

Kingston Springs United Methodist Church

December 12, 2021

Greeting and Announcements Rev. Kelli Hamilton

Prelude What Child is This?
David Wood, Stephan Dudash

Introit Until Jesus Comes Sheri Dixon & Choir

Call to Worship Jack Arnold

A voice calls out in the wilderness.

It sings of a home for all. It speaks of justice and peace.

We could choose to ignore it.

We could drown out that song. We could choose not to listen.

Instead, we come into this space.

We let the world grow quiet. We listen.

A voice calls out in the wilderness. Do you hear it?

We hear it. In listening, we worship.

Let us draw near to God.

Hymn Good Christian Friends, Rejoice UMH 224

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
News, news!

Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today,
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice,
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
News, news!

Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door,
and ye are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this,
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice,
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
News, news!
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save,
Christ was born to save!

Advent Candle Lighting Jack Arnold

Anthem Bethlehem Choir

Prayers of the People: Joys and Concerns
Leader: Lord, in your mercy, People: **Hear our prayers.**

Children's Message Rev. Kelli Hamilton

Scripture Reading Luke 3:1-18 Jack Arnold

Sermon Home for All Rev. Kelli Hamilton

Offertory Prayer Jack Arnold

Offertory Shepherds, Shake Off Your Drowsy Sleep
Choir

Doxology UMH 95

Prayer of Confession

Expansive God,

We know that the church is your house, and your house has room for everyone. Yet, too often, instead of setting the table for our neighbors, we block the door. Instead of welcoming all, we judge others by our own standards. Instead of sharing our second coat, we hide it in the attic, holding on to fear instead of letting go with love. Remind us that your home is a home for all, that truth requires hard work, that truth requires uncomfortable justice. Help us to be bold enough to see it and brave enough to live it. With hope we pray, Amen.

Words of Assurance

Family of faith, God sent prophets like John the Baptist to us because this work is not easy. Helping create a world where all might have a home, and all might be loved, and all might know peace, is an audacious goal. Fortunately for us, when we mess up—when we lose our way or forget our call—we are met with grace. God could not love us any more or any less than God already does.

So rest in this good news:

We are at home with God—forgiven, claimed, and loved. The door is always open for us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

UMH 15

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...

...as we proclaim the mystery of death:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here...

...all honor and glory is yours, now and forever. Amen

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer after Receiving

Commission and Blessing

Rev. Kelli Hamilton

Benedictory Response

Day by day, day by day,
O dear Lord, three things I pray:
To see Thee more clearly,
Love Thee more dearly,
Follow Thee more nearly,
Day by day (repeat)

(End) Day by day—day by day by day by day by day.

Call to Worship, Advent Candle Lighting, Offering Prayer, Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance are written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed from A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT GIVING SUNDAY: TODAY

We will collect donations to provide gift bags for some of the residents at The Waters of Cheatham, as well as to provide a meal for the teachers and staff at Kingston Springs Elementary School on the Teacher Work Day. Please mark "Advent Giving" on your checks and online donations.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: In person and online at 7p.

NURSERY CARE VOLUNTEERS

We need volunteers to provide nursery care on Sundays from 10-11:30a. Volunteers will bring our nursery kids to worship at 10:30, take them to the nursery following Children's Message, and bring them back for Communion.

MONTHLY GIVING

Through November, it takes \$168,500 to run the church and its programs.

Through November, the church has received \$137,100 from all sources.

Kingston Springs UMC Staff

Rev. Kelli Hamilton, kelli.hamilton@tnumc.com, 615-347-9847

Julia Rich - Director of Music

Kristy Finney - Custodian