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. Willis1850; 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!" 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	<i>God Is With Us</i> Kylee Hoffman, solo	by W. Kirkpatrick
(words and music by Wayne Kirkpatrick; Warner-Timberlane Publishing Corp./Sell the Cow Music, 2004)		
Scripture	Luke 2: 8-14	
Special Music	<i>Rise Up, Children, Arise!</i> by N Trinity Choir w/ Scott Hoffman, soloist	A. McDonald (from Darkness into Light)
	(Alfred Music, 2014)	
Scripture	Luke 2: 15-20	
Special Music	<i>O Holy Night</i> Tom Engle, solo	arr. D. Shipps
	(words by P. Cappeau (translated by J. Dwight; music by A. Adams, 1847;	; public domain)
Homily		Rev. Scott Hoffman
<b>Hymn</b> – 113	Angels We Have Heard on High	
Invitation to Offer	ing	

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

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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

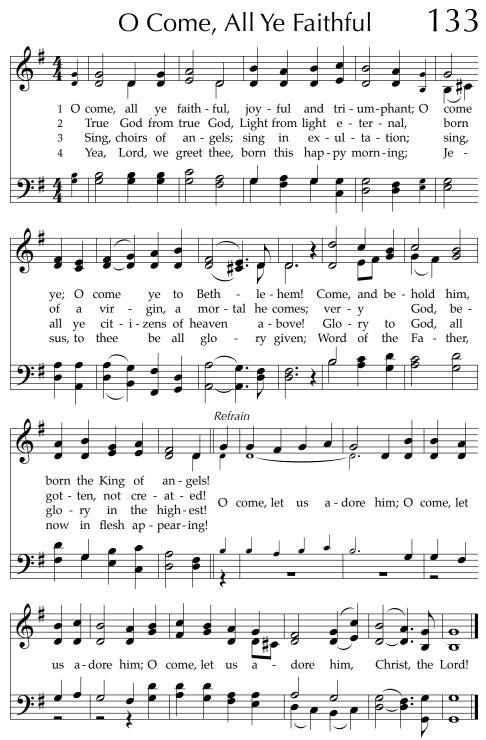
- 1. Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright, Round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2. Silent Night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight, Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia; " 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."

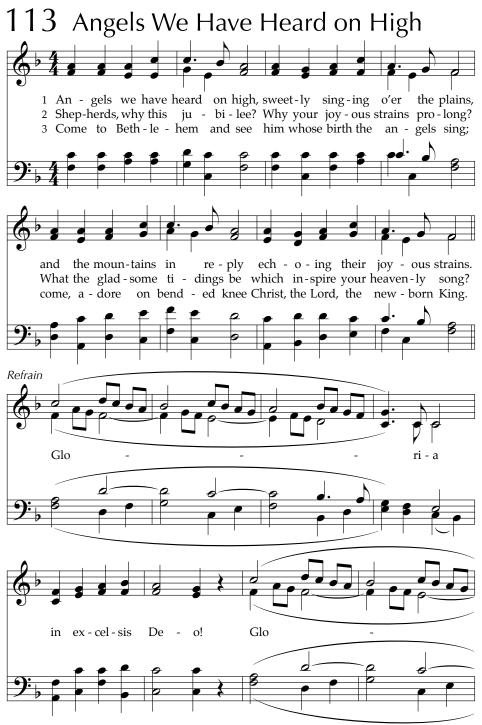
# Benediction

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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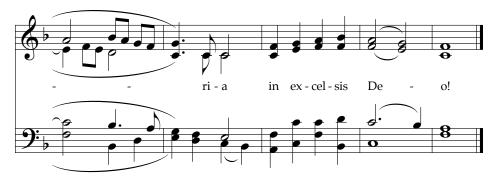


From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.



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



# **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 In memory of Joanne & Richard Scott In memory of Joanne Peek In honor of our children In memory of those who have gone before us In memory of Ann & Jerry Brasseaux and Donald Bruce In memory of Gilbert H. and Eileen Burckart In memory of Gary Norton In memory of Dr. Donald J. Cardea In memory of Amelia and Saverio Fato In honor of our grandparents In memory of parents, Charles and Dorothy Wenner In memory of Bette and Tom Watson In memory of Alice M. Cole In memory of Wayne Clemens In memory of Vella and Bob Wenzel In memory of Betty and Ed Ceislar In memory of Eileen Pugliese

In memory of Katherine Gliptis In memory of Ron Schlauch In memory of Ron Laske In memory of Alfreda Gill In memory of Juanita Hoffman In memory of Rev. Scott Hauser In honor of our 5 beautiful grandchildren In memory of Linda, Al and Kitty Lange In memory of our dear friend Kathy Knott

Presented by Sue and Bob Ashman Presented by Sue and Bob Ashman Presented by the Barham family and the Peek family Presented by the Bis family Presented by the Black-Howell family Presented by Jeff and Becky Bruce Presented by Gil and Mae Burckart Presented by Gil and Mae Burckart Presented by the Cardea family Presented by the Cardea family Presented by Charlotte and Harper Carmean Presented by Sallie Carr Presented by Shelley and Bob Clemens 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 Presented by the Gliptis family Presented by Phil Henderson

Presented by Phil Henderson Presented by Phil Henderson Presented by Scott, Ashlee, Kylee and Natalee Hoffman Presented by Scott, Ashlee, Kylee and Natalee Hoffman Presented by Tim and Colleen Hughes Presented by Tim and Colleen Hughes Presented by Tim and Colleen Hughes



In memory of Susan Harding and Larry Jackson In memory of our parents, Luella and Harry Jenkins and Levena and Irvin Clay

Presented by Bob and Jackie Jenkins Presented by Bob and Jackie Jenkins Presented by Carrie and Ryan Jenkins Presented by the Kim family Presented by Don, Ken & Corey Presented by Daniel, Cordelia, Nathaniel and Faith Lamb Presented by Daniel, Cordelia, Nathaniel and Faith Lamb Presented by Mike and Sara McGarity

Presented by Allison, Tim, Hannah and Emma Miller

Presented by Greg and Jean Millard

Presented by Debbie and Pat ONeal

In honor of Dominic, Abigail, Natalie, Meghan and Lucas Jenkins In honor of our parents, Marilyn and Howard Newman and Jackie and Bob Jenkins,

and our children, Abby, Meghan, and Luke Jenkins In honor of all of God's children In memory of Ruth and Donald P. Kyle In memory of brother Raymond Addo In memory of uncle Henry Swartz In memory of Carlos and Elsie Ziegler In memory of Walter and Genevieve Piaskowy In memory of Theodore Sappie In memory of Owen and Lois McGarity In memory of loved ones In memory of Caryl A. Roach In honor of Mamaw, Caroline, Jessica, Joe, James and Zoey

In memory of our parents Harlan & Betty Orndorff and Floyd & Katie Shockey

In honor of our children and grandchildren In memory of South T. Lynn, Sr. In memory of Marie Phillips In memory of my mother Marion C. Lyman In memory of Bill Vest and Ashley Vest In memory of John Menio and Albert Skelton In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Tischhauser In memory of Tom Rowan In honor of my parents Nathaniel Dean and Mrs. Hameeda Dean In memory of our son Salman Sadig In memory of Mary Ellen Salkeld Jones In memory of Rosalie Wilson In honor of Robert and Suester Sowell In memory of Carrington and John Sullivan In memory of Barbara and Robert Gibbs In honor of our families in Oregon, Arizona and South Carolina

In memory of Don Arning, Bill and Eileen Ueckermann In honor of Margaret Arning and our boys Will and Matthew In memory of our parents and grandparents

Presented by Jeff and Eleanor Orndorff Presented by Jeff and Eleanor Orndorff Presented by Art and Liz Perraud Presented by Jane Preston Presented by Mary Ray Presented by the Robinson and Vest family Presented by the Menio and Robinson family Presented by Carol Rowan Presented by Sandy and family Presented by Shakeela Sadiq Presented by Shakeela Sadig Presented by John and Jean Salkeld Presented by Ashlyn Sowell and Kevin Wilson Presented by Ashlyn Sowell and Kevin Wilson Presented by the Sullivan family Presented by the Sullivan family

Presented by Ryan, Elyn, Mollie and Sam Thomas Presented by Jerry and Donna Ueckermann Presented by Jerry and Donna Ueckermann Presented by Jennifer, Kathi and Bruce Weinel

Presented by the Jackson family