

# UNITED CHURCH *of* CHAPEL HILL FESTIVAL WORSHIP



EPIPHANY SUNDAY  
**JANUARY 7, 2024**

\*Please stand, as able

**Bold text indicates congregational response or singing.**

## OPENING VOLUNTARY

"Adagio" from *Sonata No. 1*

Mendelssohn

## WELCOME

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

The magi come from distant places, following a star.

**We come to worship, and the star sheds light on our lives.**

The magi brought gifts to offer the child.

**We too bring gifts: ourselves, our hopes, and our commitments to our community.**

Shepherds and magi - the poor and the powerful - all were welcome in Bethlehem.

**We too have come to the cradle of the Christchild. As witnesses to the love of God incarnate, we shine the light of Christ for all the world to see.**

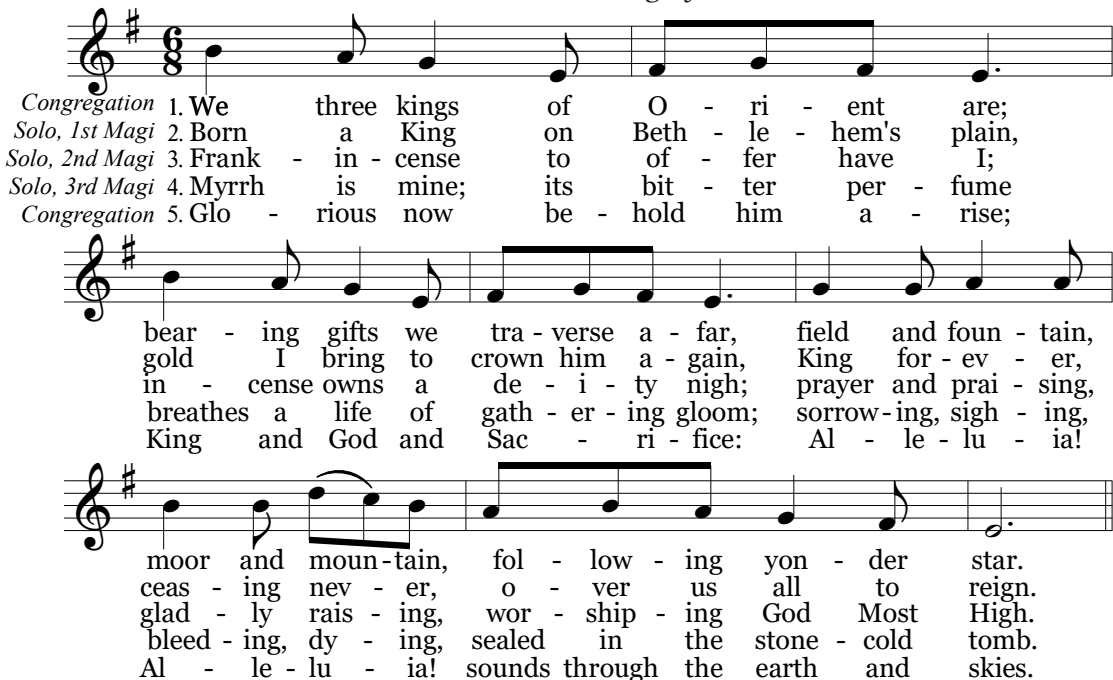
## \*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Radiant God, the nations are drawn to your light. The sound of your praise is heard around the world, for you have come in Jesus Christ, friend of the forsaken and the home to all who search for a place to belong. We rejoice in your great love for the world. With people of all nations, we praise you. Glory be to you, O God! Amen.

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE

*We Three Kings of Orient Are*

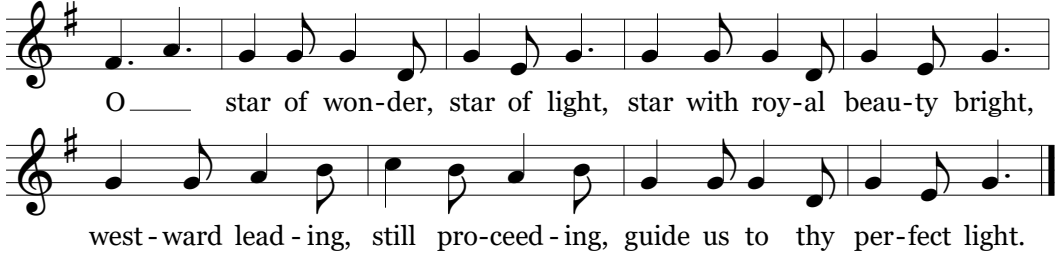
KINGS OF ORIENT



Congregation 1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are;  
Solo, 1st Magi 2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain,  
Solo, 2nd Magi 3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I;  
Solo, 3rd Magi 4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume  
Congregation 5. Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise;  
bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
gold I bring to crown him a - gain, King for - ev - er,  
in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prai - sing,  
breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom; sorrow - ing, sigh - ing,  
King and God and Sac - ri - fice: Al - le - lu - ia!  
moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
Al - le - lu - ia! sounds through the earth and skies.

(Refrain on next page)

*Refrain (All)*



## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6

(Pew Bible pg 602)

Matthew 2:1-12

(Pew Bible pg 783)

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### CHILDREN'S RESPONSE

*Praise God, Praise God!*

BONNER



## SERMON

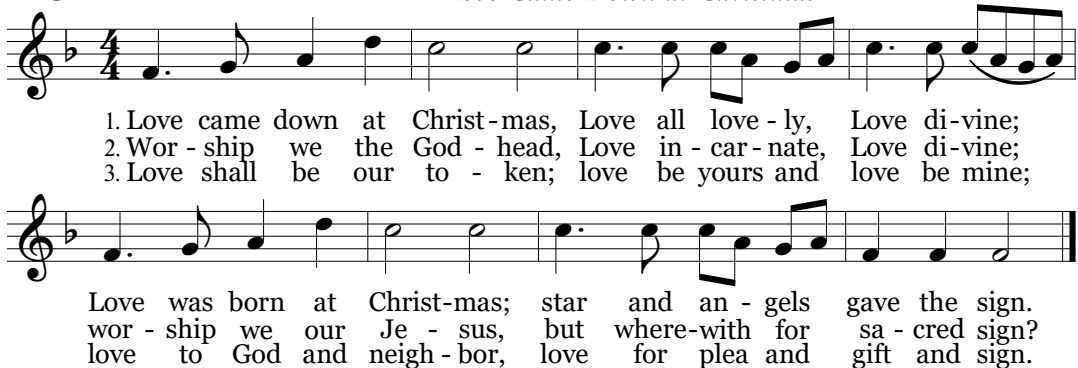
*Light in Our Darkness*

Rev. Micah Royal

### \*HYMN OF THE DAY

*Love Came Down at Christmas*

GARTAN



## CALL TO SHARING

**\*PRESENTATION OF GIFTS**

*Doxology*

Greensleeves

So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come pea - sant, king, to  
own him. The King of Kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en -  
throne him. Raise, raise the song on high, the moth - er sings her lul - la - by;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the child of Mar - y!

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**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 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, for ever. Amen.

**\*INVITATION TO AN OPEN TABLE**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

... Together we lift our voices in thanksgiving and praise:

## \*SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

From *Festival Eucharist*

Craig Phillips

The musical score is written for four staves. The first staff is labeled 'Organ' and the second 'Congregation'. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est.'

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Please come forward to receive the bread and cup. We offer a gluten-free option in the basket with purple linens and serve only non-alcoholic grape juice. Raise your hand if you would like a pastor to bring the elements to you. Communion cups may be left in the openings on the back of the pews. Healing prayer is offered in the back of the sanctuary during Communion.*

## COMMUNION HYMN 159

*Gladness Those of Old*

DIX

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## \*HYMN OF BLESSING 164

*Arise, Your Light is Come*

FESTAL SONG

## \*BENEDICTION

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Fugue in G Major BWV577*

J.S. Bach

## UCCH 101

*Sunday, Jan. 28 at 12:30 p.m.*

Interested in joining UCCH as a member, or just in learning more about this congregation or denomination? Join us! Look for more details (and a form to fill out if you'd like to become a member) in upcoming bulletin announcements and enews.

## LIGHT UP YOUR WINTER

Save the dates: Wednesdays, Jan. 24 (karaoke night) & Jan. 31 (game night) evenings in the Fellowship Hall. More info coming soon!

## RACIAL JUSTICE COVENANT REVISION WORKSHOPS

*Sunday, January 21 at 12:15 p.m.*

*Sunday, January 28 at 11 a.m.*

The Racial Justice Ministries committee would like to hear your feedback on the Racial Justice Covenant revision, and your ideas on living out this covenant in our church. The first session will be a potluck lunch and workshop on Sunday, January 21 at 12:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Spanish interpretation will be available for the first session. The second session will be on Sunday, January 28 at 11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. In addition to these group conversations, feedback and ideas from individuals are always welcome. We'd love to hear from you! Please contact Ingrid Schmidt ([ingridschmidt55@gmail.com](mailto:ingridschmidt55@gmail.com)) with your thoughts or questions.

## GOSPEL CHOIR WORKSHOP WITH DR. RAYMOND WISE

*Feb 3, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

*Feb 4, in worship 9:45 and 11 a.m., concert 2 p.m.*

One Human Family Choir of Durham and UCCH are co-sponsoring a Gospel and Spirituals Workshop with Rev. Dr. Raymond Wise, composer and conductor. Dr. Wise is professor of African American and African Diaspora studies at Indiana University, Bloomington. Founder and director of the African American Choral Ensemble and Raise Productions' Center for the Gospel Arts, Dr. Wise holds a passion for sharing the gift Gospel and Spiritual music with communities around the country. Don't miss this opportunity for musical sharing and growth! All ages are invited! Register for the workshop at [www.onehumanfamily.org](http://www.onehumanfamily.org)

## SEARCH FOR YOUTH MINISTER

United Church of Chapel Hill is searching for a specialized youth minister to build connections and lead engaging programming for youth and their families. We seek a Youth Minister who will utilize a youth-centered approach to build up joy and enthusiasm for the worship and program life of the church by engaging with youth and their families throughout our bilingual congregation. We anticipate that this will be a ½ time position with compensation of \$25k - 30k. To apply, please send a résumé and cover letter to [cbarr@unitedchurch.org](mailto:cbarr@unitedchurch.org) by January 31, 2024. Read the full job description at [unitedchurch.org/careers](http://unitedchurch.org/careers).

## FRIDAY MORNING YOGA CLASS

*Fridays at 9 a.m. in the Assembly Hall*

All levels welcome! Contact Melanie Joiner ([melanie.spence@gmail.com](mailto:melanie.spence@gmail.com)) for more info.

## FROM THE UCCH LIBRARY

- ★ Coffey, M. Training to see stars. In "Mystery without Rhyme or Reason," p62. 811 Cof M
- ★ Kelsey, M. A third road to Bethlehem [and] The Herod in us all. In "The Drama of Christmas," p59-73. 232.9 Kel D
- ★ Hare, D.R.A. Contrasting responses to the new king. In "Matthew," p12-15. 226.7 Har Mat
- ★ Taylor, B.B. Home by another way. In "Home by Another Way," p27-31. 252 Tay H
- ★ L'Engle, M., & Shaw, L. Our morning star: Epiphany. In "Winter Song," p131-159. 242 Len W
- ★ Nouwen, H.J.M. Epiphany: Season of revelation. In "Eternal Seasons," p59-78. 263.9 Nou E

These items are on the small wooden rack in the center of the library. A volunteer, Barbara Wildemuth, will be in the library immediately following the 9:45 service, to assist you in finding library materials.

## CURRENTLY READING

Groups at UCCH are currently reading:

- ★ *Enchantment, Awakening Wonder in an Anxious Age* by Katherine May (Sunday Spiritual Growth class; anyone is welcome to join the class at 11:00 each Sunday morning in room 229)
- ★ *Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America* by Heather Cox Richardson. (Monday Noon Book Group; Contact Janet Flowers [JanetL-Flowers@gmail.com](mailto:JanetL-Flowers@gmail.com))
- ★ *The Seven Deadly Sins of White Christian Nationalism: A Call to Action* by Carter Heyward. (Monday Evening Women's Group; Contact Cindy Johnson [CLJ5823@yahoo.com](mailto:CLJ5823@yahoo.com))

These groups are open to new members at any time.

## Guest Preacher Rev. Micah Hardy-Royal

Micah has a Master of Divinity in Pastoral Care and Counseling from Campbell Divinity School, and has been serving in ordained ministry in various contexts for over 20 years. Micah currently serves as hospice chaplain with Transitions LifeCare, where he has served as a chaplain since 2014.

Though not currently serving in a church, Micah has served as pastor in a number of churches over the years, most recently at Life's Journey UCC of Burlington, and before that at Hanks Chapel UCC of Pittsboro.

Micah has previously served as President of the Eastern NC Association of the United Church of Christ and was a founding board member of LILA Latinx LGBTQA Initiative.

Micah is passionate about widening the circle of welcome in the church to make room for all kinds of people, especially the often overlooked and forgotten by the world, as well as working in our community and the world around us to better make room for all kinds of people to discover a "broad place in which no cramping" for themselves and their families (Psalm 18:19; 31:8).



**"Make a Joyful Noise"**  
Celebrating African American Sacred and Gospel Music

# MUSIC WORKSHOP

with Rev. Raymond Wise, PhD

## Feb. 3-4, 2023



**UNITED CHURCH OF CHAPEL HILL**  
1321 M.L.K. Jr Blvd, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Saturday, 9am – 5pm Music Workshop

Sunday, 9:45 am Service

2:00 pm Concert

**Hosted by The One Human Family Choir,  
The Negro Spirituals Royalties Project & United  
Church of Chapel Hill**

Registration link below:

\$35 per Adult. Children and youth free.



**BIO:** Rev. Raymond Wise, Ph. D., a native of Baltimore, Md., began his musical career at the age of three, singing gospel music with his family singing group "The Wise Singers." Professor Wise earned a B.F.A. in Music from Denison University (Granville, Ohio). He did additional studies in Opera, Art, and German at the Institute for European Studies in Vienna, Austria, and in African-American History, Music, and Dance at San Francisco State University in San Francisco, California. Wise currently serves on the faculty of Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, where he serves as Professor of Practice in the African American African Diaspora Studies department and instructs courses in African American music.

He is the associate director of the African American Arts Institute, an IU division devoted to the perpetuation and performance of African American music and art. Professor Wise is an ordained minister and has served as a church musician for more than 40 years. Wise has penned more than 600 compositions.

Wise is founder and president of Raise Productions' Center for the Gospel Arts, a gospel music production and publishing company in Columbus, Ohio, established to provide educational training and resources for gospel artists and the community. His knowledge of both the gospel and classical music genre has enabled him to serve as a consultant and clinician in academic and gospel music settings. Wise is known for helping choirs perform gospel music authentically. He currently serves as the Ethnic and American music Repertoire and Standards Chair for the American Choral Director's Association Central Division.

Wise also wrote and conducted the documentary concert film *Amen! Music of the Black Church* about the traditions, historical significance and meaning of the Black church music. The film earned national and regional awards and aired on PBS stations across the United States.



# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Learn more about worship on the "Welcome to United Church" card in your pew.

## SERVICE NOTES

**MUSICIANS:** Cat Copland (1st Magi), Bruce Thomas (2nd Magi), Craig Smith (3rd Magi)  
Cameron Aiken, tenor solo; Chancel Choir

**DEACON:** Midge Coward

**READER:** Jeff Hall

**SOUNDBOARD:** Bob Sielken

**LIVESTREAM:** Brian Moore

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Given by Janet and Ed  
Flowers, in honor of and thanksgiving for the  
UCCH staff.

**COVER ART:** *Awake My Soul* by Mike Moyers, 2011.

**COPYRIGHT ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:** *Love Came Down at Christmas*, Words by Christina Rossetti, harm. David Evans ©1927 Oxford University Press. *What Child is This*, Word alt. ©1993 The Pilgrim Press. *Sanctus and Benedictus*, music by Craig Phillips ©2006 Paraclete Press.

## UNITED CHURCH STAFF

**SENIOR PASTOR:** Rev. Cameron Barr

**ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY &**

**BELONGING:** Caleb Wolf

**MINISTER TO CHILDREN:** Anitra Grove

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:** Jennifer Anderson

**ORGANIST:** Alan Davis

**ADJUNCT MUSIC STAFF:** Charles Bradshaw  
(United Voices of Praise Director), Nan de Andrade  
(Handbell Director), & Bianca Muñoz (La Mesa  
Music Director)

**CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR:** Kati Ruark

**COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER:** Marisa Mee

**BUSINESS MANAGER:** Duane Gilbert

**SEXTON:** Bruce Thomas

**KITCHEN STEWARDS:** Nubia Rivero Bello, Hser  
Nay Htoo, Andreina Galindez

**NURSERY DIRECTOR:** Alison Robertson

**NURSERY ASSISTANTS:** Alex Tanner, Colin  
Tanner, Harper Gray, Brooke Reynolds, Kallista  
Mela, Mimi Reeves, & Elizabeth Hall

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**A PLACE of BELONGING** FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN