



Christmas Eve Service

PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DALLAS, TEXAS

DECEMBER 24, 2015

10:00 pm

*This little babe, so few days old,
Is come to rifle Satan's fold;
All hell doth at His presence quake.
Though he himself for cold do shake,
For in this weak unarmèd wise
The gates of hell He will surprise.*

*With tears He fights and wins the field;
His naked breast stands for a shield;
His battering shot are babish cries,
His arrows looks of weeping eyes,
His martial ensigns cold and need,
And feeble flesh His warrior's steed.*

*His camp is pitchèd in a stall,
His bulwark but a broken wall,
The crib His trench, hay stalks His stakes,
Of shepherds He His muster makes;
And thus, as sure his foe to wound,
The angels' trumps alarum sound.*

*My soul, with Christ join thou in fight;
Stick to the tents that He hath pight;
Within His crib is surest ward,
This little babe will be thy guard.
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,
Then flit not from this heavenly boy.*

Robert Southwell (1561-1595)

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

“Little Drummer Boy/Pat-a-Pan”
J. Marty Cope, *organ*

arr. Diane Bish

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”
Stephen Nielson, *piano*

PICARDY
arr. Nielson

“Ding Dong! Merrily on High”
Festival Brass

arr. Sterling Procter

“Joy to the World”
Mr. Cope, *organ* • Mr. Nielson, *piano*

arr. Larry Dalton

“I Wonder as I Wander”
William R. Park, *solo* • Mr. Nielson, *piano*

Traditional Appalachian

“Angels We Have Heard on High”
Instrumental Ensemble

arr. Huntsinger/Goeller

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.**

*Carol 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 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

"The First Noel, the Angel Did Say"

THE FIRST NOEL



The first Noel the angel did say was to
They looked up and saw a star shin- ing
Then let us all with one accord sing



cer- tain poor shep- herds in fields as they lay, in
in the east be- yond them far, and
prais- es to our heav- 'nly Lord that



fields where they lay keep- ing their sheep on a
to the earth it gave great light, and
hath made heav'n and earth of naught, and



cold win- ter's night that was so deep.
so it con- tin- ued both day and night.
with His blood man- kind hath bought.

Refrain



No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el!



Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

O God, in the beginning You spoke,
and creation was born,
the object of Your loving care.
In the fullness of time You spoke,
and the Word became flesh,
Jesus, gift of Your love.
We wonder at the miracle of creation;
we stand in awe before the mystery of the incarnation!
Forgive us, Father,
if we have only thought of Jesus as a great teacher,
or a good example.
Forgive us,
for though Jesus came so that we might be Your sons and daughters,
we have been wayward children,
lacking in our love for You and for one another.
This year, would You lift the veil from our eyes,
so that we might behold Jesus for who He really is,
the King of kings, the Lord of lords, the Great I Am!
We wait upon You with ready hearts, O God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Private Confession

Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons and daughters. Galatians 4.4-5

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

*A portion of tonight's offering will be given to the
Presbyterian Church in America Ministerial Relief Fund.*

Musical Meditation "How Great Our Joy" *arr. Bob Krogstad*
Chancel Choir • Brian Piper, conductor

While by the sheep we watched at night, glad tidings brought an angel bright.

*How great our joy! Great our joy!
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!*

There shall be born, so He did say, in Bethlehem a Child today.

There shall the Child lie in a stall, this Child who shall redeem us all.

This gift of God we'll cherish well, that ever joy our hearts shall fill.

*The Christmas 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 all.

People: **And also with you.**

*The Scripture Reading

Matthew 1.18-25

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with Child from the Holy Spirit.

¹⁹ *And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.*

²⁰ *But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.*

²¹ *She will bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."*

²² *All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:*

²³ *"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).*

²⁴ *When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,*

²⁵ *but knew her not until she had given birth to a Son. And he called His name Jesus.*

Christmas Eve Meditation

"O Holy Night"

Mr. Davis

*Oh, holy night, the stars are brightly shining;
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth!
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary soul rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees, oh, hear the angel voices!
Oh, night divine, oh, night when Christ was born!
Oh, night divine, oh, night, oh, night divine!*

*Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here came the wise men from Orient land.
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our Friend!
He knows our need — to our weakness is no stranger.
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend!*

*Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His Gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother,
And in His Name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy Name!
Christ is the Lord! Oh, praise His name forever!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!*

Musical Acclamation

“O Holy Night”
Mr. Park, *solo* • Mr. Nielson, *piano*

CANTIQUE DE NOEL

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 Celebration No. 195 “Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come” ANTIOCH

***The Benediction**

Minister: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD
has risen upon you. Isaiah 60.1

People: **Thanks be to God! Amen!**

Postlude

“Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella”
Mr. Cope, *organ*

arr. Keith Chapman

*The congregation stands.

Musicians assisting in tonight’s service:

- Ordabek Duissen, violin*
- Laura Liu, violin*
- Sterling Tyler, viola*
- David Fray, cello*
- James South, trumpet*
- Chelsea Orr, trumpet*
- Janis South, horn*
- Ron Wilson, trombone*
- Sandy Keathley, tuba*
- Chris Deane, percussion*

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

MINISTERS

The members of this church family who, in serving their Savior and Lord,
Jesus Christ, extend His Kingdom in Dallas and to the world.
