

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

BENEDICTION

Family of Christ, go now into the world in the blessing and power of the Triune God to resist the misuse of power in our world, to point to the signs of good news all around us, and to work for the empowerment and flourishing of all people, especially the vulnerable among us. Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, May 2025.

POSTLUDE

“He is Born”

DANA MOODY

Today's service is being broadcast on Facebook Live at 11 am. You can access the service through the Oaklette Church Group on Facebook. You can also access the sermon through the Oaklette UMC Facebook page. If you are unable to use Facebook Live, a link can be sent to you by email after the Facebook Live Worship has been recorded, but we will need your email address to do this. The Facebook Live service will also be uploaded to our website.

The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God.

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY

Members of the Church

Nursery Care Providers: Lisa & Brooks Ryno

Prayer Partner: Brenda Swoope

Lay Reader: Lisa Bailey

Audio-Visual Operator: Danny Castellow

Greeter: Joanne Rooks

Pastor: Rev. Ned Alderman

Administrative Assistant: Eileen Ballance

Financial Secretary: Edna Bess

Coastal Virginia Dist. Superintendent: Rev. Beth Givens

Resident Bishop, Richmond Area: Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson

Donations have been made to Oaklette UMC in lieu of cards:

Barbara Bennett



Oaklette United Methodist Church

"God's Body in this Community"

“Oaklette United Methodist Church through worship, education, and outreach, seeks to make the gospel of Jesus Christ real, as we minister to all people.”

December 28, 2025

The First Sunday After Christmas

Welcome in the name of our Lord. A nurturing and well-supervised nursery is available for infants and young children. A cry room is also available. Please ask the greeter for further assistance and directions to these rooms.

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

GREETING

JOYS AND CONCERNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER

Loving, sustaining God, like the mighty oak, may our branches at Oaklette church embrace those around us in this community. Use us as an instrument to welcome and shelter your people. Deepen our roots so that our branches are strong. Let the Holy Spirit flow like a river through our church, so that we may do your will. In Jesus' holy name, Amen.

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-7, CEB

In those days Caesar Augustus declared that everyone throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists. This first enrollment occurred when Quirinius governed Syria. Everyone went to their own cities to be enrolled. Since Joseph belonged to David's house and family line, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David's city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby. She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the guestroom.

PRELUDE

“The Little Drummer Boy”

DANA MOODY

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved, we have waited, watched, and witnessed the coming of the Christ child. As we gather today on the other side of Christmas, we might be tempted to ask, “What now?”

We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.
In this season of Christmas, we remember that though Christ has come among us, the good news of freedom for captives, flourishing for the poor, and power returned to the disempowered does not reign in so many places.

We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.
With Mary and Joseph, we listen for God to show us how to protect and advocate for the vulnerable among us.
We continue to wait and watch for the day that all the earth awaits.
As we gather to worship today, may God bind us together in love, empowering us to live as followers of the Christ child who declare good news wherever we go.

We gather today as people who wait, watch, and work for the day that all the earth awaits. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, June 2025.

OPENING PRAYER

In the silence of these moments, whisper of your joy that has come into the world. In the music and the carols, sing to us of the grace that fills us this day and in all the days to come.
In the words we hear, speak to us of that Birth that brings new life to each and every one of your children.

In the company of friends and families, of strangers and new acquaintances, gather us together so we may be your holy family in this time and place.
In the love and hope that is given to us, send us forth to tell the good news to all for whom this is not the most wonderful time of year.
God in community, Holy in One, touch us once again with your wonder, even as we pray, saying....

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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.

HYMN	“Angels from the Realms of Glory”	#220
	Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o’er all the earth; ye who sang creation’s story, now proclaim Messiah’s birth: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.	
	Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o’er your flocks by night, God with man is now residing; yonder shines the infant light; Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.	
	Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar; Seek the great Desire of nations; Ye have seen his natal star:	

For all people who are oppressed and abused.
Empower us to take all iniquity away.
For all people whose freedom and dignity are denied by systems and authorities.
Empower us to take all iniquity away.
For all those who are driven away from their houses and their homes because of their conscience and their convictions.
Empower us to take all iniquity away.
For all those who are in search of the meaning of their life within their own culture and religion.
Empower us to take all iniquity away.
For all those who have to labor too hard for too small a salary.
Empower us to take all iniquity away.
For those many desperate women and men who are at the mercy of the rich and the powerful.
Empower us to take all iniquity away.
For all those who suffer, we pray to you.
Empower us to take all iniquity away. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Christ comes to newborn babies, angels and shepherds, sages and kings, old people and young. This ancient story comes with promises of peace and love for all. May our offering be a sign of peace and love as we share our gifts with God.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/DEDICATION

Bring good news through these gifts, O God. Through our love and generosity, spread wonderful, joyous news for all people, that all may sing of your glory and your peace on earth! Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below. Praise him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HYMN	“Go Tell it on the Mountain”	#251
	Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.	
	While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night, behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.	
	Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.	
	The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! above the earth, rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth.	

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;

Suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

PRAAYER OF CONFESSIION

When we are afraid, comfort us with your presence. When we are weak, support us with your strength. When we are lost and confused, guide us with your wisdom and counsel. When we are alone, draw us closer to you, that we may recognize your presence. Grant us your forgiveness and grace, O Prince of Peace, that in blessed hope, we may know your endless peace.

Don't be afraid! God has good news for us – wonderful, joyous news for all people! The savior has been born for us – in our world, in our lives, in our hearts. This is Christ the Lord, who brings forgiveness and peace.

Amen.

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ANTHEM

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

Choir members

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:8-20

Nearby shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night. The Lord's angel stood before them, the Lord's glory shone around them, and they were terrified.

The angel said, “Don’t be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you – wonderful, joyous news for all people. Your savior is born today in David’s city. He is Christ the Lord. This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly forces was with the angel praising God. They said, “Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors.”

When the angels returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, “Let’s go right now to Bethlehem and see what’s happened. Let’s confirm what the Lord has revealed to us.” They went quickly and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw this, they reported what they had been told about this child. Everyone who heard it was amazed at what the shepherds told them. Mary committed these things to memory and considered them carefully. The shepherds returned home, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. Everything happened just as they had been told.

LESSON

“Wonderful, Joyous News for All People”

Rev. Ned Alderman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of life, we pray to you for all people: for all women who have been excluded from a full-fledged life for the only reason that it has been always like that.

Empower us to take all iniquity away.