

PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE

Christmas Eve

Christmas hath a darkness
Brighter than the blazing noon,
Christmas hath a chillness
Warmer than the heat of June,
Christmas hath a beauty
Lovelier than the world can show:
For Christmas bringeth Jesus,
Brought for us so low.

Earth, strike up your music,
Birds that sing and bells that ring;
Heaven hath answering music
For all the Angels soon to sing:
Earth, put on your whitest
Bridal robe of spotless snow:
For Christmas bringeth Jesus,
Brought for us so low.

— Christina Rosetti



ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Park Cities Presbyterian Church 2023

Christmas Eve Family Service 4:00 p.m.

Welcome The Rev. Paul Goebel

Introit "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" VENI EMMANUEL
Covenant Choir

Treble Ensemble and Handbells Grace Bland, Irene Davy, Jordan Macatee, Ashley McDonald, Emily McDonald, Melanie Grace McDonald, Anna Tatar, Laura Tatar

O Come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Call to Worship

Minister: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace

and truth!

People: We have beheld His glory! Alleluia!



*Prayer of Adoration

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 9.6-7

Baxter Manley, 7th Grade

Anthem

"Nativity Carol"
Chapel Choir and Covenant Choir
Laura Benedict and Katie Haring, directors
Instrumental Ensemble • J Marty Cope, conductor

John Rutter

Born in a stable so bare, Born so long ago; Born 'neath light of star He who loved us so. Far away silent He lay, born today, your homage pay; Christ was born for aye, born on Christmas Day.

Cradled by mother so fair, tender her lullaby. Over her son so dear angel hosts fill the sky.

Wise men from distant far land, shepherds from starry hills Worship this babe so rare, hearts with His warmth He fills.

Love in that stable was born into our hearts to flow. Innocent dreaming babe, make me Thy love to know.



New Testament Reading: Luke 1.26-33

Irene Davy, 7th Grade John Davy, 9th Grade

Anthem

"Go, Tell it on the Mountain" arr. Howard Helvey

Chapel Choir • Covenant Choir, handbells

Grace Bland, Irene Davy, Jordan Macatee, Melanie Grace McDonald, soloists Laura Benedict and Katie Haring, directors Instrumental Ensemble • J Marty Cope, conductor

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; Go, tell is on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! above the earth Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Down in a lowly manger our humble Christ was born, And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Please join in singing when so directed.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; Go, tell is on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

New Testament Reading and Lighting of the Christ Candle John 1.1-5, 14 Hannah McNeill, 12th Grade, and family





Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

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" 16 century French Carol Covenant Choir arr. Mack Wilberg

Katie Haring, director • J Marty Cope, conductor

Ding! dong! Merrily on high in heav'n 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, ye ringers! May you beautifully rime your even song, ye singers! Gloria! Hosanna in Excelsis!

*The Scripture Reading: 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.
- 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!"

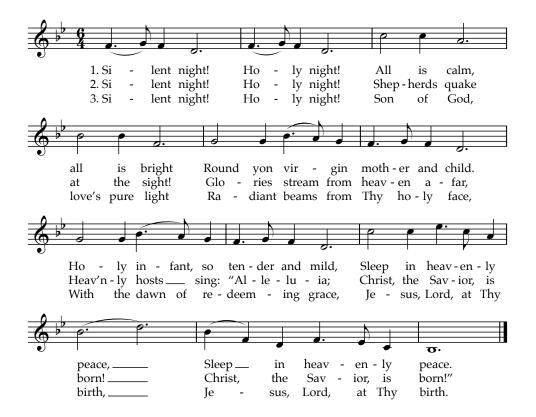
Anthem

"Night of Silence" Covenant Choir, Katie Haring, director Instrumental Ensemble • J Marty Cope, conductor

Daniel Kantor

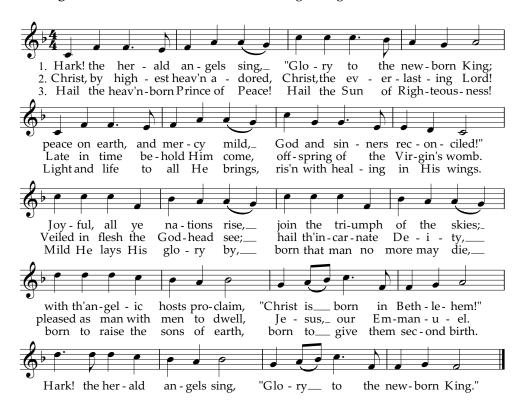
Spirit among us, shine like the star, with wings You enfold us, You speak of His love. Gentle on the ear, You whisper softly, rising in our hearts with the Son's love; in the midst of this silent night, Spirit we wait for Your loving light.

Please join in singing when so directed.



Christmas Prayer

Mr. Goebel



*The Blessing

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.

All: (with a great voice) Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! Amen!

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

*Please stand if you are able.

Cover designed by Laura and Anna Tatar

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



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.