pageant Story

### Carols to Tell the Story

#### *O, Come All Ye Faithful*

O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye  
to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold him  
Born the king of angels.

#### *Chorus*

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation!  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God  
In the highest!

#### *Chorus*

#### *There's Something in the Wind*, by Laurel Benedict

#### *Jesus, Our Brother*

Jesus, our brother, kind and good,  
was humbly born in a stable rude.  
And the friendly beasts around him stood,  
Jesus, our brother, kind and good.

"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown,  
"I carried his mother uphill and down,  
I carried her safely to Bethlehem town;  
I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

"I," said the cow, all white and red,  
"I gave him my manger for his bed,  
I gave him hay to lay his head;  
I," said the cow, all white and red.

"I," said the dove, from the rafters high,  
"I cooed him to sleep that he should not cry,  
We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I;  
I," said the dove, from the rafters high.

And all the beasts, by some good spell,  
in the stable dark were glad to tell  
Of the gifts they gave Emmanuel,  
the gifts they gave Emmanuel.

***Gloria***

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, gloria! Alleluia, Alleluia!

***Angels We Have Heard on High***

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.

***Chorus***

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?

***Chorus***

See him in a manger laid,  
Whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
While our hearts in love we raise.

***Chorus***

***Follow the Star***, by Laurel Benedict

**Offering**

***Go Tell it on the Mountain***

Passing the Light  
**Candlelight Carol**

***Silent Night***

Silent night, holy night,  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,  
Child of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

### **Closing Words**

Extinguish Candles

### **Closing Hymn**

#### *Joy to the World*

Joy to the world! The Word is come!  
Let earth with praises ring!  
Let every heart prepare a room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! Now gladness reigns!  
Let hearts their songs employ!  
While fields and floods,  
rocks, hills, and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow!  
Nor thorns infest the ground!  
Let righteousness its glories show!  
As far as love is found,  
As far as love is found,  
As far, as far, as love is found.

### **Music for the Journey**

#### *Joy to the World*