

### Hymn

#### Canticle of the Turning

Vocal Ensemble - Jenna Hesseln, Patti Mangis

- (1) My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
  And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
  You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
  So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn? (Refrain)
- (2) Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
  And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
  Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
  You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. (Refrain)
- (3) From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone. Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry tyrant from his throne. The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn; There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. (Refrain)
- (4) Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast: God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp. This saving word that out forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound, 'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. (Refrain)

#### Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!

### CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Matthew Johnson, Associate Pastor BUMC

## PASTORAL PRAYER/ADVENT CANDLE LITANY

Pastor Wendy Witt, First UMC West Dundee

### THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

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.

### Scripture Lesson

Luke 1: 39-56 Dave Snyder

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup> where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup> for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

<sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

<sup>50</sup> His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

- <sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
- <sup>52</sup> He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
- <sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.
- <sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
- 55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."
- <sup>56</sup> And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

The Word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Yes or No?"

Pastor Chris Winkler, Senior Pastor BUMC

ANTHEM

Breath of Heaven (Mary's Song) Jenna Hesseln, soloist Amy Grant, Chris Eaton

### Invitation to Ministry and Blessing

Pastor Wendy Witt, First UMC West Dundee

**CREDITS:** 

Vocal Ensemble — Jenna Hesseln, Patti Mangis

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# BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m.

at First UMC West Dundee

This is the winter solstice and the longest night of the year. We will gather on this evening to acknowledge that the holiday season is not the happiest time of the year for many of us, but rather is a difficult time filled with pain, grief, and sadness. This is a quiet, reflective service and a time of prayer, meditation and silence. It is a time when it is okay to cry, to not be okay, and to hold space for one another's pain. As we come together, we are powerfully reminded that we are not alone. We are never alone. God is always with us, and God has surrounded us with a community of love and care.

