

**Music Box**

— ADVENT II — DECEMBER 4, 2011 —

**Katherine Edison, soprano**  
**Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano and organ**

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came ..... Basque carol  
The Carol of the Birds..... Spanish carol; arr. by Robert Shaw  
Mariä Wiegenlied..... Martin Boelitz/Max Reger (1873-1916)  
A Slumber Song of the Madonna..... Alfred Noyes/Michael Head  
(1900-1976)

My soul doth magnify the Lord ..... Randall Thompson (1899-1984)  
(Magnificat) from “The Nativity according to Saint Luke”

He Shall Feed His Flock  
from “Messiah” ..... George Frederick Handel (1685-1759)  
O Jesulein süß ..... Chorale by Hall, 1650  
music by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Chorale Prelude on  
“Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her” ..... J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

**Magnificat**

My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden:  
for behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath done to me great things;  
and holy is his name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him  
from generation to generation to Abraham,  
and to his seed for ever.  
Amen.

*Melinda Coffey Armstead*



**Painless and Economical**

If you use the internet, why don't you have the weekly newsletter sent to you via email? It is fast, easy and saves the church money — here's what to do: Send an email to the office at [citf@mbay.net](mailto:citf@mbay.net) and ask Kay to put you in the list. You will receive it early every week!

**Church in the Forest**  
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# Church in the Forest

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Monday morning, November 28, 2011

Dear members and friends,

## God visits God's people

*God spoke all these words: "I, the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me." —Exodus 20:1-3*

The journey was becoming harder by the day. The hot, dry desert air caked in their throats. They choked on the dust. At last they arrived at the river at the base of the holy mountain. The children of Israel, newly freed from slavery in Egypt, had no clue about the breathtaking events that would unfold in the next few days.

First came thunder and lightning. Next, a thick, menacing cloud settled on the top of the mountain. Finally, fire descended upon the peak and wrapped the entire mountain in smoke. God had come to visit his people. Moses, having heard God's summons, slowly began to climb the rocky slope.

Then God spoke. Not once, but ten times the voice of God thundered down the mountain slopes as God established his law for all time. But notice what God said first. He prefaced his ten commandments with these critical words. "I brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery." God's righteous law is based on God's righteous activity. God acts on behalf of his chosen ones and calls them into a covenant relationship and a life of service.

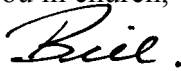
Three questions for this week:

- How has God acted graciously on your behalf?
- Why are the Ten Commandments still important?
- How can we follow them in our daily lives?

*Prayer for the week:*

*Loving God, we thank you for reaching out to us to bring us into your covenant community before we knew how to reach for you. Grant us your grace to obey you in all things and serve our neighbors in your name. Amen.*

See you in church,

  
William B. Rolland

**Announcement:** The 2012 Flower Rota is on the bulletin board—and while you are signing up, we need ushers for our Christmas services—please sign up if you are able to help!

## Advent/Christmas Music at Church in the Forest

Advent III	December 11	Stevenson Chamber Singers
Advent IV	December 18	Carmen Martin, mezzo-soprano
Christmas Eve	December 24	Wildcoast Brass and vocalists
Christmas Day	December 25	Melinda Coffey Armstead

## Calendar

**Sunday, December 4, 2011 — Second Sunday of Advent**

**8:30 AM Bible Study with the Rev. Charles Anker.** This week's topic: James 5: 1-3. Selfish Wealth: The Worthlessness of Riches

**9:15 AM Music Prelude**

**9:30 AM Holy Communion**

**Passages** Isaiah 40:1-5; Psalm 85:1-4, 9-13; Luke 1:25-36

**Lector** Student

**Crucifer** Leslie Mulford

**Prayers of the People:** Howard Colehower

**Flowers** Lloyd Nattkemper

**Cookies** Linda Colehower and Mary Towne

**Altar Care** Kathryn Lawrence Hicks

**Ushers** Students

**Sermon** the Rev. Charles Anker

**Title** "Expecting a Surprise"

**Saturday, December 10, at 10 am. Dressing of the church.**

**This is a fun gathering and we need some good help!**