

**Kingston Springs United Methodist Church**  
*Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Door*  
**The First Sunday After Christmas Day**  
December 31, 2023



**Prelude** Bruce Baxter, David Wood

**Words of Welcome and Announcements** Jack Arnold

**Introit** *Glory in the Highest* Choir

**\*Call to Worship** Jack Arnold

Welcome to this time of quiet expectation.

**We have come here from extremely busy times.**

Come and find rest. Come and find hope.

**This is the last day of this year; we do not know what is to come.**

Do not fear. Look with eager joy for the presence of the Lord in your life.

**Open our eyes, ears, and hearts, O Lord, to receive your message of hope for us.**

**\*Hymn** *Joy to the World* UMH 246

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of His righteousness  
and wonders of His love,  
and wonders of His love,  
and wonders, wonders of His love.

**\*Scripture Reading**

Matthew 6:25-34 and Luke 11:1-4

**Vicki Sanders**

**Missional Giving**

All children are invited to assist in collecting money for the FUEL offering, which provides snacks for children at Kingston Springs Elementary School.

**Children's Message**

Activity Bags are located on the pew to use during worship. When the service is concluded, please return it to the front pew.

*\*Indicates please stand if able.*

*Greeters will provide a wheelchair for those who need one.*

*Restrooms are available behind the Sanctuary. Please exit through the left door by the piano and take a right. The restrooms are at the end of the hallway.*

**Our Joys and Concerns**

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayers.**

Jack Arnold

the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

**The Pastoral Prayer**

**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.***

2 The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay  
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

**Anthem**                      *The Friendly Beasts*                      Choir

**Sermon**    "New Day's Resolution"                      Jack Arnold

**Responding to the Word**      Mary's Boy Child                      Jeff and Lynn Jeffrey

**Offertory Prayer**    Jack Arnold

**Offertory**                      *Mary, Did You Know*                      *Jeff Jeffrey, David Wood*

**\*Doxology**    UMH 95

**Commission and Blessing**    Jack Arnold

Go from this place to bring hope, love, joy and peace to all you meet.  
And remember God is always with you. Amen.

**Sending Forth**                      *Away in a Manger*                      UMH 217  
Choir. Band, Congregation

1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;  
the stars in the heavens looked down where He lay,

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**Kingston Springs UMC Staff**

Dr. Steven Angus, Pastor  
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Julia Blankenship - Director of Music  
Kristy Finney - Custodian

## WEEKLY CALENDAR EVENTS

**SUNDAY** Sunday School – 9:15 am  
Worship – 10:30 am

**WEDNESDAY** Choir Practice – 6:30 pm

**AA COMFORT ZONE** Meets in the Oak House on Sundays at 4 p.m., Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Wednesdays at 12 p.m., Thursdays at 7 p.m., Fridays at 11:30 a.m. (Women's Group), and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.

**Al-Anon** meets at the Oak Street house on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.

Prayer requests can be submitted online at [ksumc.org/prayer](http://ksumc.org/prayer) or given to the pastor. If you would like to receive the church's digital newsletter, email Dr. Angus at [steven.angus@twkumc.org](mailto:steven.angus@twkumc.org).

We are pleased to welcome Jack Arnold as our speaker today, as Cheri and I are away for a few days.