He, through whom time was made,

was made in time;

He, older by eternity than the world itself,

was younger in age than many of His servants in the world;

He, who made man,

was made man;

He was given existence by a mother whom He brought into existence;

He was carried in hands

which He formed;

He nursed at breasts

which He filled;

He cried like a babe in the manger in speechless infancy this Word without which human eloquence is speechless!

Augustine



ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Park Cities Presbyterian Church 2023

Christmas Eve 8:00 p.m.

Prelude

"Carillon on a Ukrainian Carol" Nathan Davy, organist Gerald Near

Sally DeFord

"Born Is the Light of the World" Hayden Ponder, *vocalist* • Stephen Nielson, *pianist*

"Let All Mortal Flesh" PICARDY
Mr. Nielson, pianist arr. S. Nielson

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"
Dr. Davy, organist

David Blackwell

"O Come, Emmanuel" Joseph Martin Andrea Miller, vocalist • Mr. Nielson, pianist

"Wexford Carol" arr. Douglas Mears
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.

*Prayer of Adoration concluding with

us

come, let

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;

dore

Him, ___

Christ.

the Lord!

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!

Musical Acclamation "Shepherd's Pipe Carol" *John Rutter* Chancel Choir • Instrumental Ensemble • Andrea Miller, *soloist*

Going through the hills on a night all starry, on the way to Bethlehem Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping on the way to Bethlehem.

Refrain:

Angels in the sky brought this message nigh: "Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King is come to bring us peace on earth, and He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem."

"Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily on the way to Bethlehem, Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely on the way to Bethlehem?"

"None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely on the way to Bethlehem; But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies when I get to Bethlehem."

Refrain:

Angels in the sky came down from on high, hovered o'er the manger where the babe was lying cradled in the arms of his mother Mary, sleeping now at Bethlehem.

"Where is the new King, shepherd boy piping merrily, is He there at Bethlehem?" "I will find Him soon by the star shining brightly in the sky o'er Bethlehem."

"May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily, come with you to Bethlehem? Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle, is it far to Bethlehem?"

Refrain.

Angels in the sky brought this message nigh: "Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King is born in the stable yonder, born for you at Bethlehem."

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."

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



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 pcpc.org/give or text "give" to 214-833-7724.

Musical Offering "Ding Dong! Merrily on High" arr. Douglas Mears Chancel Choir • Instrumental Ensemble Nathan Davy, organ • J. Marty Cope, conductor

Ding-dong! Merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing.

Ding-dong! Verily the sky is riv'n with angels singing: Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so, here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen; and i-o, i-o, i-o by priest and people sungen! Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, you ringers; May you beautifully rhyme your evetime song, you singers. Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

*The Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9.6-7; Luke 2.8-14

Isaiah 9.6-7

- 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.
- ⁷ Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Luke 2.8-14

- 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,
- "4 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"

Christmas Eve Meditation "The Son" Mr. Davis

Lighting of the Christ Candle: John 1.1-5, 14Lois and Bryan Varenkamp

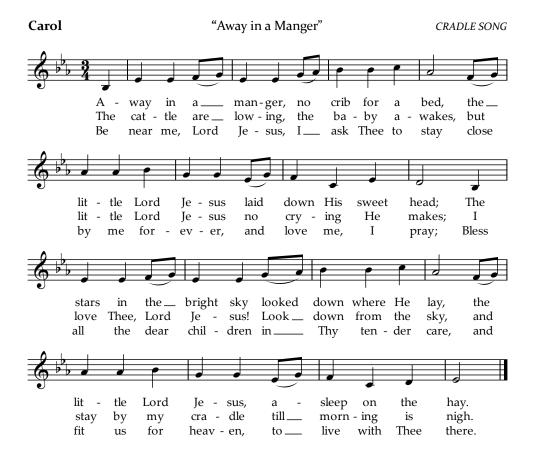
Mr. Nielson, pianist • Dr. Davy, organist • Instrumental Ensemble

O 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 world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

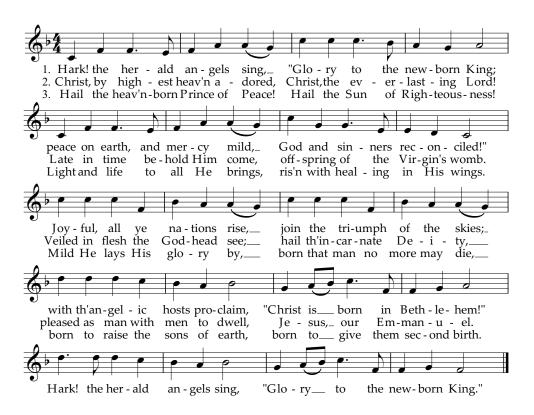
Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices! O night divine! O night when Christ was born. O night, O night divine.

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 the Orient land, the King of kings lay thus in lowly manger, in all our trials born to be our friend;

He knows our need, He guards us from all danger. Behold your King; before Him lowly bend! Behold your King; before Him lowly bend! Christ is the Lord, O praise His name forever! His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim! His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim! O holy night! O wondrous night divine!



Christmas Prayer



*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

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

Postlude "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella" *Keith Chapman* Dr. Davy, *organ*

*Please stand if you are able.

We thank the following musicians for their leadership in worship this evening:

Lucas Aleman, violin
Jina Lee, violin
Sarah Kienle, viola
Jenny Kwak, cello
Ebonee Thomas, flute
Elise Belk, oboe
Alex Kienle, French horn
Jared Sanders, French horn
Drew Lang, percussion
Debbie Brooks, contractor
Stephen Nielson, piano
Nathan Davy, organ



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

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.