



PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DALLAS, TEXAS
DECEMBER 24, 2013
10:00 pm

THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

*Behold the father is his daughter's son,
The bird that built the nest is hatch'd therein,
The old of years an hour hath not outrun,
Eternal life to live doth now begin,
The word is dumb, the mirth of heaven doth weep,
Might feeble is, and force doth faintly creep.*

*O dying souls! behold your living spring!
O dazzled eyes! behold your sun of grace!
Dull ears attend what word this word doth bring!
Up, heavy hearts, with joy your joy embrace!
From death, from dark, from deafness, from despairs,
This life, this light, this word, this joy repairs.*

*Gift better than Himself God doth not know,
Gift better than his God no man can see;
This gift doth here the giver given bestow,
Gift to this gift let each receiver be:
God is my gift, Himself He freely gave me,
God's gift am I, and none but God shall have me.*

*Man alter'd was by sin from man to beast;
Beast's food is hay, hay is all mortal flesh;
Now God is flesh, and lies in manger press'd,
As hay the brutest sinner to refresh:
Oh happy field wherein this fodder grew,
Whose taste doth us from beasts to men renew!*

by Robert Southwell

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Christmas Eve

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus. Christ.

Prelude

"I Wonder As I Wander"
Colin Howland, *organ*

arr. Hebble

"O Little One Sweet"
Stephen Nielson, *piano*

arr. Nielson

"In Dulci Jubilo"
Festival Brass

arr. Procter

"The Rose of Bethlehem"
Jenni Rasberry, *soprano* • Mr. Nielson, *piano*

Alexander

"Born on a New Day"

arr. Knight

"Candlelight Carol"
PCPC Chamber Choir

Rutter

Call to Worship

The Rev. Mark Davis

Minister: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

People: **For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Isaiah 9.2, 6

***Hymn of Adoration No. 208** "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELES

***Prayer of Adoration concluding with**

O Source of all good, what shall I render to Thee for the gift of gifts, Thine own dear Son, begotten, not created, my redeemer, surety, substitute, His self-emptying incomprehensible, His infinity of love beyond the heart's grasp. Herein is wonder of wonders: He came below to raise me above, was born like me that I might become like Him. Herein is love: when I cannot rise to Him, He draws near on wings of grace, to raise me to Himself. 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 and adore, my eyes uplifted to a reconciled Father. Let me with Simeon clasp the new-born Child to my heart, embrace Him with undying faith, exulting that He is mine and I am His. In Him Thou hast given me so much that heaven can give no more. Amen!

***Carol of Praise No. 211 "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" GOD REST YOU MERRY**

Musical Meditation "Before the Marvel of This Night" Schalk
Chancel Choir • J. Marty Cope, *director*

Before the marvel of this night adoring, fold your wings and bow, then tear the sky apart with light and with your news the world endow. Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease: Sing peace, sing gift of peace!

Awake the sleeping world with song; this is the day the Lord has made. Assemble here, celestial throng in royal splendor come arrayed. Give earth a glimpse of heavenly bliss, a teasing taste of what they miss: Sing bliss, sing endless bliss!

The love that we have known, our joy and endless light, now to the loveless world be shown, break upon its night. Into one song compress the love that rules our universe above: Sing love, sing God is love!

Public Confession of Sin Dr. Joseph "Skip" Ryan

My Father, in a world of created changeable things, Christ and His Word alone remain unshaken. O to forsake all creatures, to rest as a stone on Him, the foundation, to abide in Him, be borne up by Him! For all my mercies come through Christ, who has designed, purchased, promised and effected them. I frequently sin against You and cross Your will, love, life, and have no comforter, no creature to go to. My sin is the continual separation, disunion, and distance from You; and my spirit often carries a care-free attitude towards You. But You have given me a present, Jesus Your Son, as Mediator between Yourself and my soul, for only He can span the chasm breached by sin, and satisfy divine justice. May I always lay hold upon this Mediator by faith. If I oppose the Word, I oppose my Lord when He is most near; if I receive the Word I receive my Lord wherein He is most nigh. O You who has the hearts of all people in Your hand, form my heart according to Your Word, according to the image of Your Son; so shall Christ the Word be my strength and comfort.

Private Confession

Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

John 3.16-17

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Dr. Ryan

A portion of tonight's offering will be given to the PCA Ministerial Relief Fund.

Musical Meditation

"Glory to God"

Handel

Chancel Choir • Mr. Cope, director
Jenni Rasberry, soprano

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And lo! the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, "Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men.

Luke 2.8-14

*Christmas Eve Greeting of Peace

Minister: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill to all people! The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*Carol No. 230 "Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor"

QUELLE EST

*The Scripture Reading

John 1.1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. ¹¹ He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. ¹² But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Christmas Eve Meditation

Mr. Davis

THE FIRST WORD OF CHRISTMAS
"The Word Became Flesh and Revealed His Glory"

Musical Meditation

"O Holy Night"

Adam

Caroline Nielson, *soprano* • Mr. Nielson, *piano*

Carol

"Silent Night! Holy Night!"

STILLE NACHT



1. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
2. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight!
3. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light



round yon vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly in-fant, so ten-der and mild,
Glo - ries stream from heav-en a - far, heav'n-ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;
ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,



sleep in heav - en - ly peace,___ sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
Christ, the Sav - ior is born!___ Christ, the Sav - ior is born!
Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth,___ Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Christmas Prayer

*Carol of Praise No. 195 "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

ANTIOCH

*The Benediction

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: Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! Amen!

Postlude

"In Dulci Jubilo"
Colin Howland, *organ*

Karg-Elert

*The congregation stands.

Park Cities Presbyterian Church exists to extend the transforming presence of the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ in Dallas and to the world.