



CROSSROADS

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Connecting People • Igniting Hearts • Transforming Lives

Crossroads UMC Online Worship 12-20-2020

Prelude

Mary Did You Know

Words of Welcome

Morning Prayer (*followed by The Lord's Prayer*)

We come, O God, with adoration and praise, as well as thanksgiving, to you. Our anticipation grows as we come nearer to the day of great celebration of the birth of your Christ. Open our hearts that we may truly receive the gift of your Son, and know that the joy of life with you. This we pray through our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray....

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, Forever and ever. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Praise

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
as those of old have sung.
It came, a floweret bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
the Rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it,
the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
she bore to us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,

**Lo' How A Rose E're Blooming
UMH# 216**



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dispel in glorious spender
The darkness everywhere.
True man yet very God,
from sin and death now save us,
and share our every load.

Reading from the Original Testament

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

When the king was settled in his palace, and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "Look! I'm living in a cedar palace, but God's chest is housed in a tent!" Nathan said to the king, "Go ahead and do whatever you are thinking, because the Lord is with you." But that very night the Lord's word came to Nathan: Go to my servant David and tell him: This is what the Lord says: You are not the one to build the temple for me to live in. In fact, I haven't lived in a temple from the day I brought Israel out of Egypt until now. Instead, I have been traveling around in a tent and in a dwelling. Throughout my traveling around with the Israelites, did I ever ask any of Israel's tribal leaders I appointed to shepherd my people: Why haven't you built me a cedar temple? So then, say this to my servant David: This is what the Lord of heavenly forces says: I took you from the pasture, from following the flock, to be leader over my people Israel. I've been with you wherever you've gone, and I've eliminated all your enemies before you. Now I will make your name great—like the name of the greatest people on earth. I'm going to provide a place for my people Israel, and plant them so that they may live there and no longer be disturbed. Cruel people will no longer trouble them, as they had been earlier, when I appointed leaders over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Your dynasty and your kingdom will be secured forever before me. Your throne will be established forever.

Sermon Series:

**Where We Belong
Pitching the Tent**
Pastor Scott Walters

Pastoral Prayer

Praise

From a distant home the Savior we come seeking,
using as our guide the star so brightly beaming.
Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,
Heaven's wondrous light, O never cease thy shining!
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,
and upon the earth be peace and love to all.

**From A Distant Home
UMH# 243**



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Glowing gold I bring the newborn babe so holy,
token of his power to reign above in glory.
Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,
Heaven's wondrous light, O never cease thy shining!
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,
and upon the earth be peace and love to all.

Frankincense I bring the child of God's own choosing,
token of our prayers to heaven ever rising.
Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,
Heaven's wondrous light, O never cease thy shining!
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,
and upon the earth be peace and love to all.

Bitter myrrh have I to give the infant Jesus,
token of the pain that he will bear to save us.
Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,
Heaven's wondrous light, O never cease thy shining!
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,
and upon the earth be peace and love to all.

Announcement & Blessing