

For unto
us a Child
is born,
unto us a
Son is
given.

Isaiah 9.6

PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 24, 2001

11:00 p.m.

Order for the Worship of God
December 24, 2001
11:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve

Prelude

"Christmas Oratorio"
Members of the Chancel Choir

Camille Saint-Saens

Call to Worship

The Rev. Joseph Ryan

Minister: Let us go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

People: For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder:

Minister: And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

*** Carol**

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELES
text: John Wade, 1751

***Prayer of Adoration
concluding with**

Dr. Ryan

O God, take me in spirit to the watchful shepherds, and enlarge my mind; let me hear good tidings of great joy, and hearing, believe, rejoice, praise, adore, my conscience bathed in an ocean of repose, my eyes uplifted to a reconciled Father; place me with ox, camel and goat, to look with them upon my Redeemer's face, and in Him account myself delivered from sin; let me with Simeon clasp the newborn child to my heart, embrace Him with undying faith, exulting that He is mine and I am His. In Him, You have given me so much that heaven can give no more. Amen!

***Carol of Praise**

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

*GLORIA
Traditional French Carol*

Public Confession

O Source of all good, we render to You, gift of gifts, only an impoverished soul. Before Your wisdom, we are undone, with no will to return to You, and no intellect to devise recovery. You came, God-incarnate, to save us to the uttermost, as man to die our death, to shed satisfying blood on our behalf, to work out a perfect righteousness for us. Meanwhile, we live in selfishness, hard-heartedness, with a stiff-necked and unforgiving spirit. We are correct when we say, "There is no health in us." We beg You, through Your incarnate life and willing sacrifice, to pardon and blot out our sins. Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Minister: Almighty God, who does freely pardon all who repent and turn to Him, now fulfill in every contrite heart the promise of redeeming grace, remitting all our sins, and cleansing us from an evil conscience through the perfect sacrifice of Christ Jesus our Lord.

All: Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Musical Offering	"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Stephen Nielson, <i>Piano</i>	<i>HYFRYDOL</i> <i>arr. Nielson</i>
* Carol No. 171	"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"	<i>MENDELSSOHN</i> text: Charles Wesley, 1739

Christmas Eve Greeting of Peace

Scripture Reading

Luke 2.15-20

Hannah Mowrey

Meditation

"Driving Home on Christmas Eve"

Dr. Ryan

"All who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told." Luke 2.18-20

Carol

"Silent Night! Holy Night!"

STILLE NACHT

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! 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.

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

***Closing Proclamation** "Joy to the World! the Lord Is Come"

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

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.

*** Christmas Blessing**

Minister: May the God of peace Himself make you holy in every way and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: *(with a loud voice)* **Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! AMEN!**

Postlude

The Festival Brass

**The Congregation stands.*

There are baskets located at the doorways for tonight's offering which will be given to the Ministerial Relief Fund of the Presbyterian Church in America to assist retired and disabled pastors and missionaries and their dependent children.

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Musicians

Robert Adams, Jane Beasley, Lauren Bell, Adam Bell, Rachel Deffinbaugh,
Matthew Davis, Fannell Griffin, Laurel Pinard, Bea Post, Edina Sauer,
Deborah Waterman and Steve Williamson, *Soloists*
Helen Chalmers, Shannon Dobbins, Lindsey Fulmer, Sarah Vendsel, *Violins*
Rob Mowrey, Denise Hovland, Joseph Singleton, *Violas*
David Fray, *Cello*
Marisa Dillahunt, *Harp*
Stephen Nielson, *Piano*
Festival Brass and Strings
Colin Howland, *Organ*

TEACHING ELDERS

Joseph "Skip" Ryan, *Senior Minister, 214-224-2750*
Robert Allen, *Executive Minister, 214-224-2737*
Tim Tinsley, *Senior Associate Minister, Director of Family Ministry, 214-224-2760*
Paul Settle, *Associate Minister, Discipleship, Pastoral Care, 214-224-2771*
Pete Deison, *Associate Minister, Membership, Singles, 214-224-2740*
Robert Nielson, *Assistant Minister, Seniors' Ministry, 214-224-2748*
Elliott Greene, *Assistant Minister, Discipleship, Adult Education, 214-224-2748*
David Rea, *Assistant Minister, Pastor to College Ministry, 214-224-2755*