

A night sky filled with stars, with a prominent bright star in the upper right quadrant. A vertical beam of light emanates from this star, shining down towards a range of mountains in the foreground. The mountains are silhouetted against the dark sky, and the overall color palette is a deep, dark blue-green.

8:30 Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 2023
Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

Prelude

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear
(words by E. Sears, 1850; music (Carol) by R. Willis 1850; public domain)
(this piano solo: Lorenz Publishing Co., 2012)

arr. C. Rice

Welcome and Announcements

**Opening Sentences (L: Leader; P: People)

L: Because Christ has been born in the world,

P: people who walked in darkness now live in great light.

L: Because Christ has been born in the world,

P: the power to oppress and kill will not stand.

L: Because Christ has been born in the world, we respond in wonder:

P: with the angels, we sing glory to God; with the shepherds, we share the good news; with Mary, we ponder the words of this night, and the Word that has come into the world: Immanuel.

L: God is with us! Let us worship God!

**Hymn - 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

**Silent Prayer of Confession

**Common Prayer of Confession

God of Love Incarnate, we confess that, with the shepherds, we are terrified of your glory; for in glory's light we see plainly all that is wrong in the world: how oppression still enslaves; how garments of war are still stained with blood; how those seeking refuge still find no place of safety. We also see what is wrong in us: how passionately we pursue the things of this world, but forget to ponder the mystery of faith; how we do not practice the peace you intend in our relationships, our community, or even in the church. Forgive us, we pray, and help us not to be afraid. Like the shepherds, we want to follow and find you. In the Savior's name we pray. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon

L: Isaiah foretold the good news that is now proclaimed to us:

P: The Lord has comforted the people and redeemed Jerusalem.

L: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

P: Thanks be to God!

**Response - 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
(verse 3)

**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!"**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Ueckermann Family

Word in Music

Candlelight Christmas Canon (from Darkness into Light)
Trinity Choir

by M. McDonald

(Alfred Music, 2014)

Responsive Litany

L: Come and stand amazed, you people, see how God is reconciled!

P: See his plans of love accomplished, see his gift, this newborn child.

L: See the Mighty, weak and tender, see the Word who now is mute.

P: See the Sovereign without splendor, see the Fullness destitute;

L: the Beloved, whom we covet, in a state of low repute.

P: See how humankind received him; see him wrapped in swaddling bands,

L: who as Lord of all creation rules the wind by his commands.

P: See him lying in a manger without sign of reasoning;

L: Word of God to flesh surrendered, he is wisdom's crown, our King.

P: See how tender our Defender at whose birth the angels sing.

L: O Lord Jesus, God incarnate, who assumed this humble form,

P: counsel me and let my wishes to your perfect will conform.

L: Light of life, dispel my darkness, let your frailty strengthen me;

P: let your meekness give me boldness, let your burden set me free;

L: let your sadness give me gladness, let your death be life for me.

P: Amen

Call to Prayer (sung)

What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the son of Mary.

Christmas Prayer and the Lord's Prayer (using "debts")

Congregational Response (sung)

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Chistian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the son of Mary.

Prayer for Illumination

We would make room for you this night of all nights, dear Lord: room in our minds and hearts; room also in our life together. Let your word be born in us anew so that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, your splendor shines in us and through us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Scripture Luke 2: 1-7

Special Music *God Is With Us* by W. Kirkpatrick
Kylee Hoffman, solo

(words and music by Wayne Kirkpatrick; Warner-Timberlane Publishing Corp./Sell the Cow Music, 2004)

Scripture Luke 2: 8-14

Special Music *Rise Up, Children, Arise!* by M. McDonald (*from Darkness into Light*)
Trinity Choir w/ Scott Hoffman, soloist

(Alfred Music, 2014)

Scripture Luke 2: 15-20

Special Music *O Holy Night* arr. D. Shipps
Tom Engle, solo

(words by P. Cappeau (translated by J. Dwight; music by A. Adams, 1847; public domain)

Homily Rev. Scott Hoffman

****Hymn – 113** *Angels We Have Heard on High*

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. Thank you for your gift!.

This evening, along with our regular offering, we will collect the Christmas Joy offering—one of the special offerings of the PC(USA). The monies collected as part of the Christmas Joy offering will be used to provide financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families as well as to enable deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic colleges and schools. If you wish to give to the Christmas Joy offering please place your donation in the envelope placed in the bulletin.

Offertory *The First Noel* arr. C. Rice

(this traditional English carol is anonymous, composed in 16th-17th century; public domain)
(this piano solo: Clumsy Fly Music/Word Music, Inc., 2001)

****Doxology**

**So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh; Come, one and all, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the son of Mary.**

The Festival of Light

Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world; those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." *The Christ candle represents Jesus, the Light of the world. The candle lighting ceremony is symbolic of the spreading of the Gospel Light from one life to another. The lighted candle is never tilted, but always held upright when giving light to another. The candles of the congregation should be extinguished after the last stanza of Silent Night.*

Hymn – 122 (seated)

Silent Night, Holy Night

1. *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.*

2. *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."*

3. *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.*

4. *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

**Thank you to John Kim and Neil Danzig for operating the sound board this evening!
Thank you to Kevin Wilson for operating the cameras!**

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O Come, All Ye Faithful 133

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain

born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

113 Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heaven - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo -

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

The image shows a musical score for the piece "Jesus Christ: Birth". It consists of two staves, a vocal line on top and a piano accompaniment line on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!". The vocal line begins with a melodic phrase, followed by a rest, then the lyrics. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The score ends with a double bar line.

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Christmas Poinsettias

The Christmas poinsettias that adorn the sanctuary today are given in memory or in honor of friends and relatives of the congregation. Those which are given in memory of loved ones are given in faith that through Christ's life, death, and resurrection those loved ones now live in peace with Him in heaven.

In memory of William Ashman Presented by Sue and Bob Ashman
In memory of Joanne & Richard Scott Presented by Sue and Bob Ashman
In memory of Joanne Peek Presented by the Barham family and the Peek family
In honor of our children Presented by the Bis family
In memory of those who have gone before us Presented by the Black-Howell family
In memory of Ann & Jerry Brasseaux and Donald Bruce Presented by Jeff and Becky Bruce
In memory of Gilbert H. and Eileen Burckart Presented by Gil and Mae Burckart
In memory of Gary Norton Presented by Gil and Mae Burckart
In memory of Dr. Donald J. Cardea Presented by the Cardea family
In memory of Amelia and Saverio Fato Presented by the Cardea family
In honor of our grandparents Presented by Charlotte and Harper Carmean
In memory of parents, Charles and Dorothy Wenner Presented by Sallie Carr
In memory of Bette and Tom Watson Presented by Shelley and Bob Clemens
In memory of Alice M. Cole Presented by Shelley and Bob Clemens
In memory of Wayne Clemens Presented by Shelley and Bob Clemens
In memory of Vella and Bob Wenzel Presented by Shelley and Bob Clemens
In memory of Betty and Ed Ceislar Presented by Shelley and Bob Clemens
In memory of Eileen Pugliese Presented by John, Molly, Ian, Colin, and Eily Fieldsend
In honor of Tom and Vonnie Fieldsend, Ruthie and Bill Stone, Jane and Terry McGinty and Julie McGinty Presented by John, Molly, Ian, Colin, and Eily Fieldsend
In memory of Katherine Gliptis Presented by the Gliptis family
In memory of Ron Schlauch Presented by Phil Henderson
In memory of Ron Laske Presented by Phil Henderson
In memory of Alfreda Gill Presented by Phil Henderson
In memory of Juanita Hoffman Presented by Scott, Ashlee, Kylee and Natalee Hoffman
In memory of Rev. Scott Hauser Presented by Scott, Ashlee, Kylee and Natalee Hoffman
In honor of our 5 beautiful grandchildren Presented by Tim and Colleen Hughes
In memory of Linda, Al and Kitty Lange Presented by Tim and Colleen Hughes
In memory of our dear friend Kathy Knott Presented by Tim and Colleen Hughes

In memory of Susan Harding and Larry Jackson Presented by the Jackson family
In memory of our parents, Luella and Harry Jenkins and Levena and Irvin Clay Presented by Bob and Jackie Jenkins

In honor of Dominic, Abigail, Natalie, Meghan and Lucas Jenkins Presented by Bob and Jackie Jenkins
In honor of our parents, Marilyn and Howard Newman and Jackie and Bob Jenkins, and our children, Abby, Meghan, and Luke Jenkins Presented by Carrie and Ryan Jenkins
In honor of all of God's children Presented by the Kim family
In memory of Ruth and Donald P. Kyle Presented by Don, Ken & Corey
In memory of brother Raymond Addo Presented by Daniel, Cordelia, Nathaniel and Faith Lamb
In memory of uncle Henry Swartz Presented by Daniel, Cordelia, Nathaniel and Faith Lamb
In memory of Carlos and Elsie Ziegler Presented by Mike and Sara McGarity
In memory of Walter and Genevieve Piaskowy Presented by Mike and Sara McGarity
In memory of Theodore Sappie Presented by Mike and Sara McGarity
In memory of Owen and Lois McGarity Presented by Mike and Sara McGarity
In memory of loved ones Presented by Greg and Jean Millard
In memory of Caryl A. Roach Presented by Allison, Tim, Hannah and Emma Miller
In honor of Mamaw, Caroline, Jessica, Joe, James and Zoey Presented by Debbie and Pat O'Neal
In memory of our parents Harlan & Betty Orndorff and Floyd & Katie Shockey Presented by Jeff and Eleanor Orndorff

In honor of our children and grandchildren Presented by Jeff and Eleanor Orndorff
In memory of South T. Lynn, Sr. Presented by Art and Liz Perraud
In memory of Marie Phillips Presented by Jane Preston
In memory of my mother Marion C. Lyman Presented by Mary Ray
In memory of Bill Vest and Ashley Vest Presented by the Robinson and Vest family
In memory of John Menio and Albert Skelton Presented by the Menio and Robinson family
In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Tischhauser Presented by Carol Rowan
In memory of Tom Rowan Presented by Sandy and family
In honor of my parents Nathaniel Dean and Mrs. Hameeda Dean Presented by Shakeela Sadiq
In memory of our son Salman Sadiq Presented by Shakeela Sadiq
In memory of Mary Ellen Salkeld Jones Presented by John and Jean Salkeld
In memory of Rosalie Wilson Presented by Ashlyn Sowell and Kevin Wilson
In honor of Robert and Suester Sowell Presented by Ashlyn Sowell and Kevin Wilson
In memory of Carrington and John Sullivan Presented by the Sullivan family
In memory of Barbara and Robert Gibbs Presented by the Sullivan family
In honor of our families in Oregon, Arizona and South Carolina Presented by Ryan, Elyn, Mollie and Sam Thomas

In memory of Don Arning, Bill and Eileen Ueckermann Presented by Jerry and Donna Ueckermann
In honor of Margaret Arning and our boys Will and Matthew Presented by Jerry and Donna Ueckermann
In memory of our parents and grandparents Presented by Jennifer, Kathi and Bruce Weinell

