

Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

December 25, 2022 10:30 a.m.

Order of Worship

**indicates to stand as you are able.

Prelude

The First Noel from A Christmas Carol Sequence

arr. J. Van Der Pol

(The First Nowell is a traditional English carol composed in 1823, and is public domain)

(this organ solo: The H.W. Gray Company, 1999; admin. by Warner Bros Publications, Inc.)

Introit

Surely the Presence of the Lord
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.
I can hear the brush of angel's wings
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Welcome and Announcements

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

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

**Call to Worship

L: Sing to the Lord a new song;

P: sing to the Lord, all the earth!

L: Sing to the Lord and bless God's name;

P: tell the good news of salvation from day to day.

L: Declare God's glory among the nations, God's marvelous works among all the peoples.

P: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

L: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.

P: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world, and those who live in it.

L: Let the whole creation sing for joy at the presence of God, who is coming.

P: God is coming indeed, to judge the earth with righteousness, and the peoples with equity and truth. Praise the Lord!

****Hymn** - 140

Once in Royal David's City

**Silent Prayer of Confession

**Common Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have not lived as your faithful children. We have kept silent in the midst of prejudice and hatred. We have been idle in the face of violence and injustice. We have not been a light to the nations, and our lives have not revealed your glory. Forgive us, Merciful God. Repair the ugliness of our sin and restore in us your beautiful grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 – 143 –

Angels, from the Realms of Glory (verse 4)
All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!

Lessons and Carols Introduction

First Lesson Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

Adam and Eve disobey God's command and disrupt the order and goodness of creation

Carol- 121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Second Lesson Genesis 22:15-18

God promises that, through Abraham, all the peoples of the world will be blessed

Carol- 88 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Third Lesson Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people who walk in darkness receive the promise of the Messiah

Carol- 123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Fourth Lesson Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

The Messiah will come from the root of Jesse to restore the peace of creation

Carol- 129 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Fifth Lesson Luke 1:26-35, 38

An angel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child

Carol- 119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Sixth Lesson Luke 2:1-7

Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where Mary gives birth to her child

Carol- 115 Away in a Manger

Seventh Lesson Luke 2:8-16

Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah

Carol- 113 Angels We Have Heard on High

Eighth Lesson Matthew 2:1-11

Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus

Carol- 151 We Three Kings of Orient Are

Ninth Lesson John 1:1-14

The Word of God becomes flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth

Carol- 122 Silent Night, Holy Night

Invitation to Offering

There are numerous ways to give to the work of CMPC. Offering plates will be passed through the pews during the offertory 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!

Offertory O How Joyfully with Ding Dong Merrily on High

arr. J. Van Der Pol

O How Joyfully is a Latin carol, composed in 1816
The tune for Ding Dong Merrily on High was composed in 1588 by J. Tabourot both are public domain

****Doxology** - 710

We Lift Our Voices

All that we have, We lift our voices: all that we are, we lift our hands; all that we hope to be, we lift our lives up to you: we give to you, we are an offering. we give to you. Lord, use our voices; We lift our voices; Lord, use our hands; we lift our hands; Lord, use our lives; we lift our lives up to you: they are yours: we are an offering; we are an offering. we are an offering.

Prayers of Thanksgiving with The Lord's Prayer (using "debts")

****Hymn** – 134 Joy to the World

**Benediction

Postlude In Dulci Jubilo (Good Christian Men, Rejoice)

arr. M. McDonald

(words are from a Medieval Latin carol; music is a 14th century German folk melody; song is public domain) (this piano arrangement: Lorenz Publishing Co., 2021)

Thank you to Allen Exner and Neil Danzig 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

Cold Weather Shelter

This month, CMPC once again joins with local churches and partner organizations to support the Grassroots Cold Weather Shelter (CWS) program.

Last year, the CWS program kept many families housed and fed in a local hotel during the winter season. This year, Grassroots will once again use local hotels to accommodate their guests. Grassroots plans to have staff onsite 24/7 and is asking congregations to supply meals for about 25 people as well as a few volunteers to support Grassroots staff each day.

CMPC continues the tradition of supporting the CWS program this year from December 26th through January 2nd. We would like to be able to provide 3 volunteers per day and 30 breakfasts, 30 lunches, and 30 dinners for the program guests residing at the hotel each day. If you are interested in volunteering and/or donating meals, please visit the SignUp Genius page below. If you have questions, please contact Todd Stubbs at todd.stubbs@gmail.com, or call 520.266.9276.



Stewardship

Thank you to all who have participated in the annual Stewardship Campaign. Over 70 households have made a commitment so far. We would love to reach our goal of 95 households (or more!) making a pledge to CMPC to support our mission in 2023. If you have not pledged, please use the QR code below to make your pledge on-line, or contact the church if you need a new pledge card. And remember, even if you already give electronically, you have to make a new pledge each year. With gratitude, The Stewardship Committee.





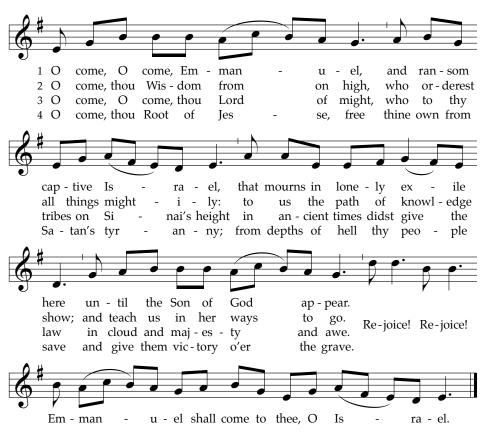
Like "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (see no. 20), this popular Christmas hymn was written by an Irish poet to illustrate for children the various articles of the Apostles' Creed. It is not known which of several English villages the composer had in mind when naming this tune.

121 O Little Town of Bethlehem



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.

88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



5 O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

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

- 6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

 Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)
 Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)
 Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)

Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3) Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)
Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4) Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear



- 1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-rious song of old,
- 2 Still through the clo ven skies they come, with peace-ful wings un furled,
- 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suf-fered long;
- 4 And you, be-neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend-ing low,
- 5 For lo, the days are has-tening on, by proph-ets seen of old,





from an-gels bend - ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold: and still their heaven-ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world: be - neath the heaven-ly hymn have rolled two thou-sand years of wrong; who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow, when with the ev - er - cir-cling years shall come the time fore - told,

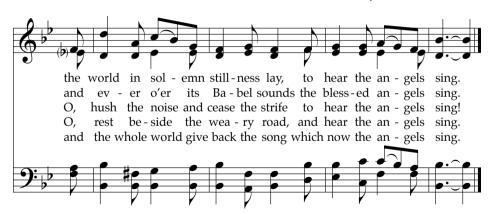




"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gra-cious King":
a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov-ering wing,
and we at war on earth hear not the tid - ings that they bring;
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing:
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen-dors fling,



The "it" of the first line of this text by a Unitarian minister does not refer to the birth of Jesus, but to "that glorious song of old," the angelic tidings of peace on earth. The restored third stanza laments how often the noise of human strife has obscured that message.



Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 129



Although the early copies of this 15th-century German text include many more stanzas than are printed here, this simpler, shorter form has much to commend it. This early 17th-century harmonization of the traditional chorale melody invites and rewards singing in parts.

119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



Brought together in the mid-19th century, the text and tune of this familiar carol began in quite different forms. The text had ten stanzas and began, "Hark, how all the welkin rings." The tune was created for a festival celebrating Gutenberg's introduction of moveable type.

(Over)

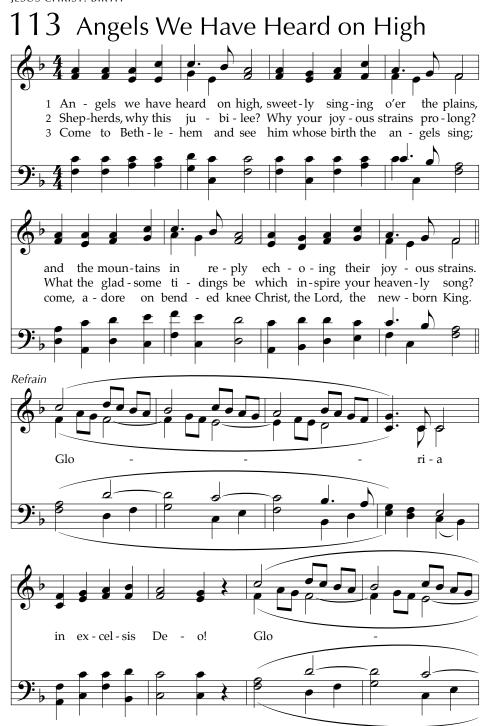


115

Away in a Manger

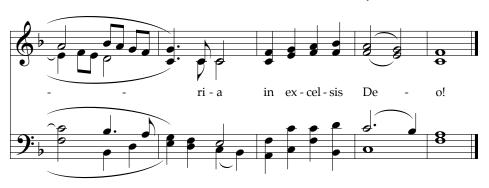


Though erroneously attributed to Martin Luther, this anonymous carol has North American roots, probably originating among Pennsylvania Lutherans. Although more than forty melodies have been connected with these words, this tune was among the earliest written for them.



This French carol probably dates from the 1700s, though it was not printed until the following century. Because it uses a vernacular language for the narrative stanzas and Latin for the refrain, it belongs to a special category called "macaronic" or mixed-language texts.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH



151 We Three Kings of Orient Are



Although Christians had begun by the 2nd century to speak of these visitors from eastern countries (Matthew 2:1–12) as "kings," perhaps because of passages like Psalm 72:10 and Isaiah 60:3, it is more accurate to think of them as magi or astrologers, the scholars of their day.



GERMAN

1 Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht nur das traute, hochheilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar, schlaf in himmlischer Ruh, schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

KOREAN

고요한밤 거룩한밤 어둠에 묻힌밤 주의부모 앉아서 감사기도 드릴때 아기잘도 잔다 아기작도 잔다

SPANISH

1 ¡Noche de paz, noche de amor! Todo duerme en derredor, entre los astros que esparcen su luz, bella, anunciando al niñito Jesús, brilla la estrella de paz, brilla la estrella de paz.

The tradition that this carol's tune was created for guitar accompaniment at its first singing on Christmas Eve 1818 seems reliable, though a recent find shows that the text was about two years old. But there is no question that this is now a favorite Christmas carol worldwide.



While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4–9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.