



FROM
GENERATION
TO GENERATION...
God meets us in our fear

Cover Art: “Mary’s Golden Annunciation”

by Carmelle Beaugelin

Inspired by Luke 1:26-38 | Acrylic, gilding paint, canvas collage on handmade reclaimed paper

Mary’s Golden Annunciation explores the moment of encounter between Mary and the angelic messenger. This unusual encounter may have been startling to young Mary—a soon-to-be teen bride turned, possibly, unwed mother. Yet, with holy bravery in the face of communal isolation, she accepts the call to be a surrogate mother to a son who is to be the savior of her people and the son of God.

There is not much commentary regarding Mary’s consent to motherhood. She is often portrayed as a humble, yet passive, “accepter” of a fate predestined for her. But I wonder, what if the angel had appeared to Mary and she had declined? Would her name be erased from historic and religious memory in favor of another willing young virgin?

Mary’s Golden Annunciation depicts not only a remarkable encounter, but also the moment that divinity in human form was conceived. It is my speculation that the divinity of God entered Mary’s body no sooner than Mary’s “yes” went out from her mouth. In a time when women had few options other than marriage, Mary’s consent to a potentially unwed motherhood is a brave act of subversive agency. In Mary’s “yes,” uttered in her Magnificat, we see the transformation of a young teenage girl from fearful to determined, from simply accepting to deciding, from passivity to agency, from betrothed to surrogate mother of God—an honor rarer than gold. Perhaps the most remarkable annunciation in this passage is not the messenger’s revelation to Mary, but Mary’s “yes” to the call.

—Carmelle Beaugelin

*With Christ as the Cornerstone, we will build a church of living stones,
where every member is a minister and is equipped to express God’s love
by word and deed to all people.*

Based on 1 Peter 2:5, 6

The Worship of God

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022

Gathering Music

Welcome

Anna Beth Cross

† Opening Carol 251 “It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to men, from heav’n’s all gracious King!”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still thro’ the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav’nly music floats o’er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov’ring wing,
And ever o’er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life’s crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hast’ning on, by prophets seen of old,
When with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold,
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Justin Williamson, Maya Walker,
Mia Williamson, Pam Weis

Children’s Sermon

April Alston

Musical Meditation

“Away in a Manger”
GBC Handbell Choir

By James R. Murray, arr. Kristine Johaneck

† *Please rise in body or spirit.*

Moment for Stewardship

Elizabeth Worley

As our offertory anthem is sung, please feel free to place your offering in the plates on either side of the center aisle in the back of the sanctuary, or you can also give online by scanning the QR code on the back of this worship bulletin.

Offertory Anthem

“Give Your Fear to Faith”

GBC Choir

from *The Seven Noels*

by Pepper Choplin

The angel said, "Mary, be not afraid,
for you have found favor with God.
You shall conceive and bear a Son
and you shall call His name Jesus.
You shall call His name Jesus.

Give your fear to faith, Mary. Give your fear to faith.
God is surely with you. Do not be afraid.
You have many questions, the Lord will show the way.
Follow to the future. Give all your fear to faith."

The angel said, "Joseph, be not afraid
to take Mary as your wife.
For she has conceived a holy Child
and you shall call His name Jesus.
You shall call His name Jesus.

Give you fear to faith, Joseph. Give your fear to faith.
God is surely with you. Do not be afraid.
You have many questions, the Lord will show the way.
Follow to the future. Give all your fear to faith.

Come, people, be not afraid.
for surely the Lord is with you.
A new day has come through heaven's Son,
so call on the name of Jesus.
Call on the name of Jesus.

Come now and Give you fear to faith, people. Give your fear to faith.
God is surely with you. Do not be afraid.
You have many questions, the Lord will show the way.
Follow to the future. Give all your fear to faith.
Give all your fear to faith."

† Doxology for Advent

VENI EMMANUEL;
Words by Thomas Ken, 15th Century French Melody

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

Prayer of Dedication

John Meyer

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Erin Delgado

Sermon

“God Meets Us in Our Fear”

Chrissy Williamson

Silent Reflection

Invitation

Chrissy Williamson

† Musical Response 255 “Lo! How a Rose E’er Blooming”

Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse’s lineage coming as men of old have sung.
It came, a Flow’ret 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 men a Savior
When half spent was the night.

This Flow’r whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God, from sin and death He saves us
And lightens every load.

Celebrating Community

Steve Rose

Benediction

Chrissy Williamson

Postlude

“Peace on Earth, Goodwill to Humankind”
Tim Hendrix

arr. Diane Bish

Thank you to Cranberry Tree Farms for their gracious donation of wreaths
and for the beautiful Chrismon trees in the Sanctuary.

Song texts printed in this bulletin used by permission with CCLI License #295340 and OneLicense License # P-400143.

Graphic design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Speed | “Mary’s Golden Annunciation”
by Carmelle Beaugelin | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Scan to Connect
With Us:



Greystone Baptist Church | 7509 Lead Mine Road, Raleigh, NC 27615

Church Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 PM (M-Th) | Phone: (919) 847-1333 | Email: office@greystonechurch.org

Website: www.greystonechurch.org | Facebook: [@greystonebaptistchurch](https://www.facebook.com/greystonebaptistchurch) | Instagram: [@greystonechurch](https://www.instagram.com/greystonechurch)