

FOR FURTHER READING

- Walter Brueggemann. *Living Toward a Vision: Biblical Reflections on Shalom*. United Church Press, 1976.
- Dan Flores. *Wild New World: The Epic Story of Animals & People in America*. W.W. Norton & Company, 2022.
- Elizabeth Goudge. *My God and My All: The Life of Saint Francis of Assisi*. Plough, 1959.



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

THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 7, 2025; 8:15 A.M.

ALL CREATION WAITS:  
ADVENT WITH NATURE

*“Every creature is a glittering,  
glistening, mirror of divinity.”  
– St. Hildegard of Bingen*

Gathering Music	<i>“Lo, How a Rose” Arranged by J.B. Taylor</i>	David Fitzgerald
	<i>“All Is Well” By Michael W. Smith</i>	Alyssa Prillaman
Welcome & Invitation to Worship		Lee Ritchie
Parent-Child-Congregation Covenant		Lee Ritchie
	<i>Graham Ryan Packett Son of Ryan and Kathryn Packett</i>	
Prayer of Dedication		Lee Ritchie
Advent Reflection	<i>“God with Us”</i>	Media Clip
Hymn 79	<i>“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”</i>	All Worshipers
Lighting the Advent Candle of Peace	David & Debbie Niblock	
Response	<i>“Creation Waits the Coming King”</i> <i>Words by David Fitzgerald</i>	All Worshipers
Offertory Prayer		Paul McElroy
Offertory	<i>“In the Bleak Midwinter” Arranged by J.B. Taylor</i>	David Fitzgerald
Scripture Reading	<i>Isaiah 11:6-9</i>	Aden Ellerbe
Song of Faith	<i>“Emmanuel” By Hannah Kerr</i>	Amanda Walker
Sermon	<i>“The Peace of the Wolf”</i>	Tyler Tankersley
Practicing the Presence of God		Tyler Tankersley
Hymn 132	<i>“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”</i>	All Worshipers
Life of the Church		Lee Ritchie
Benediction		Tyler Tankersley

All Creation Waits  
ADVENT WITH NATURE



The Peace of the Wolf  
ISAIAH 11:6-9

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 7, 2025  
ARDMORE BAPTIST CHURCH

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” and “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” arr. by Catherine McMichael ©2010 Latham Music, a div. of LudwigMasters Publications  
“Once in Royal David’s City” arr. by Dan Goeller ©2004 Dan Goeller Music  
“The Friendly Beasts” arr. By Dan Forrest ©2007 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.  
“Rise Up, Shepherd” by Charles Callahan 1993 Concordia Publishing House  
Printed music and online streaming/podcast used by permission, all rights reserved from ONE LICENSE, License #A-735635, or CCLI, License #20180248 & 1356726.



THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 7, 2025; 10:45 A.M.

ALL CREATION WAITS:  
ADVENT WITH NATURE

“Every creature is a glittering,  
glistening mirror of divinity.”  
– St. Hildegard of Bingen

CREATION WAITS THE COMING KING  
LET ALL THE WORLD REJOICE AND SING  
PREPARE TO GREET EMMANUEL  
THE ONE WHOM PROPHETS DID FORETELL

Gathering Music Sean & Courtney Simmons

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”  
“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”  
Arranged by Catherine McMichael

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 Lee Ritchie

Parent-Child-Congregation Covenant Lee Ritchie

Graham Ryan Packett  
Son of Ryan and Kathryn Packett

**Child:** I am a child of God, and though I cannot speak for myself yet, I have been spoken for. God loves me. He created me and entrusted me to my parents. Today I give thanks to all who would love and care for me. I thank God, my parents, and my church family for incarnating the love of Jesus Christ.

**To parents:** Parents, do you today dedicate yourselves to raising this precious gift of life in the instruction and discipline of the Christian faith? Do you dedicate yourselves to loving him, encouraging his curiosity, and fostering his unique God-given individuality? Do you commit yourselves to bringing him to church, teaching him to read the Bible, and praying with him in the home and away from home? Do you dedicate yourselves to living as Christian witnesses before him every day, fully aware of your own fallibility but equally aware of the persevering grace of our Lord Jesus Christ? **(We Do.)**

**To the church: (stand)** Do you recognize that you all are the body of Christ and, therefore, see that you have a responsibility to this child and his parents? Do you commit yourselves to teaching

him the doctrines of the Christian faith, being a witness for Jesus Christ to him here and in this community, praying for him so he may be equipped through the ministries of this church to hear, respond, and grow in the Gospel of Jesus Christ? **(We do.)**

Prayer of Dedication Lee Ritchie

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

Creation Crèche (wolf, lamb) Child

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.

Hymn 79 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” All Worshipers

Lighting the Advent Candle of Peace Niland Family

Hymn “Creation Waits the Coming King” All Worshipers  
Words by David Fitzgerald

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.  
God brings us hope, peace, joy and love  
In Jesus Christ His only son.

Offertory Prayer Paul McElroy

Offertory “Once in Royal David’s City” Orchestra  
Arranged by Dan Goeller

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.

Scripture Reading Isaiah 11:6-9 Levi Trenchard

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

Anthem “The Friendly Beasts” Sanctuary Choir  
Arranged by Dan Forrest  
Sean Simmons, violin

Jesus, our Brother, strong and good,  
Was humbly born in a stable rude,  
And the friendly beasts around Him stood,  
Jesus, our Brother, strong and good.

“I,” said the cow, all white and red,  
“I gave Him my manger for His bed,  
I gave Him hay to pillow His head;  
I,” said the cow, all white and red.

“I,” said the dove, from the rafters high,  
“I cooed Him to sleep that He should not cry,  
We cooed Him to sleep, my mate and I;  
I,” said the dove, from the rafters high.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Thus all the beasts, by some good spell,  
In the stable dark were glad to tell  
Of the gifts they gave Emmanuel,  
The gifts they gave Emmanuel.

Sermon “The Peace of the Wolf” Tyler Tankersley

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 Tyler Tankersley

Hymn 132 “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” All Worshipers

Life of the Church Lee Ritchie

Benediction Tyler Tankersley

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 “Rise Up, Shepherd” Matthew Cates  
By Charles Callahan