



# Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

**December 19, 2021 10:30 a.m.**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

## Order of Worship

\*\*indicates to stand as you are able.

### **Prelude**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

arr. C. Curry

Matthew 2: 6: *O little town of Bethlehem, you are not just an unimportant Judean village,  
for a Governor shall rise from you to rule my people Israel.*

“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. O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out  
our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!”

(words by P. Brooks, 1868; music by L. Redner, 1868; words and music are public domain)

(this piano solo: Lorenz Publishing Co., 2010)

### **Introit**

*Surely the Presence of the Lord*  
(see insert)

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Lighting of the Advent Candles**

Jennifer, Kathi, and Bruce Weinel

### **Response -insert**

*Emmanuel*

### **Passing of the Peace (L: Leader; P: People)**

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

### **\*\*Call to Worship**

Jeff Bloom

L: Not in the mighty places of power, but in little Bethlehem, in a room out back:

**P: The Messiah is coming.**

L: Not born in nobility and wealth, but of Mary and Joseph, who pondered and planed wood:

**P: The Messiah is coming.**

L: Not announced by prophets, priests, and kings, but by two women, who were the first to know:

**P: The Messiah is coming.**

L: Nothing will be impossible for God, but when and where we least expect it, look among the straw and  
the stars:

**P: The Messiah is coming.**

L: Let us worship God!

### **\*\*Hymn - 108**

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*

## **\*\*Silent Prayer of Confession**

## **\*\*Common Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God, Your word is like a double-edged sword. When we read about the humility, the sacrifice of your son, in comparison with our own lives, we are convicted of our sin. We have not humbled ourselves in the ways that you have called us to. We have bragged of our accomplishments, boasted of our talents, acting as if we are the ones responsible for all the good things that come to us. But when we read your word, we are laid bare, and we see our own failure to live a humble life, a life according to your easy yoke. We come to you grateful, that you are not a God who holds grudges, but your mercies are new each morning. Help us to continuously turn over to you our pride, our insecurities, that we may embody the beauty and the power and majesty of Jesus Christ in our own lives, through the power of your Holy Spirit, Amen.**

## **\*\*Assurance of Pardon**

L: Friends, this is the Good News of the Gospel...

**P: ...in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

## **\*\*Response – 82**

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*  
(verse 1)

## **Moment with Children**

### **Word in Music**

*Fling Wide the Door*

arr. J. Yarrington

*Psalms 24:7-10: Fling wide the gates, open the ancient doors, and the great king will come in.*

*Who is this great king? He is the LORD, strong and mighty, the Lord, victorious in battle.*

*Fling wide the gates, open the ancient doors, and the great king will come in. Who is this great king? The triumphant Lord - he is the great king!*

(words by G. Weissel, year unknown; music by J. Freylinghausen, 1704; words and music are public domain)

## **Prayer for Illumination**

### **Scriptures**

Micah 5:2-5a  
Luke 1:39-55

L: The Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

### **Sermon**

Hope from Small Beginnings

Rev. Scott Hoffman

## **\*\*Hymn - 100**

*My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*

## **Invitation to Offering**

*There are numerous ways to give to the work of CMPC. Offering plates will be passed through the pews and then located near the exits of the sanctuary for checks or cash to be left today. Cards with a QR code that will direct you to our online giving page are located in the pew racks.*

*Donations can always be mailed to the church at any time using the address on the back page of the bulletin. Thank you for your gift!*

Luke 2: 7: *She gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.*

"Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all. Swiftly winging angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all! Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new; saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true. Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow; Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!"

(music is a traditional Polish carol; translated to English by Edith Margaret Gellibrand Reed, 1920)  
(words and music are public domain) (this piano solo: Hope Publishing Co., 2012)

**\*\*Doxology - 150**

*As with Gladness Men of Old*  
(verse 3)

**Prayers of Thanksgiving with The Lord's Prayer (using "debts")****\*\*Hymn – 121**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**\*\*Benediction****Postlude**

*Ding Dong! Merrily on High*

arr. L. Larson

Isaiah 55:12 *You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.*

"Ding dong, merrily on high! In heav'n the bells are ringing; ding dong, verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing. "Gloria, hosanna in excelsis! Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!"  
(words by G. Woodward, 1924; music by J. Tabourot, 1589; words and music are public domain)

(this piano solo: Hope Publishing Co., 2012)

Thank you to Neil Danzig and Allen Exner for providing audio support this week!  
Thank you to Kofi Akuoko for operating the sanctuary cameras this week!

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# Announcements and Upcoming Events

## Longest Night Service

Tonight at 7 p.m.

"The most wonderful time of the year" can often be difficult for some due to loss, illness, or other hardships. Come for a quiet meditative service of remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. The service will also be livestreamed on the church Facebook page.

## Cold Weather Shelter

Friends,

I am so grateful to this congregation for answering the call for the Cold Weather Shelter mission. Your kind generosity will help feed our guests during this season. We have just one volunteer slot remaining on December 30th to fill! If you feel called to help deliver meals that evening, please sign up soon!

While we have lunches and volunteer slots covered, we still have a real and urgent need for financial support. In just over a week, we have raised nearly half of the funds we need to cover the cost of the caterer for the week, but we still have some way left to go. Please consider supporting this vital ministry with a monetary donation by giving online at [cmpcusa.org](http://cmpcusa.org) or by writing a check.

Any funding we raise over the amount needed for the Cold Weather Shelter will be donated directly to Grassroots and their considerable mission. Learn more about their critical mission at: <https://www.grassrootscrisis.org/>

Many blessings,  
Todd Stubbs

## Christmas Eve Services

We will have two services - a 5:00 family friendly service and an 8:30 traditional service. Please note that COVID protocols remain in place (masks required and every other pew blocked off) and that seating in the sanctuary will be on a first-come, first-seated basis with overflow seating set up in fellowship hall. Both services will also be livestreamed on the church Facebook page.

## Sunday Experience

Sunday Experience will be on hiatus through January 9th.

## Online Pledging Comes to CMPC

The capability to pledge online through the CMPC Bridge is now available for the annual Operating Budget, also known as the General Fund, and the "Faithfulness Received, Faithfulness Returned" ministry expansion capital campaign. Please complete only one of the online "pledge card" or a paper pledge card; do not complete both. Detailed instructions on how to pledge online are available on the CMPC blog. If you have any questions, please contact Joyce Danzig at [joyce.danzig@gmail.com](mailto:joyce.danzig@gmail.com).

## Our Financial Resources Doing God's Work

An update on some details about our finances. Thank you for your generosity to CMPC!

As of November 30, 2021 (92% of calendar year):

Actual Income \$420,750 - 91% of budget

Actual Expenses \$427,134 - 87% of budget

# Surely The Presence Of The Lord

Words and Music by  
Lanny Wolfe

♩=66

CHORUS

D F#m Gmaj<sup>9</sup> Em Em<sup>7</sup>

Sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place, I can feel His might - y

6 A<sup>7</sup> D G/D A<sup>7</sup> D F#m

pow - er and His grace. I can hear the brush of an - gel's wings I see

11 Gmaj<sup>9</sup> Em Em<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup> Em A<sup>7</sup> D

glo - ry on each face; Surely the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place.

# Emmanuel

Words and Music by  
Bob McGee

♩=80

C/E F F/E Dm<sup>7</sup> G<sup>7</sup> C Gm<sup>6</sup>/B $\flat$

Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,

The first system of music is in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains the melody with lyrics 'Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,'. The bass clef staff contains the accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the staff: C/E, F, F/E, Dm<sup>7</sup>, G<sup>7</sup>, C, and Gm<sup>6</sup>/B $\flat$ . The melody consists of quarter notes and half notes, with some notes beamed together. The accompaniment features a steady bass line with some chords.

5 A<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup>/C $\sharp$  Dm Dm/C G<sup>7</sup>/B G C E<sup>7</sup>

His name is called Em - man - u - el: God with

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble clef staff has lyrics 'His name is called Em - man - u - el: God with'. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the staff: A<sup>7</sup>, A<sup>7</sup>/C $\sharp$ , Dm, Dm/C, G<sup>7</sup>/B, G, C, and E<sup>7</sup>. The melody includes a half note and a quarter note.

10 F F/E Dm<sup>7</sup> G<sup>7</sup> C Gm<sup>6</sup>/B $\flat$

us, re - vealed in us!

The third system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble clef staff has lyrics 'us, re - vealed in us!'. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the staff: F, F/E, Dm<sup>7</sup>, G<sup>7</sup>, C, and Gm<sup>6</sup>/B $\flat$ . The melody includes a half note and a quarter note.

13 A<sup>7</sup> A<sup>7</sup>/C $\sharp$  Dm Dm/C G<sup>7</sup>/B G C

His name is called Em - man - u - el.

The fourth system of music concludes the piece. The treble clef staff has lyrics 'His name is called Em - man - u - el.' and ends with a double bar line. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the staff: A<sup>7</sup>, A<sup>7</sup>/C $\sharp$ , Dm, Dm/C, G<sup>7</sup>/B, G, and C. The melody includes a half note and a quarter note.

## Of the Father's Love Begotten 108



1 Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be - gan  
 2 By his Word was all cre - at - ed; he com-mand-ed; it  
 3 O, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed when the Vir - gin, full  
 4 This is he whom seers in old time chant-ed of with one  
 5 O ye heights of heaven, a - dore him. An - gel hosts, his prais -  
 6 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost,



to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga; he the  
 was done: heaven and earth and depths of o - cean, u - ni -  
 of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the  
 ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets prom-ised  
 es sing. Powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him, and ex -  
 to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing and un -



source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that  
 verse of three in one, all that sees the moon's soft  
 Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's Re -  
 in their faith - ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex -  
 tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be  
 wea - ried prais - es be. Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,  
 shin - ing, all that breathes be - neath the sun,  
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,  
 pect - ed. Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord,  
 si - lent; ev - ery voice in con - cert ring,  
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry,

(after stanza 6)



ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

Seldom has the wonder of the Incarnation been expressed so beautifully as in this text, created in the era when the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds were being codified and mindful of similar theological affirmations. It is set here to a plainchant melody from the late Middle Ages.

## Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.



# 100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

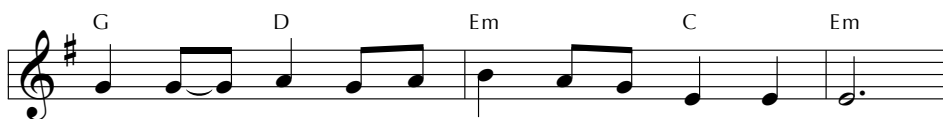
## Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you  
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer-or's crush - ing grasp.



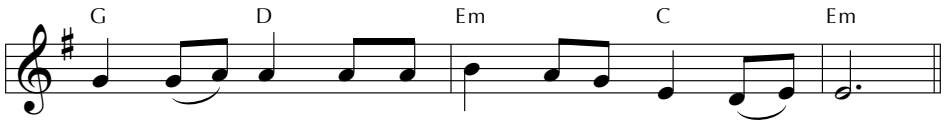
You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

(Over)

By employing an energetic Irish folk song for its melody, this ballad-like paraphrase of the *Magnificat*, Mary's song at her meeting with her relative Elizabeth (Luke 1:46-55), recaptures both the wonder and the faith of the young woman who first recognized what God was doing.



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

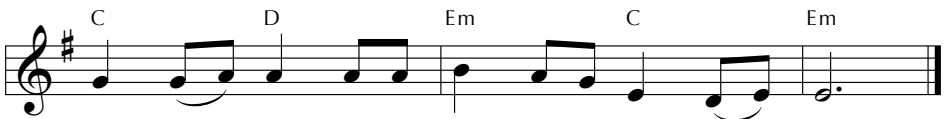
*Refrain*



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the

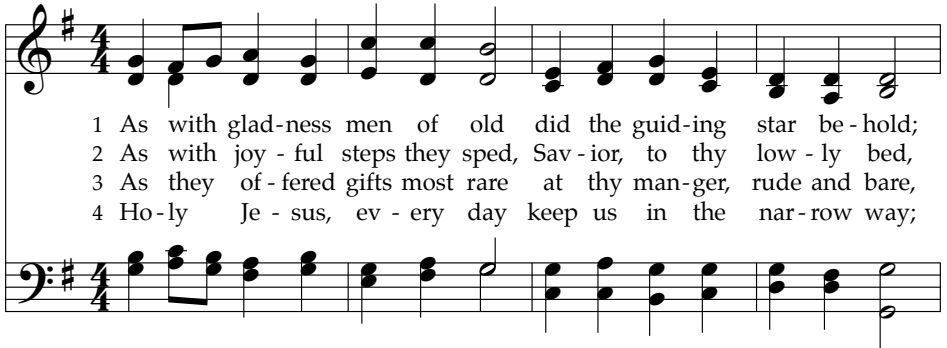


fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the

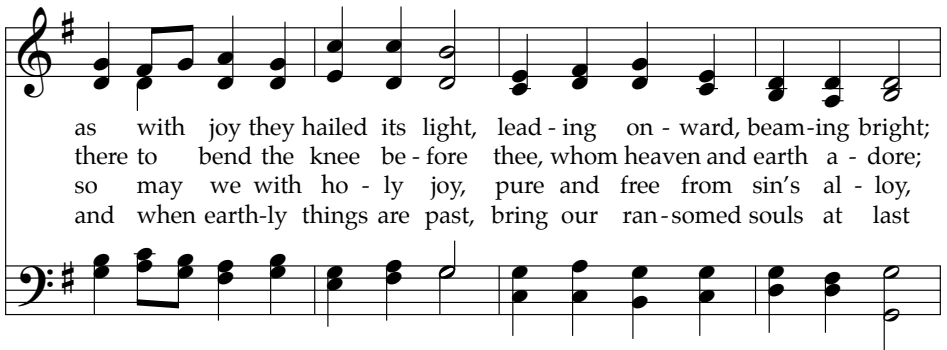


dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

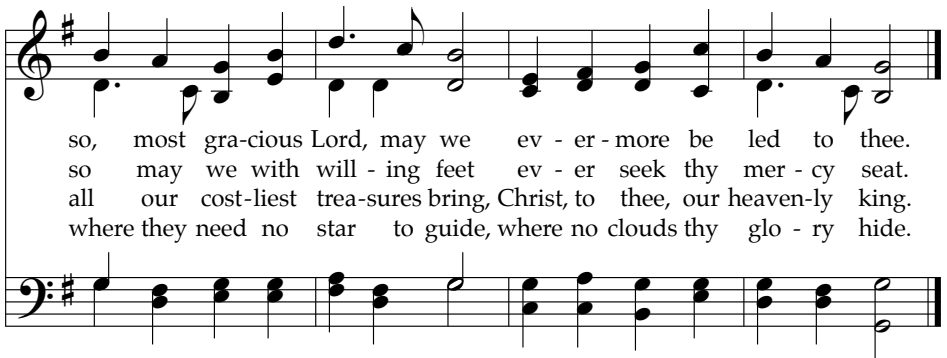
## As with Gladness Men of Old 150



1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
 2 As with joy-ful steps they sped, Sav-ior, to thy low-ly bed,  
 3 As they of-fered gifts most rare at thy man-ger, rude and bare,  
 4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-ery day keep us in the nar-row way;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;  
 there to bend the knee be-fore thee, whom heaven and earth a-dore;  
 so may we with ho-ly joy, pure and free from sin's al-loy,  
 and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last



so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev-er-more be led to thee.  
 so may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek thy mer-cy seat.  
 all our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav-en-ly king.  
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo-ry hide.

The first three stanzas here use an as/so structure to draw parallels between the coming of the Magi and the spiritual lives of the singers, summed up in the prayer of the fourth stanza. Even though this adapted German tune was named for him, the author did not care for it.

## 121 O Little Town of Bethlehem



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y and, gath - ered all a - bove,  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by.  
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;  
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.  
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 O come to us; a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!



Though he was famed during his lifetime as a great preacher, no sermon Phillips Brooks ever preached has been heard or read by as many people as have sung this carol he wrote in December 1868 for the Sunday School children of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.