



CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2021

11:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE

II:00 p.m.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE: "Sonata in D major" G.F. Handel
"Silent Night! Holy Night!" Dale Wood

*Diane Zelickman, violin; James Ryan, viola; Claire Learned, harp;
Samuel Metzger, harpsichord and organ*

CALL TO WORSHIP David Bowen

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 90 "Of the Father's Love Begotten" DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Words: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius; tr. John M. Neale / Music: Plainsong Melody; arr. Charles W. Douglas / John 1:1, 14

Choir:

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the Ending He,
Of the things that art, that have been, and that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!

♠ *Congregation stands and sings:*

2. O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed,
3. This is he whom heav'n - taught sing - ers
4. O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore him;

when the Vir - gin, full of grace,
sang of old with one ac - cord,
an - gel hosts, his prais - es sing;

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The first system contains the first line of the hymn, with three verses of lyrics. The second system contains the second line of the hymn, also with three verses of lyrics. The third system contains the third line of the hymn, with three verses of lyrics. The fourth system contains the fourth line of the hymn, with three verses of lyrics. The lyrics are: 2. O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, 3. This is he whom heav'n - taught sing - ers 4. O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore him; when the Vir - gin, full of grace, sang of old with one ac - cord, an - gel hosts, his prais - es sing;

by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
whom the Scrip - tures of the proph - ets
all do - min - ions, bow be - fore him

bore the Sav - ior of our race;
prom - ised in their faith - ful word;
and ex - tol our God and King;

and the babe, the world's Re - deem - er,
now he shines, the long - ex - pect - ed;
let no tongue on earth be si - lent,

first re - vealed his sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
let cre - a - tion praise its Lord, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE.....Christy and Keith Young

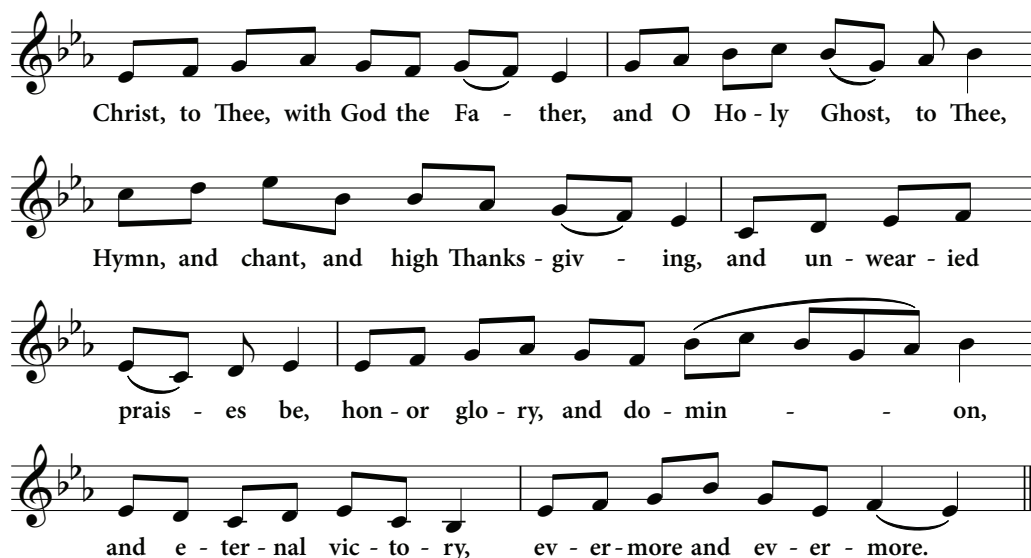
✦GOSPEL LESSON John 1:1-14
(page 886 in pew Bible)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Words: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius; tr. John M. Neale / Music: Plainsong Melody; arr. Charles W. Douglas / John 1:1, 14



Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, and O Ho - ly Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn, and chant, and high Thanks - giv - ing, and un - wear - ied
prais - es be, hon - or glo - ry, and do - min - - on,
and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

✦INVOCATION

CHORAL MEDITATION: "What Sweeter Music" John Rutter

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King? Awake the voice! Awake the string!
Dark and dull night, fly hence away, and give the honor to this day,
That sees December turned to May. That sees December turned to May.

Why does the chilling winter's morn smile like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly-shorn, thus, on the sudden? Come and see
The cause, why things thus fragrant be: 'Tis He is born, whose quickening birth
Gives life and luster, public mirth, to heaven and the under-earth.

We see Him come and know Him ours, who, with His sunshine and His showers,
Turns all the patient ground to flowers. Turns all the patient ground to flowers.
The darling of the world is come, and fit it is, we find a room
To welcome Him, to welcome Him.

The nobler part of all the house here is the heart.
Which we will give Him; and bequeath this holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do Him honor, who's our King, and Lord of all this reveling.

What sweeter music can we bring, than a carol for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?

*The Chancel Choir
Calvin Ellis, director*

✦PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

♠HYMN OF PREPARATION:

No. 176 "Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor" QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE

Words: Frank Houghton / Music: French Carol Melody; arr. Charles H. Kitson / II Corinthians 8:9

1. Thou who wast rich be - yond all splen - dor, all for love's sake be -
 2. Thou who art God be - yond all prais - ing, all for love's sake be -
 3. Thou who art love be - yond all tell - ing, Sav - ior and King, we

cam - est poor; thrones for a man - ger didst sur - ren - der,
 cam - est man; stoop - ing so low, but sin - ners rais - ing,
 wor - ship thee. Em - man - u - el, with - in us dwell - ing,

sap - phire-paved courts for sta - ble floor. Thou who wast rich be -
 heav'n - ward by thine e - ter - nal plan. Thou who art God be -
 make us what thou wouldst have us be. Thou who art love be -

yond all splen - dor, all for love's sake be - cam - est poor.
 yond all prais - ing, all for love's sake be - cam - est man.
 yond all tell - ing, Sav - ior and King, we wor - ship thee.

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 7:14-17
(page 863 in pew Bible)

The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the Word of our God will stand forever. (Isaiah 40:8)

SERMON: Come to Help George Robertson

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

This is the Lord's table. All who profess their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are invited to receive communion. If this is not your faith, we would still encourage you to walk forward, knowing that no one will make you take the elements. Any of our elders or pastors will be happy to talk to you about questions or doubts you have about faith in Christ. We encourage children not to take communion until they have joined the church but do welcome them to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. All communion wafers are gluten free.

✦PROFESSION OF OUR FAITH The Nicene Creed

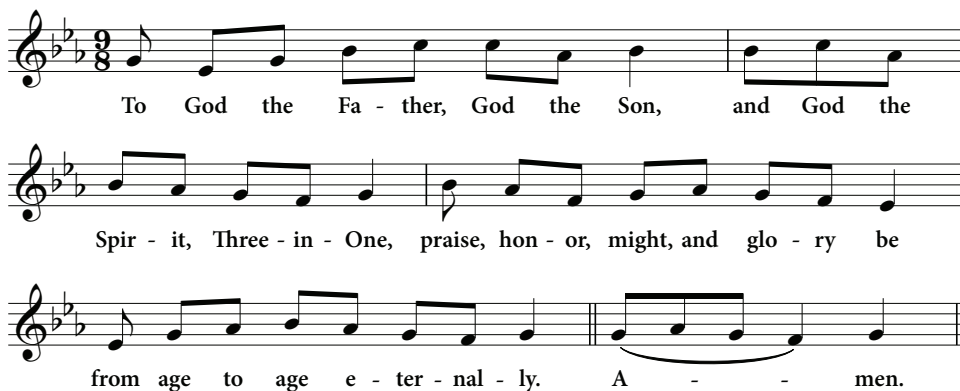
**We believe in one God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by Whom all things were made;
Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man,
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again with glory
to judge both the living and the dead;
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

✠ GLORIA PATRI CONDITOR ALME

Words: Latin Hymn; tr. John M. Neale / Music: Plainsong; C. Winfred Douglas / Philippians 2:10-11



CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy Father, who sent Your one and only Son
to bear the sin of the world
and to bring life and light to sinners far and wide,
we confess our need of Your gracious and forgiving love,
for we have violated Your commandments
by our thoughts, words, and deeds,
and we are without excuse.
On this holy night, we cast our sins upon Jesus
and pray that You would heal us of our guilt and shame
and of our wandering hearts,
that we may serve You with glad obedience,
to the everlasting glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON..... Matthew 1:21

*She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus,
for he will save his people from their sins.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For Thine is the Kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

No. 147: "The First Noel"THE FIRST NOEL

Words and Music: Trad. English Carol / Luke 2:8



1. The first No - el, the an - gels did say, was to
2. They look - ed up and saw a star shin-ing
3. And by the light of that same star three
4. Then en - tered in those wise men three, full
5. Then let us all with one ac - cord sing



cer - tain poor shep-herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in the east, be - yond them far, and to the
wise men came from coun - try far; to seek for a
rev - 'rent - ly up - on their knee, and of - fered
prais - es to our heav - en - ly Lord; who hath made



they lay keep-ing their sheep, on a cold win-ter's night that
earth it gave great light, and so it con - tin - ued both
king was their in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher -
there, in his pres - ence, their gold and myrrh and
heav'n and earth of naught, and with his blood hu - man -

was so deep.
 day and night.
 ev - er it went. No - el, no - el, no - el, no -
 frank - in - cense.
 kind hath bought.

el, born is the King of Is - ra - el!

“Alleluia” from *Exultate Jubilate*W.A. Mozart

Music: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart / Revelation 19:6

Valetta Brinson, soloist

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LIGHTING OF THE CHURCH

HYMN OF CHRIST’S BIRTH: No. 162 “Silent Night! Holy Night!” STILLE NACHT

Words: Joseph Mohr / Music: Franz Grüber / Luke 2:16

1. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
2. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight!
3. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
4. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

round yon vir - gin moth - er and child. Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild,
Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
with the an - gels let us sing al - le - lu - ia to our King;

sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!

♠HYMN OF JOY: No. 128 "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come" ANTIOCH

Words: Isaac Watts / Music: G.F. Handel; arr. Jerry Westenkuehler / Psalm 98:4

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re -
He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the
ceive her King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
na - tions prove the glo - ries of His right - eous -
room, and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
- ness and won - ders of His love, and won - ders of His
sing, and heav'n and heav'n and na - ture sing.
love, and won - ders won - ders of His love.

♠BENEDICTION

♠BENEDICTION RESPONSE GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

POSTLUDE: "Hallelujah Chorus" G.F. Handel; arr. Samuel Metzger

♠Indicates congregation standing

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December 26 Worship & Family Fellowship Hour

This Sunday, we'll worship in the Sanctuary at our normal times: 8:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 6:00 p.m. In lieu of Sunday School that day, all are invited to the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. for Family Fellowship Hour, where we will enjoy coffee and scones. Note: The nursery will only be open for the 8:15 a.m. service.



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