

Christmas Sermon

O Child, Creator of All!

How humbly You lie in the manger.

You who rule powerfully in heaven!

There the heaven of heavens cannot contain You;

Here, however, You are held in the narrowest manger:

There, in the beginning of the world:

*You decorated the earth with green grasses that produced seed,
with fruit-bearing trees that produced fruit.*

You ornamented the heavens with the sun,

the moon,

and the stars,

the sky with winged birds,

the waters with fish.

You filled the land with reptiles,

draft animals, and beasts.

Here, however, in the end of the world

You are wrapped in swaddling clothes!

O majesty!

O lowness!

O sublimity!

O humility!

O immense, eternal and Ancient of Days!

O small, temporal infant

whose life is not yet one day upon the earth!

—Adam of Dryburgh (D. 1212)



ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Park Cities Presbyterian Church
2021

Christmas Eve
8:00 p.m.

Prelude

Variations on “In Dulci Jubilo” *Denis Bédard*
Dr. Nathan Davy, *organ*

“O Jesus Sweet, O Jesus Mild” *O JESULEIN SÜSS*
Stephen Nielson, *piano* *arr. Nielson*

“Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor” *Harrison Oxley*
Dr. Davy, *organ*

“On Christmas Night, All Christians Sing” *SUSSEX*
Mr. Nielson, *piano* *arr. Nielson*

“Appalachian Carol” *arr. Dan Goeller*
Instrumental Ensemble

Call to Worship

The Rev. Mark Davis

Minister: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

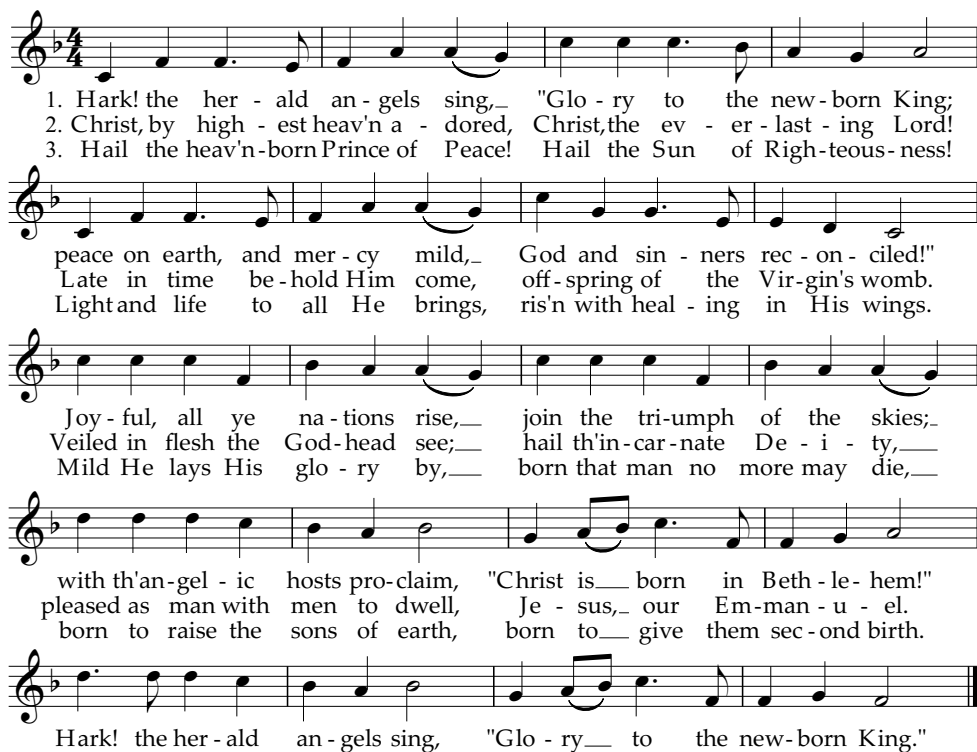
People: **those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.**

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.**



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, - "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, - God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time be - hold Him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, - join the tri - umph of the skies; -
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; - hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty, -
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, - born that man no more may die, -

with th'an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is - born in Beth - le - hem!"
pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, - our Em - man - u - el.
born to raise the sons of earth, born to - give them sec - ond birth.

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry - to the new - born King."

*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!

Musical Acclamation “Go Tell It on the Mountain” *African-American Spiritual*
Donnie Ray Albert, *vocalist* • Mr. Nielson, *piano*

Public Confession of Sin

The Rev. Dr. Pete Deison

O Lord, I marvel that You purposed to become flesh
so that You might be crucified, dead, and buried for me.
Grant me to die with You that I may rise to new life.
Purge me from selfishness, pride, and the fear of man.
Lord, high and holy, meek and lowly,
let me learn by paradox
that the way down is the way up,
that to be low is to be high,
that the broken heart is the healed heart,
that the contrite spirit is the rejoicing spirit,
that the repenting soul is the victorious soul,
that to have nothing is to possess all,
that to bear the cross is to wear the crown,
that to give is to receive,
that the valley is the place of vision.

Private Confession

Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

Luke 2.10-11

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

*Carol

“The First Noel”

THE FIRST NOEL



The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
They look - ed up and saw a star shin - ing
Then let us all with one ac - cord 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.



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



Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Dr. Deison

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

*In addition to giving via passed offering plates, you are also welcome
to give online at pccp.org/give or text "give" to 214-997-9973.*

Musical Offering

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

arr. Dan Forrest

Chancel Choir • Instrumental Ensemble

Mr. Nielson and Dr. Davy, piano • J. Marty Cope, director

*Angels from the realms of glory wing your flight o'er all the earth.
Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!*

*Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!*

*Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar.
Seek the great Desire of Nations, ye have seen His natal star.
Come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!*

*All creation join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son.
Evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!*

***The Scripture Reading: Luke 2.8-20**

- And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.*
- ⁹ *And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.*
- ¹⁰ *And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.*
- ¹¹ *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*
- ¹² *And this will be a sign for you: you will find a Baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."*
- ¹³ *And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,*
- ¹⁴ *"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"*
- ¹⁵ *When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."*
- ¹⁶ *And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby lying in a manger.*
- ¹⁷ *And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this Child.*
- ¹⁸ *And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.*
- ¹⁹ *But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.*
- ²⁰ *And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.*

Christmas Eve Meditation

"Illumination"

Mr. Davis

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Musical Acclamation

"O Holy Night"

arr. Bob Krogstad

Donnie Ray Albert, *vocalist*

Instrumental Ensemble • Mr. Nielson, *piano* • Dr. Davy, *organ*

Carol

“Silent Night! Holy Night!”

STILLE NACHT

1. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God,

all is bright Round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight! Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly
 Heav'n - ly hosts — sing: “Al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy

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

Christmas Prayer

Closing Proclamation*“O Come, All Ye Faithful”***ADESTE FIDELES*

Harmony 1. O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O
Harmony 2. God of _____ God, _____ Light _____ of _____ Light,
Melody 3. Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion,
Melody 4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap-py morn-ing,

come ye, O come ye to Beth-le-hem;
 Lo! He ab-hors not the Vir-gin's womb;
 Sing, all ye ci-ti-zens of heav'n _____ a-bove;
 Je-sus, to Thee be all glo-ry giv'n;

Come and be-hold Him born the King of an-gels:
 Ve-ry _____ God, be-got-ten, not cre-a-ted:
 Glo-ry to God _____ in _____ the _____ high-est:
 Word of the Fa-ther, late in flesh ap-pear-ing:

Refrain

O come, let us a-dore Him, O come, let us a-dore Him, O

come, let us a-dore Him, _____ Christ _____ the Lord!

***The Benediction**

Mr. Davis

Minister: Glory be to Thee, O Father Almighty, who hast given us Thine only-begotten Son, that we might live through Him. Glory be to Thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, who became man that we might become sons of God. Glory be to Thee, O Holy Spirit, who directs and rules our hearts.

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

Postlude

**“Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella”
Dr. Davy, organ**

Keith Chapman

**Please stand if you are able.*



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

We thank the following musicians for leading in worship this evening:

Filip Fenrych, *violin*
Arthur Busby, *violin*
Susan Dubois, *viola*
Debbie Brooks, *cello*
Margaret Shin Fischer, *flute*
Laura Shouha, *oboe*
Alex Kienle, *French horn*
Jared Sanders, *French horn*
Drew Lang, *percussion*

*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.*

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