



# A Christmas Eve Liturgy

December 24, 2020  
5:30, 8:00, and 11:00 p.m.

PRELUDE: "O Holy Night" . . . . . Adolphe Adam; arr. Metzger  
*Samuel Metzger, organ*

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE . . . . . Jennifer and Hope Brandon

CALL TO WORSHIP . . . . . Todd Erickson

HYMN OF PRAISE: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" . . . . . ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold Him born the King of angels!

*O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!*

God of God, Light of Light;  
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb:  
Very God, begotten, not created;

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation.  
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God, in the highest!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.

PROPHETIC LESSON . . . . . Isaiah 60:1-3, 18-22

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Violence shall no more be heard in your land, devastation or destruction within your borders; you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise.

The sun shall be no more your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give you light; but the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory. Your sun shall no more go down, nor your moon withdraw itself; for the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended. Your people shall all be righteous; they shall possess the land forever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I might be glorified. The least one shall become a clan, and the smallest one a mighty nation; I am the Lord; in its time I will hasten it.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE . . . . . VENI EMMANUEL

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

INVOCATION

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 our lack of awe and wonder in worship,  
for our failure to know, trust, and rest in Your promises,  
and for our aversion to embracing the cost of following our Savior.  
Thank you for appointing Jesus to rescue us  
and to bring us safely to His everlasting Kingdom.  
We make our prayer in His glorious name.**

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.*

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE GIFTS OF GOD

*The offering this evening will benefit the Caring Fund, which is used to assist those in need among our members and in our community. Visit [2pc.org/caring](http://2pc.org/caring) to give online or text CARING followed by the gift amount to (901) 410-9500.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "Candlelight Carol" . . . . . John Rutter

How do you capture the wind on the water?  
How do you count all the stars in the sky?  
How do you measure the love of a mother,  
Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

*Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star glow  
Shine on His cradle till breaking of dawn.  
Silent night, holy night, all is calm and all is bright,  
Angels are singing; the Christ child is born!*

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore Him.  
Seraphim round Him, their vigil will keep.  
Nations proclaim Him their Lord and their Savior,  
But Mary will hold Him and sing Him to sleep.

Find Him at Bethlehem laid in a manger,  
Christ, our Redeemer, asleep in the hay.  
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation  
A child with His mother that first Christmas day.

*The Chancel Choir  
Calvin Ellis, director*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

GREETINGS

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

HYMN OF PREPARATION: "On Christmas Night, All Christians Sing" . . SUSSEX CAROL

On Christmas night, all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring;  
On Christmas night, all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring;  
News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad;  
Then why should men on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad,  
When from our sin He set us free, all for to gain our liberty.

When sin departs before Your grace, then life and health come in its place;  
When sin departs before Your grace, then life and health come in its place;  
Angels and men with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night;  
All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night:  
"Glory to God and peace to men, now and forevermore. Amen."

GOSPEL LESSON . . . . . John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON: Beholding Jesus' Glory . . . . . George Robertson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

CHORAL MEDITATION: "My Soul Will Magnify the Lord" . . . . . Getty, Townend

*My soul will magnify the Lord;  
I rejoice in God, my Savior, in the wonder of His favor.*

For He has done great things for me;  
He was mindful of His servant. Every age shall call me blessed.

The Hope of Abraham come in the giving of a Son;  
For He who promised is mighty in remembering His mercy.

My soul will magnify the Lord  
For His grace to those who fear Him through every generation.

The proud He scatters to the wind  
As the ruler's strength is broken, and the rich are left with nothing.

The humble lifted high, and the hungry satisfied;  
Our Portion and our Treasure, our Hope and Help forever.

*Christy Young, soloist  
Brad Jones, piano*

LIGHTING OF THE CHURCH

HYMN OF CHRIST'S BIRTH: "Silent Night! Holy Night!" . . . . . STILLE NACHT

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin, mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sings alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing alleluia to our King;  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

HYMN OF JOY: "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come" ..... ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE ..... GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

ORGAN POSTLUDE: Toccata on "Joy to the World" ..... Michael Dell

*String Quartet: Barrie Cooper, Lenore McIntyre, Beth Luscombe, Ruth Valente Burgess*

*CCLI License #252778*

Worship with Us on Sundays

Thank you for worshipping with us tonight. We invite you to join us  
on Sundays at 8:15 or 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. online at [2pc.org/live](http://2pc.org/live).

Visit [2pc.org](http://2pc.org) for more information about our church. Merry Christmas!

Getting Connected at Second

To find out more about who we are and how you can become part of our church community,  
or for help with specific concerns, you may contact a member of our pastoral team listed  
below by calling (901) 454-0034 or emailing [firstname.lastname@2pc.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@2pc.org).

**David Bowen**, Pastor to Middle Adults  
**Dan Burns**, Pastor of World Missions  
**Todd Erickson**, Pastoral Executive  
**Artez Henderson**, Pastoral Resident  
**Barton Kimbro**, Pastor to Young Adults  
**Jon McGuirt**, Pastoral Resident  
**Gerry Peak**, Pastor to Senior Adults

**Brett Powell**, Pastoral Resident  
**Josh Preston**, Pastoral Resident  
**George Robertson**, Senior Pastor  
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