



# Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dear Friend in Christ,

We would be very pleased to have you join our Sunday morning worship on Zoom by using the following instructions.

Please use these phone numbers and links between 10:15am and 10:30am Central Time. You can join in one of two ways:

**By computer, smart phone or tablet:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86757133623?pwd=OTFUQWJvU21MMmR6bkY5SitpelR1UT09>

**By Phone:** 1 (312) 626 6799 ID 867 5713 3623, Passcode 205879

(If you need a live link to the Worship link, you can go to the homepage of our website at [www.vccbhm.org](http://www.vccbhm.org) and click on “Links to Zoom” then click on the Sunday Worship link.)

I look forward to seeing you on Sunday!

Christ's and yours,

Pastor Edd Spencer

Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

2600 Cherokee Place, Birmingham, Alabama 35216

205-879-0419

[office@vccbhm.org](mailto:office@vccbhm.org)

# Valley Christian Church

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2022

### PRELUDE

"Gesu Bambino"

Margaret Cox  
Pianist

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peggi Zinser  
Worship Leader

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Shout for joy!  
People: The Savior is coming.  
Leader: Sing with gladness!  
People: Our darkness shall be turned to light.  
Leader: Let every heart prepare a space.  
People: Let every home make ready.  
Leader: For a new day is dawning.  
People: The world is being made new.  
Leader: The Savior is coming!  
People: There is a song of praise in the air. Sing with joy for Christ is born.

Peggi Zinser  
Worship Leader

### HYMN OF PRAISE

"There's a Song in the Air"

Hymn 159  
All Verses

*There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!  
There's a mother's deep prayer and a baby's low cry!  
And the star rains its fire while the angel choirs sing,  
for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!*

*There's a tumult of joy o'er the wonderful birth,  
for the virgin's sweet boy is the Lord of the earth.  
See, the star rains its fire while the angel choirs sing,  
for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!*

*We rejoice in the light, and we echo the song  
that comes down through the night from the heavenly throng.  
And we welcome the glorious gospel they bring,  
and we greet in his cradle our Savior and King!*

### OPENING PRAYER

Peggi Zinser  
Worship Leader

### LIGHTING OF THE LOVE ADVENT CANDLE

Gimmy Guindon

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

"The Star"

Rev. Edd Spencer

### SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Edd Spencer

### SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12

Peggi Zinser  
Worship Leader

### MESSAGE

"What Can We Give the Christ child for Christmas This Year?"

Rev. Edd Spencer

### HYMN

"We Three Kings"

Hymn 172  
Verse 1

*We three kings of Orient are;  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.*

*O star of wonder, star of light,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

### CALL TO OFFERING

Share your financial offering with the church by offering plate, by mail or bring it by the church office. Thank you for your love gifts.

Peggi Zinser  
Worship Leader

*Our deacons will come by each pew to receive the offering.  
Simply place your offering and any contact/prayer cards into the plate when it is offered to you. Please do not pass the plate.*

### OFFERTORY

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Margaret Cox  
Pianist

### 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*

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Peggi Zinser  
Worship Leader

### CALL TO COMMUNION

Rev. Edd Spencer

**COMMUNION PRAYER**

Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer

*Judy Sellers  
Elder*

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Hear the words of Jesus when He said, "Take and eat, this is my body, broken for you. Take and drink, this is the cup of the covenant poured out for you."

*Rev. Edd Spencer*

*Our deacons will come by each pew to serve you individually wrapped communion elements. Please partake of communion together when the pastor says "take eat and take drink"*

**HYMN OF INVITATION**

*"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

*Hymn 155  
All Verses*

*Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.*

*Refrain:*

*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 heav'nly song? [Refrain]*

*Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ, who comes in lowly birth.  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Jesus, joy of heav'n and earth [Refrain]*

*See within a manger laid,  
Christ, whom choirs of angels praise  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
While our hearts in love we raise. [Refrain]*

**BENEDICTION**

It is time for us to rejoice. The Lord is near! We are called to go forth from this place in the full assurance of the one born in Bethlehem who promises peace, strength, and salvation. We have heard the good news. Now may we go forth and allow this news to shine for all that we say, all that we do, and all that we are. Thanks be to God. Amen!

*Rev. Edd Spencer*

**POSTLUDE**

*"Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel"*

*Margaret Cox  
Pianist*

*You are invited to join us for light refreshments in the church parlor after worship and the congregational meeting*

# Love

THIS IS HOW GOD SHOWED HIS LOVE AMONG US:  
HE SENT HIS ONE AND ONLY SON INTO THE WORLD  
THAT WE MIGHT LIVE THROUGH HIM.

[ JOHN 4:9 (NIV) ]



## *Life in the Valley*

Sunday, Dec 18	Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Offering 10:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:30am Congregational Meeting Jan Clark's Birthday
Monday, Dec 19	Voice Deadline 6:00pm Embellishments Bell Choir Group (Yellow Room)
Tuesday, Dec 20	8:00am Manna Market Sale (Fellowship Hall) 6:30pm Adult Sunday School Class by Zoom Terry and Carolyn Nunnelly's Anniversary
Wednesday, Dec 21	Winter Begins
Friday, Dec 23	Christmas Eve Observed (Office Closed)
Saturday, Dec 24	4:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)
Sunday, Dec 25	10:30am Christmas Day Worship (Parlor)

*Our Disciples of Christ congregation to be in prayer for this week is  
Ambassadors for Christ Christian Church in Greenville, Alabama*

*Please be in prayer for our sister congregation, Macedonia Christian Church*

Church office hours: 8:00 am – noon, Monday – Friday  
Pastor Edd's office hours: 8:00 am – noon, Monday – Wednesday

### Today's Servers

WORSHIP LEADER: Peggi Zinser ELDER: Judy Sellers GREETERS: Clarence and Judy Sellers DEACONS: Team 1 – Captain: Carolyn Nunnelly Members: Terry Nunnelly and Beth Collier OPEN: Pastor CLOSE: Stewart Draper COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Peggi Zinser

## Scripture

### Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 2 and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. 5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

6 "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for out of you will come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel."

7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.