We wish to thank the Harmonia Trio for their music in today's worship. Members of the trio are Kathy Lowe, Jaulita Sullivan, and Amanda Walker.

OUR MINISTERS

The People of Ardmore, gifted by God, led and equipped by…

Tyler Tankersley, SENIOR PASTOR
Gina Brock, EXECUTIVE PASTOR
David Fitzgerald, ASSOC. PASTOR OF WORSHIP, MUSIC, & ARTS
Steve Cothran, INTERIM YOUTH PASTOR
Lee Ritchie, ASSOC. PASTOR OF CHILDREN & SENIOR ADULTS
Kathryn Packett, ASSOC. PASTOR OF WELCOME
Maddie Watt, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
Alyssa Prillaman, MUSIC & ARTS EDUCATOR
Matthew Cates, ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST
Kevin Anderson, DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP MEDIA
Julie Sugg, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

"It's So Still in Bethlehem" arr. by Ruth Elaine Schram ©2018 Choristers Guild
"Where Shepherds Lately Knelt" words by Jaroslav J. Vajda ©1986 by Concordia Publishing House, music by Craig Courtney ©1995, 2009 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc.
"Peaceful Blessing" arr. by Sandra Eithun ©2010 Choristers Guild
"I Wonder as I Wander" arr. by Kyle Pederson ©2025 by G. Schirmer, Inc.
"All Creatures of Our God and King" arr. Don Chapman ©2003 Hearts to God Music, Inc. CCLI# 5252374

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THE WORSHIP OF GOD

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 30, 2025; 8:15 A.M.

ALL CREATION WAITS: ADVENT WITH NATURE

"The whole creation cries to us penetratingly,
with a great cry, about the existence
and the beauty and the love of God…
in all of nature we find God's initials
and all of God's creatures are
God's love letters to us."

--Ernesto Cardenal
Nicaraguan priest, poet, and writer

Gathering Music	*"No Room"* *Arranged by Harold DeCou*	Harmonia Trio
	"Baby, Born in Bethlehem" *By Victor C. Johnson*	
Welcome & Invitation to Worship		Kathryn Packett
Advent Reflection	*"Hope Fulfilled Advent"*	Media Clip
Hymn	*"All Creatures of Our God and King"*	All Worshipers
Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope		Randy Renegar
Hymn	*"Creation Waits the Coming King"* *Words by David Fitzgerald* *(To the tune of "The Gift of Love")*	All Worshipers
Offertory Prayer		Chase Mauney
Offertory	*"Where Shepherds Lately Knelt"* *By Craig Courtney*	Harmonia Trio
Scripture Reading	*Zechariah 9:9-10*	Cecil Price
Song of Faith	*"It's So Still in Bethlehem"* *Arranged by Ruth Elaine Schram*	Harmonia Trio
Sermon	*"The Hope of the Donkey"*	Gina Brock
Practicing the Presence of God		Gina Brock
Hymn 173	*"Lift Up Your Heads"*	All Worshipers
Life of the Church		Kathryn Packett
Benediction		Gina Brock

All Creation Waits

ADVENT WITH NATURE

The Hope of the Donkey

ZECHARIAH 9:9-10

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 30, 2025
ARDMORE BAPTIST CHURCH

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025; 10:45 a.m.

All Creation Waits: Advent with Nature

"The whole creation cries to us penetratingly,
with a great cry, about the existence
and the beauty and the love of God…
in all of nature we find God's initials
and all of God's creatures are
God's love letters to us."
--Ernesto Cardenal
Nicaraguan priest, poet, and writer

Creation Waits the Coming King
Let All the World Rejoice and Sing
Prepare to Greet Emmanuel
The One Whom Prophets Did Foretell

Gathering Music *"It's So Still in Bethlehem"* Harmonia Trio
Arranged by Ruth Elaine Schram

"Where Shepherd's Lately Knelt"
By Craig Courtney

As you enter the sanctuary each Sunday during Advent,
you are invited to light a candle and pray at one of
the prayer stations near the front of the sanctuary.

Chiming of the Trinity — Matthew Cates

Welcome & Invitation to Worship — Kathryn Packett

Prelude *"Peaceful Blessing"* Youth Bells
Arr. by Sandra Eithun

Creation Crèche *(donkey, Mary & Joseph)* Children

Crèche is another word for a nativity scene. Each week during Advent, we will be forming a creation crèche to tie in with the theme, "All Creation Waits: Advent with Nature." Children will process the animals and other elements of nature and creation to form the nativity scene on the table in front of the pulpit.

Creation Waits the Coming King
Let All the World Rejoice and Sing
Our God Reveals to All the Earth
Salvation's Plan in Holy Birth

Call to Worship *"Let Everything that Has Breath, Praise the Lord"* Youth Bells

Hymn *"All Creatures of Our God and King"* All Worshipers

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One,
O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all Creation now rejoice,
And every creature lift its voice
O praise Him, alleluia!
With heaven and nature let us sing
Proclaim the hope that He now brings.
O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Children's Sermon — Lee Ritchie

Creation Waits the Coming King
Let All the World Rejoice and Sing
God Brings Us Hope, Peace, Joy and Love
In Jesus Christ His Only Son.

Hymn *"Creation Waits the Coming King"* All Worshipers
Words by David Fitzgerald
(Stanza 1 and 2)

Creation waits the coming King,
Let all the world rejoice and sing.
Prepare to greet Emmanuel,
The one whom prophets did foretell.

Creation waits the coming King,
Let all the world rejoice and sing.
Our God reveals to all the earth,
Salvation's plan in holy birth.

Lighting the Advent Candle of Hope — Randy Renegar

Response *"Creation Waits the Coming King"* All Worshipers
(Stanza 3 and 4)

Creation waits the coming King,
Let all the world rejoice and sing.
God brings us hope, peace, joy and love
In Jesus Christ His only son.

Creation waits the coming King,
Let all the world rejoice and sing.
Join with all nature, praise His name
Until He come again to reign!

Offertory Prayer — Chase Mauney

Offertory *"Adagietto in E major"* Matthew Cates
By Samuel Wesley

Scripture Reading *Zechariah 9:9-10* Jennie Kerley

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *"I Wonder as I Wander"* Sanctuary Choir
Arranged by Kyle Pederson

Sermon *"The Hope of the Donkey"* Gina Brock

Creation Waits the Coming King
Let All the World Rejoice and Sing
Join with All Nature, Praise His Name
Until He Comes Again to Reign

Time of Response — Gina Brock

Hymn 173 *"Lift Up Your Heads"* All Worshipers

Lift up your heads, you mighty gates;
Behold, the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your hearts;
Make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heaven's employ,
Adorned with prayer, and love, and joy.

Redeemer, come, we open wide
Our hearts to You; here, Lord, abide;
Your inner presence let us feel;
Your grace and love in us reveal.

Life of the Church — Kathryn Packett

Benediction — Gina Brock

As you go,
*may the **hope of the donkey** steady your journey,*
*the **peace of the wolf** calm your spirit,*
*the **joy of all creation** lift your heart,*
*and the **love of the Shepherd** guide your steps.*

And as we long for the coming Christ,
may His light shine upon you
and upon all creation that waits for redemption.

*Go from this place in **hope, peace, joy, and love,***
*in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.***

Postlude *"Andante Religioso with Movement in Eb major"* Matthew Cates
By Samuel Wesley