



THE SONGS OF ADVENT

Mary's Song



Humility & Promise

November 30, 2025

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. We invite you to experience the meaning of the Gospel through this service, which reflects both ancient and modern elements of Christian worship. When we gather as a worshipping community, we enter into a dialogue with the living God. God calls us into worship, we rejoice in the hope of the Gospel, confess our sins, lament the brokenness of our world, give our offerings, and hear God's Word read and preached. We hope that by worshipping with us, you will experience joy and hope from a community of people who love Jesus.

At Lexington Presbyterian Church, for God's glory, we are making disciples of Jesus as we worship, love, and serve.

Complete our Connect Card at lexpreschurch.com/connect to join us on mission!

General inquiries: hello@lexpreschurch.com

Children's Christmas Extravaganza

Sunday, December 7th | 3:00 - 5:00pm
 age 5 - 5th grade
 Come and enjoy a Christmas Movie, Games,
 Cookies, Hot Cocoa and other surprises!
 Bring a friend
 *Parents are NOT required to stay

Register by Dec 3rd

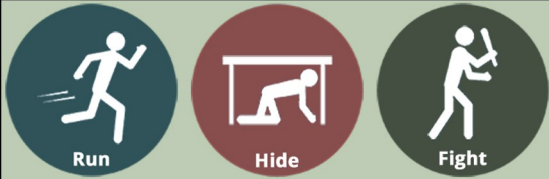
Christmas Eve Nativity Play

December 24, 2025 | 4:00 pm

5K - 5th grade
 Practices are
 December 3, 10, & 17
 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm
 Scan for more information
 and to register your child!

THE SONGS OF ADVENT

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Mary's Song</p> <p>Humility & Promise</p> | <p>Zechariah's Song</p> <p>Mercy & Light</p> |
| <p>Angels' Song</p> <p>Peace & Glory</p> | <p>God's Song</p> <p>Covenant & Kingship Christmas Eve 4:00 pm</p> |
| | <p>Simeon's Song</p> <p>Poverty & Redemption</p> |



ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE TRAINING

Learn how to survive a shooting event
December 14th | 2:00 - 4:00 pm | Tomlin Hall

The LPC Safety Team is encouraging all adults (especially Elders, Deacons, Greeters, CE Teachers and Nursery Workers) to attend active shooter training.

New conceal carry policy will be communicated. Childcare will be provided for 1 month – 5th grade.



- Please register by Nov 30
- We need a count for materials as well as childcare workers.



LPC Women's Ministry

Christmas Ornament Exchange Party

December 10th

5:00-7:00 pm

Tomlin Hall

Dinner Included



Mission Lexington



Rice, Canned Soups, Canned Vegetables,
Canned Chicken, Peanut Butter & Jelly,
Oatmeal, Pasta Sauce (no glass)

Find baskets to donate food items in
Tomlin Lobby and Children's Lobby
Deadline to donate at LPC is Dec. 28th



Scan to Support



midweek reset
returns
january 14th

Promotions Request Form



Scan here to request to have an event promoted through our various channels.

246 Barr Road | Lexington, SC 29072

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LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

Reflections for Worship

The Song of Mary is the oldest Advent hymn. It is also the most passionate, the wildest, and one might almost say the most revolutionary Advent hymn that has ever been sung. This is not the gentle, tender, dreamy Mary as we often see her portrayed in paintings. The Mary who is speaking here is passionate, carried away, proud, enthusiastic. There is none of the sweet, wistful, or even playful tone of many of our Christmas carols, but instead a hard, strong, relentless hymn about the toppling of the thrones and the humiliation of the lords of this world, about the power of God and the powerlessness of humankind.

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer

God is the God of great reversals. He can turn a curse into blessing. He achieves the impossible, the word irreversible means nothing to Him, and no situation is irredeemable for Him. The cross of Calvary stands as the ultimate and eternal evidence of this.

— Alistair Begg

In the Old Testament narrative, Israel's liberation from captivity in Egypt is followed by the imperative to root out injustice in all its forms. God's purpose is not to kick out the rogues and replace them with a new set of rogues, as if to replace one "-archy" with another (e.g., patriarchy with matriarchy, etc.). It is to transform rogues into those who do good to their neighbors.

— David Garland

* Congregation, please stand if able

Prelude

Updates | Following Christ Together

First Sunday in Advent: the Hope Candle | Lamentations 3:24

"The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."

Christ, himself, is our hope!

LITURGY OF THE WORD

* **Call to Worship** | Psalm 34:1-3

*Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.*

*All: My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.*

Leader: Oh, magnify the LORD with me,

All: and let us exalt his name together!

* Joy Has Dawned Upon the World



1. Joy has dawned up - on the world, pro - mised from cre - a - tion:
 2. Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of an - gels;
 3. Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry;
 4. Son of A - dam, Son of Heav'n Gi - ven as a ran - som;



God's sal - va - tion now un - furled hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.
 As the migh - ty Prince of Life shel - ters in a sta - ble.
 Gifts of men from dis - tant lands pro - phe - sy the sto - ry.
 Re - con - cil - ing God and man Christ our migh - ty cham - pi - on!



Not with fan - fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,
 Hands that set each star in _ place, shaped the earth in dark - ness.
 Gold, a King is born to - day; In - cense, God is with us;
 What a Sav - ior, what a _ friend, What a glo - rious mys - t'ry!



but a hum - ble gift of love: Je - sus born of Ma - ry.
 Cling now to a moth - er's breast, vul - n'ra - ble and help - less.
 Myrrh, His death will make a way, by His blood He'll win us.
 Once a babe in Beth - le - hem, now the Lord of his - t'ry.

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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* Prayer of Adoration and the Lord's Prayer

Leader: This we pray in the name of the One Who taught us to pray, saying:

*All: 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.*

* O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on
3. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's
4. O come, thou Day-spring from on high, and cheer us by thy
5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come and o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here,
 Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save,
 draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
 heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
 and close the path to mis - er - y.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Trinity Hymnal No. 194

TEXT: Latin antiphons, 12th cent.; Latin hymn, 1710; Tr. by John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1961

TUNE (VENI EMMANUEL): Plainsong, 13th cent.; arr. by Thomas Helmore, 1856

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Scripture Reading | I Samuel 2:1-10 | Pew Bible pp. 225-226

And Hannah prayed and said,

“My heart exults in the LORD;
my horn is exalted in the LORD.

My mouth derides my enemies,
because I rejoice in your salvation.

“There is none holy like the LORD:
for there is none besides you;
there is no rock like our God.

Talk no more so very proudly,
let not arrogance come from your mouth;
for the LORD is a God of knowledge,
and by him actions are weighed.

The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble bind on strength.

Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,
but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger.

The barren has borne seven,
but she who has many children is forlorn.

The LORD kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

The LORD makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low and he exalts.

He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap

make them sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honor.

For the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S,
and on them he has set the world.

“He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,
but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness,
for not by might shall a man prevail.

The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces;
against them he will thunder in heaven.
The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;
he will give strength to his king
and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Call to Confession | Habakkuk 3:2

*Leader: O LORD, I have heard the report of you,
and your work, O LORD, do I fear.
In the midst of the years revive it;
in the midst of the years make it known;
in wrath remember mercy.*

Corporate Confession of Sin

All: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
we acknowledge and confess before you our sinful nature,
quick to do evil and slow to do good.
All our shortcomings and offenses are before you at all times.
You alone know how often we have sinned—
in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts,
in forgetting your love.
O Lord, have mercy upon us; turn us to yourself.
Cleanse us from our secret faults and forgive our sins.
Since you set us free from the dominion of sin,
move us to live in your light and walk in your ways,
according to the promised grace of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

*** Words of Comfort |** Psalm 103:8-13

*Leader: The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.*

* **Confessing Our Faith** | Apostle's Creed

All: 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 Spirit,
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 Spirit;
the holy *catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*the universal church that trusts in Christ alone

* **Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

* Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery



1. Come be - hold the won-drous mys - t'ry in the dawn - ing of the
 2. Come be - hold the won-drous mys - t'ry: He the per - fect Son of
 3. Come be - hold the won-drous mys - t'ry: Christ the Lord up - on the
 4. Come be - hold the won-drous mys - t'ry: slain by death, the God of



King. He, the theme of heav-en's prais - es, robed in frail hu - man - i -
 Man. In His liv - ing, in His suf - f'ring, nev - er trace nor stain of
 tree. In the stead of ru - ined sin - ners hangs the Lamb in vic - to -
 life. But no grave could e'er re - strain Him; praise the Lord, He is a -



ty. In our long - ing, in our dark - ness, now the light of life has
 sin. See the true and bet - ter Ad - am, come to save the hell - bound
 ry. See the price of our re - demp - tion, see the Fa - ther's plan un -
 live! What a fore - taste of de - liv - 'rance, how un - wa - ver - ing our



come! Look to Christ who con-de - scend - ed, took on flesh to ran - som us.
 man, Christ, the great and sure ful - fill - ment of the law, in Him we stand.
 fold. Bring - ing man - y sons to glo - ry, grace un - mea - sured, love un - told.
 hope. Christ in pow - er res - ur - rect - ed as we will be when He comes.

Words and Music by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, and Michael Bleecker, 2013
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 Love Your Enemies Publishing (ASCAP) and Bleecker Publishing (ASCAP)
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Friendship Register

Kindly remember to give your neighbor the Friendship Register. Once it reaches the end of the pew, then please pass it back. Making acquaintances with guests and fostering friendships within the larger church family is the goal of this register. Starting from the middle aisle, the register is located at the head of each pew. Please, make sure to write your name legibly.

Giving of Firstfruits

The offering is a way for members and friends who call Lexington Presbyterian their “spiritual home” to present the substance of their whole lives to God. Please feel no pressure to give.

Ways to give:

- You may use the offering plates.
- Go to “Giving” on your Church Center mobile app or lexpres.churchcenter.com.
- Text2Give: text any dollar amount to 84321.

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light | Choir Anthem

Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light,
And usher in the morning;
Ye shepherds, shrink not with affright,
But hear the angel's warning.
This Child, now weak in infancy,
Our confidence and joy shall be,
The pow'r of Satan breaking,
Our peace eternal making.

He comes, a Child, from realms on high,
He comes the heav'ns adoring;
He comes to earth to live and die,
A broken race restoring.
Although the King of kings is He,
He comes in deep humility;
His people to deliver,
And reign in us forever.

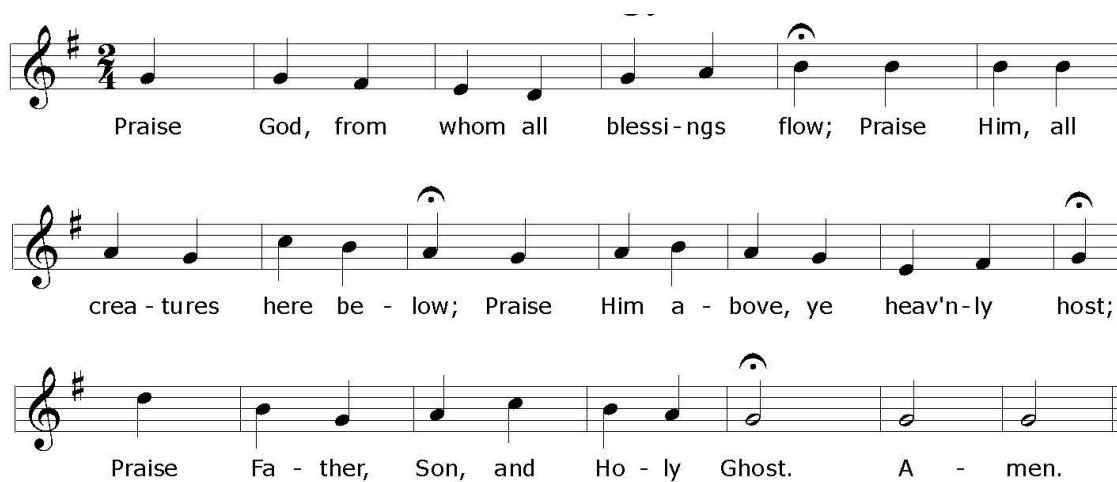
Text: Johann Rist, stanza 1; translated by John Troutbeck; Joseph Barlowe, stanza 2.

Music: Johann Schop; harmonized by J.S. Bach

Words to 2nd Stanza: © 1986 WORD MUSIC (a div. of WORD, INC.).

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* Doxology



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host;
Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Trinity Hymnal 731

Words by Thomas Ken, 1709

TUNE (OLD HUNDREDETH) Louis Bourgeois's *Genevan Psalter*, 1551

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Offertory Prayer

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Corporate Prayer

* **Scripture Reading** | Luke 1:46-56 | Pew Bible p. 856

⁴⁶ And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹ for he who is mighty has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

⁵⁰ And his mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

⁵² he has brought down the mighty from their thrones

and exalted those of humble estate;

⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,

and the rich he has sent away empty.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵ as he spoke to our fathers,

to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

*Leader: All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.*

*All: The grass withers, the flower fades
but the word of our God will stand forever.*

Sermon | Humility and Promise: Mary's Song

Rev. Josh Johnson

Prayer of Commitment

* Mary's Song



1. My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spi - rit re - joic - es in
2. He scat - ters the proud and rich; He lifts up the hum - ble and
3. From now to the end of time, the nat - tions will know me as

4
God! My Sav - ior has seen his ser - vant in need, and be -
weak. The kings of the earth, he casts from their thrones and the
blest, For God has made new His prom - ise of love and —

7
1. hold the great things he has done: 2. He Oh, be - hold, my Sav - ior has
hun - gry He wel - comes to — feast.
mer - cy through A - bra - ham's seed.

11
come! And my soul will tell of his praise For He who is strong has

15
come to the weak and, at last, he will reign as our King — of Peace. [To Verse 3]

Words & Music: Wendell Kimbrough, 2014
Based on Luke 1:46-56 (Mary's Song)

* **Benediction** | 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Elders will be available to pray with you in the front of the sanctuary at the conclusion of the worship service.

Leader: Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

* **Postlude**

Questions to help the good news sink in:

1. God is the God of great reversals — and in Mary's Magnificat the reversal concerns the proud and the humble. The proud, the "rich," suffer from living their lives in constant denial of their need for God. Share ways that you have lived as such, and how has the Lord brought humility to your life.
2. When God remembers, He acts, and always in accord with His word and promises. The great promise of Scripture — that God would be our God and we would be His people — has been fulfilled in Christ and is being applied day-in, day-out by the Holy Spirit to our lives. Share how this truth can help you navigate the world, especially through prayer and fellowship with other believers.
3. The great story of Scripture is meant to evoke a response in humanity. For those who are called and believe, we rejoice! Share how the Lord's actions in bringing humility into your life and working out the promise of His presence can cause us to live lives of rejoicing in any circumstance.

Resources Used for Study in Luke:

1. Luke, Focus on the Bible Commentary, Dale Ralph Davis
2. Luke, Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament, Darrell L. Bock
3. Luke, Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament, David E. Garland
4. Echoes of Scripture in the Gospels, Richard B. Hays
5. Reading Luke: Interpretation, Reflection, Formation, Scripture and Hermeneutics Series, eds. Bartholomew, Green, and Thiselton
6. A Theology of Luke-Acts, Darrell L. Bock

Serving This Morning:

Updates, Liturgist and Pastoral Prayer: Tyler Josephson

Reader: Kim Denney

Musicians: Abigail and Esther Baarendse, Heather Coleridge, Barb Howell, Tim McConnell, Don Parker, and Josiah Rogers

Audio/visual and livestream: Todd Shafer, Joel Rimer

Invitations for Christmas Eve worship are available for pickup at the back of the Sanctuary or on the Welcome Desk.

Faith Promise Giving:

LPC fiscal budget year is July 1st to June 30th.

Through the end of October 2025:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| General Fund transfer to missions | \$40,000 |
| Carryover for Outreach Committee | \$20,500 |
| Faith Promise Giving: | \$22,831 |
| Missions Disbursements | \$61,424 |
| Outreach Committee Disbursements | \$12,902 |

Stewardship

Through the end of October 2025:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Budget FYTD | \$382,088 |
| Received FYTD | \$390,600 |
| Expenditures FYTD | \$348,990 |

Connect Card

Thanks for joining us today. We would love to come alongside you in your walk with Jesus, whether you're new to our community or you've been here a while.

Visit lexpreschurch.com/connect or scan the QR code to fill out our Connect Card!

If you're not familiar with QR codes, we're here to help!



1. Open your smartphone's camera and point it at the QR code so that it shows clearly on your screen.
2. Wait for the camera to recognize and scan the QR code.
3. Click the link banner or notification when it pops up on your screen. Our Connect Card will automatically load in your browser.

Women's Ministry website and Facebook group:

<https://lexpreschurch.com/womens-ministry/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LPCWomen>

Youth Ministry Newsletter Subscription

Please, scan this QR Code with your phone camera.

