

Christmas Eve

Festive Prelude and Worship Service

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

FESTIVE PRELUDE

Pastorale on *Away in a Manger* arr. Richard Purvis
Charles Miller, organ

Gesu Bambino Pietro Yon
Heather Voorhees, violin

Shepherd's Cradle Song German Folk Song
Wesley Gentle, baritone

Ave Maria J.S. Bach / Charles Gounod

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks Traditional carol
Miriam Gentle, harp

O Holy Night Adolphe Adam
Alia Waheed, soprano

WELCOME

Steven Moore

CHORAL INTROIT

Healey Willan

Oh, How Beautiful the Sky

Oh, how beautiful the sky with the sparkling stars on high!
How they glitter, brightly beaming, how they twinkle, gladsome beaming,
as they draw our hearts to heaven!
Wise men by this star were led to the Christ-Child's lowly bed.
Shining star, oh may we heed thee, may we know we ever need thee.
Lead us to our heavenly king.

✠PROCESSIONAL CAROL

No. 148
ADESTE FIDELIS

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God, all glory in the highest.
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.

Child, for us sinners, poor and in the manger,
we would embrace thee, with love and awe;
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born for our salvation,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.

(✠ Please stand as you are able.)

✠CALL TO WORSHIP

Beverly Goines

Leader: Tonight old dreams die and new dreams come to life. God's promise is fulfilled!

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill to all!

Leader: Hope gives way to joy, and waiting and prayer give way to proclamation.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill to all!

Leader: Candles illumine our story and show the presence of God. Dawn invades the darkness. The light of the world has come.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill to all!

Leader: This light is a light for all, igniting a flame in the soul, warming us from within, radiating love, lighting our lives with the presence of God, who has come alive in the form of the Christ-child, Jesus, and who is among us now and always.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace and goodwill to all!

✠OPENING PRAYER AND 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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

✠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

No. 155 (1, 3)
GLORIA

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ who comes in lowly birth.
Come adore on bended knee Jesus, joy of heaven and earth.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

THE LIGHT OF HOPE

Luke 2:1-7

Cecil Talbott
NT p. 55

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

ANTHEM

Flor Peeters

In Excelsis Gloria

Christ was born of a maiden fair; Hark, the angels in the air.
Thus adoring hear them there; *In excelsis gloria.*
Shepherds saw those angels bright caroling in glorious light;
God, his Son, is born tonight. *In excelsis gloria.*
Christ is come to save mankind, as in holy page we find.
Therefore sing with reverent mind: *In excelsis gloria.*

THE LIGHT OF JOY

Luke 2:8-20

Tom Kelley
NT p. 55

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

No. 167
GO TELL IT

Go, Tell It On the Mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.
The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

THE LIGHT OF WISDOM

Matthew 2:7-12

Kent Woods
NT p. 2

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

ANTHEM

David Willcocks

Resonemus Laudibus

Resonemus laudibus cum jocunditatibus ecclesiam fidelibus.
Apparuit quem genuit Maria.

*Let us make the church resound with merry praises of the faithful.
He whom Mary bore has appeared.*

Deus fecit hominem ad suam imaginem et similitudinem.
Apparuit quem genuit Maria.

*God made man in his own image and likeness.
He whom Mary bore has appeared.*

Deus fecit omnia caelum, terram, maria cunctaque nascentia.
Apparuit quem genuit Maria.

*God made all things: the heavens, earth, seas, and whatever has been born.
He whom Mary bore has appeared.*

Ergo nostra concio in chordis et organo benedicat Domino.
Apparuit quem genuit Maria.

*Therefore let our company with strings and instruments bless the Lord.
He whom Mary bore has appeared.*

Et Deo qui venias donat et laetitia nos eidem gratias.
Apparuit quem genuit Maria.

*To God, let us give thanks, who gives us joy.
He whom Mary bore has appeared.*

THE LIGHT OF WORLD

John 1:1-9, 14

Theresa Beaton
NT p. 87

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

HYMN

No. 144 (1, 2)
ST. LOUIS

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth.
Your voices raise to God in praise; and peace to all on earth.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Stephen Gentle

✠LITANY OF GLAD TIDINGS

Leader: Blessed are you, sun of righteousness, shining forth from the heavens and enlightening the whole universe.

People: Let heaven and earth rejoice!

Leader: Blessed are you, Lord Jesus Christ, reigning with the Creator and Holy Spirit above the cherubim; worshiped by the seraphim.

People: Let heaven and earth rejoice!

Leader: Blessed are you, born as a little child and laid in a manger.

People: Let heaven and earth rejoice!

Leader: Blessed are you, humble offspring of a virgin, yet truly God.

People: Let heaven and earth rejoice!

Leader: Blessed are you, giving us all we possess, yet accepting the gifts of the visitors from the East.

People: Let heaven and earth rejoice!

Leader: Blessed are you, our Bread of life, giving eternal life to our souls.

People: Let heaven and earth rejoice!

Leader: With the angelic host and all the heavenly powers, let us proclaim and celebrate our Savior's birth.

People: Let heaven and earth rejoice!

Leader: With the spirits of the just made perfect, let us magnify and bless the Lord to all eternity.

People: Let heaven and earth rejoice!

✠LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Pastoral Staff

✠CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

No. 143
ANTIOCH

Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing;
and heaven and nature sing; and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

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.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND OFFERING

Steven Moore

ELDERS' PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP

Bill Knight
Gary Lewis

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING AND RECEIVING OF GIFTS

This table is for all believers in Jesus Christ. Please come forward by the center aisle as directed by the Deacons. Baskets are available at the front for your offerings. When receiving communion, take bread from the plate and dip it in the cup. After you have received the Lord's Supper, please return to your seat by the side aisle.

ANTHEM

arr. Norman Luboff

Still, Still, Still

Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow.

For all is hushed, the world is sleeping,

Holy star its vigil keeping. Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of our Savior's birth.

The night is peaceful all around you,

close your eyes, let sleep surround you.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of our Savior's birth.

Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come.

While guardian angels without number

watch you as you sweetly slumber.

Dream, dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come.

SERVICE OF CANDLE-LIGHTING

Stephen Gentle

The light will begin with the first pew and proceed down the center aisle passing the light to each person on the aisle, who, in turn, will pass the light to the next person.

✠CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

No. 145
STILLE NACHT

Silent Night, Holy Night

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, heavenly hosts sing 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.

✠BENEDICTION

✠RECESSIONAL CAROL

No. 150
MENDELSSOHN

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings,
mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

POSTLUDE

arr. David Cherwien

Adeste Fidelis

For some, the postlude serves as festive music to accompany their going out into the world. Others prefer to remain seated and listen. Those departing can help those who listen by holding their joyful greeting of others until they exit the sanctuary.

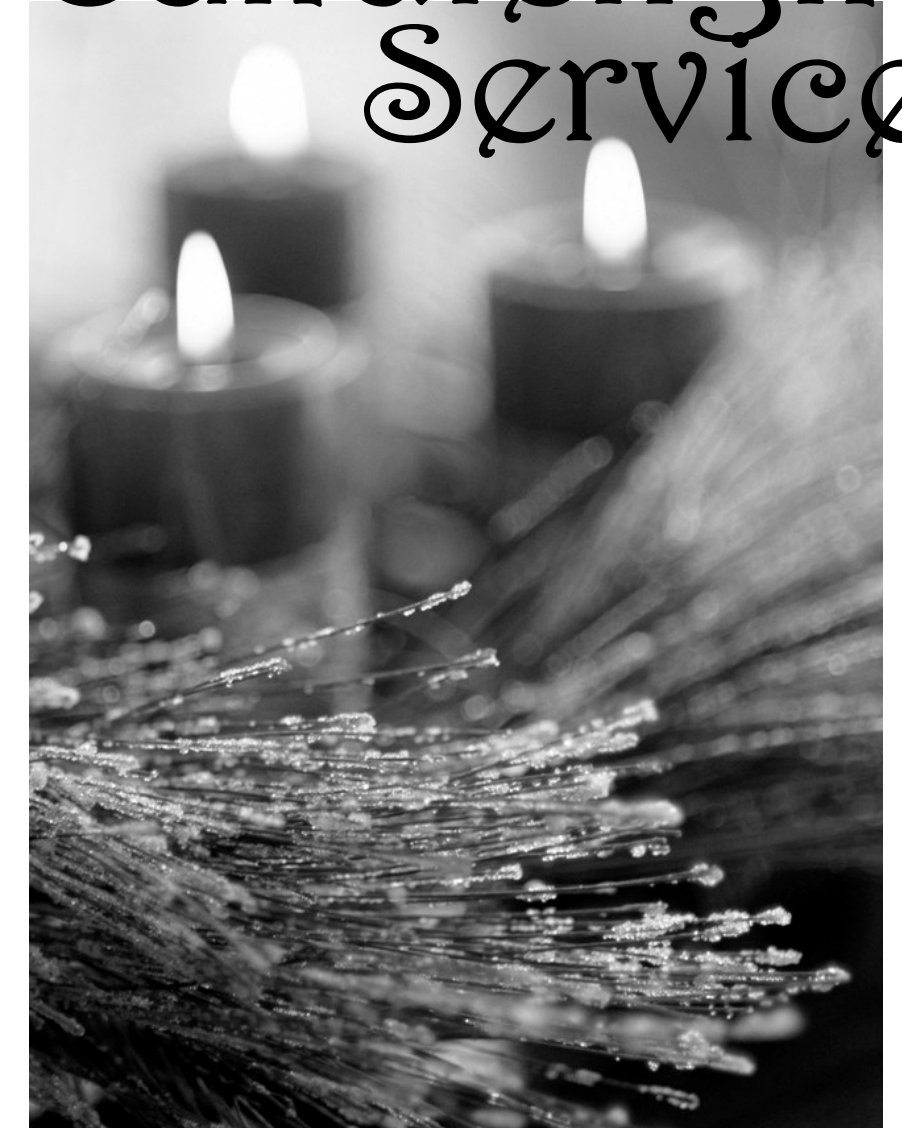
Following the worship service, our pastors are at the back and side doors of the sanctuary to greet you.

***We wish you a very Merry Christmas
and a Blessed New Year.***

*Please join us for Sunday worship at 10 a.m. on December 26 and January 2.
Regular worship hours of 8:30 and 11 a.m. will resume on January 9.
Hispanic worship services will continue through the holidays at 11 a.m.
in Phillips Chapel.*

Worship and preaching resources: Chalice Worship, Colbert S. Cartwright and O.I. Cricket Harrison, ed. (St. Louis: Chalice Press, 1999), Seasons of the Spirit, Craig Schaub, et. al., (British Columbia, Canada: Wood Lake Publishing, Inc., 2007), and When We Gather, James G. Kirk, (Philadelphia: The Geneva Press, 2001). The texts for the hymns sung during this morning service are reprinted with permission given under CCLI #2266475.

Candlelight Service



December 24, 2010

7 p.m. Festive Prelude ♦ 7:30 p.m. Worship



**National City Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**