

Christmas



Park Cities
Presbyterian Church

December 29, 2024



ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 29, 2024
8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Christmas

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Pete Hatton

Prelude

8:00

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"
Stephen Nielson, *piano*

WALTHAM
arr. Nielson

9:30/11:00

"God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen"
Stephen Nielson, *piano* • Dr. Nathan Davy, *organ*

arr. Judith P. York

*Call to Worship

Minister: 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.

People: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Minister: And this will be a sign for you: you will find a Baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

People: **And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"**

Luke 2.10-14

*Carol

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

REGENT SQUARE

Hymn No. 218 in the Trinity Hymnal

Melody 1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
Harmony 2. Shep - herds in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
Melody 3. Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions
Harmony 4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in
Melody 5. All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with man is now re - sid - ing,
 beam a - far; seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
 hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
 Spir - it, Son; ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 yon - der shines the in - fant Light:
 ye have seen His na - tal star: Come and wor - ship,
 in His tem - ple shall ap - pear:
 to th'e - ter - nal Three in One:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

*Prayer of Adoration

*Profession of Faith

The Rev. Robby Higginbottom

In the beginning was the Word,
 and the Word was with God,
 and the Word was God.
 He was in the beginning with God.
 All things were made through Him,
 and without Him was not any thing made that was made.
 In Him was life,
 and the life was the light of men.
 The light shines in the darkness,
 and the darkness has not overcome it.
 The true light,
 which gives light to everyone,
 was coming into the world.
 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.

John 1.1-5, 9, 14

Musical Meditation

9:30/11:00

“The First Noel”

arr. Mack Wilberg

Hayden Ponder, *vocalist* • Nathan Davy, *piano*

Public Confession of Sin

Mr. Higginbottom

Our God and Father,
when we behold Your Son Jesus,
we see Your great love for us,
for You sent Your one and only Son into the world
to die for sinners like us,
so that whoever believes in Him would have eternal life.
Since You have given Your Son,
we can say with the apostle Paul,
“How will You not also with Christ graciously give us all things?”
Yet, our Father,
our appetite for things of secondary or even of no importance
fills our lives with longings that You never intended us to have.
Our love and devotion to our possessions and our pleasures
reveal again our true need for Jesus.
Lord, in this Christmas season would You please give us Christ:
fill our hearts with desire to know Him,
to love Him, to serve and follow Him;
fill our mouths with words to honor Him and proclaim Him;
give us His presence to guide us in wisdom,
to give peace to our troubled souls,
to guard and protect our ways;
grant us His grace and favor to forgive our sins,
and to bring us to glory. Amen.

Private Confession

Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved!

Ephesians 2.4-5

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

***Carol**

"Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor"

QUELLE EST CETTE

Hymn No. 230 in the Trinity Hymnal



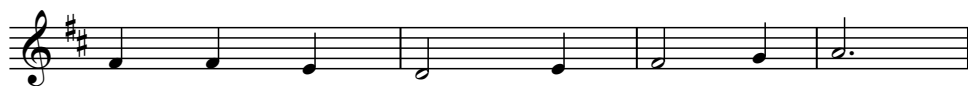
1. Thou who wast rich be - yond all splen - dor,
2. Thou who art God be - yond all prais - ing,
3. Thou who art love be - yond all tell - ing,



all for love's sake be - cam - est poor;
all for love's sake be - cam - est man;
Sav - ior and King, we wor - ship Thee.



thrones for a man - ger didst sur - ren - der,
stoop - ing so low, but sin - ners rais - ing,
Em - man - u - el, with - in us dwell - ing,



sap - phire - paved courts for sta - ble floor.
heav'n - ward by Thine e - ter - nal plan.
make us what Thou wouldst have us be.



Thou who wast rich be - yond all splen - dor,
Thou who art God be - yond all prais - ing,
Thou who art love be - yond all tell - ing,



all for love's sake be - cam - est poor.
all for love's sake be - cam - est man.
Sav - ior and King, we wor - ship Thee.

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Mr. Higginbottom

*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

8:00

“Once in Royal David’s City”
Mr. Nielson, *piano*

IRBY
arr. Nielson

9:30/11:00

“I Wonder as I Wander”
Steve Williamson, *vocalist* • Nathan Davy, *piano*

Early American

*A Christmas Doxology

GLORIA

All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son;
Evermore your voices raising to th’eternal Three in One.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Worship Explorers will not meet today,
and we encourage families to worship together.*

Zest Quests are available so your children can follow along with the sermon.

*The Scripture Reading: Luke 2.22-32

*And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses,
they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord*

²³ *(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb
shall be called holy to the Lord”)*

²⁴ *and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord,
“a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.”*

²⁵ *Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man
was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy
Spirit was upon him.*

²⁶ *And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death
before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.*

²⁷ *And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in
the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the Law,*

²⁸ *he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said,*

²⁹ *“Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to
Your word;*

³⁰ *for my eyes have seen Your salvation*

³¹ *that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples,*

³² *a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel.”*

Sermon

“Who Is Holding Whom?”

Mr. Hatton

Worshippers at 9:30 and 11:00, please continue at the closing hymn.

***The Great Thanksgiving 8:00**

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

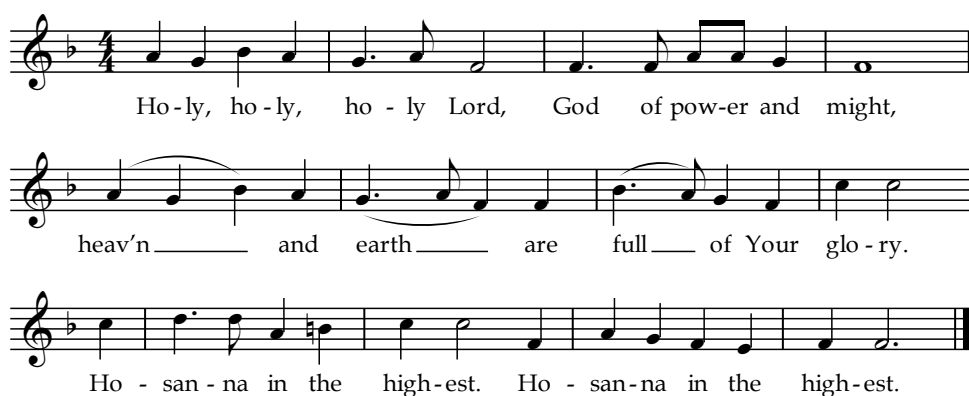
People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

People: Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name; evermore praising You, and singing:



***The Words of Institution 8:00**

Communion 8:00

Please remain seated.

You will be served by your elders, and we will all partake together when so instructed by the pastor.

(The bread being served is gluten free.)

***Closing Hymn**

"God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen"

GOD REST YE MERRY



1. God rest ye mer - ry, gen - tle - men, Let noth - ing
2. From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther A bless - ed
3. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing
4. Now to the Lord sing prais - es, All you with -



you dis - may, Re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior Was
an - gel came; And un - to cer - tain shep - herds Brought
you af - fright, This day is born a Sav - ior Of
in this place, And with true love and broth - er - hood Each



born on Christ - mas day; To save us all from
ti - dings of the same; How that in Beth - le -
a pure Vir - gin bright, To free all those who
oth - er now em - brace; This ho - ly tide of



Sa - tan's pow'r When we were gone a - stray.
hem was born The Son of God by name.
trust in Him From Sa - tan's pow'r and might."
Christ - mas All oth - ers doth de - face.

Refrain



O — ti - dings of com - fort and joy, Com - fort and



joy; O — ti - dings of com - fort and joy!

***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.

The Postlude

8:00

"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"
Mr. Nielson, *piano*

ANTIOCH
arr. Nielson

9:30/11:00

Toccata on "From Heaven High I Come to You"
Dr. Davy, organ

Garth Edmundson

**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.**

*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.*

SERMON NOTES

Luke 2.22-32
“Who Is Holding Whom?”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The following questions help us engage with the sermon, music, and liturgy in this morning's worship service, and may be useful during personal devotions, group studies, and family worship.

1. What is the significance of the first-born son in Israel?
2. As a baby, how does Jesus fulfill the law?
3. What does the fact that our Savior was born the way we are tell us about our God?
4. Who has the light of God's salvation been shown to?
5. Why are you NOT experiencing the peace of God?

Highlights

DECEMBER 29, 2024

What's Next?

We have friendly faces waiting to help you connect to Christ and one another at PCPC just as you exit the front of the Sanctuary. Look for the Connect banner on your way to the Grand Hall. We would also love to help you abide in and extend Christ. You can find out more at the Information Center in the Grand Hall. Download the free PCPC mobile app to explore more.

Connection Card

Thanks for joining us today! If you are new or looking to connect at our church, please scan the QR code and fill out our Connection Card, so we can know you were here and help you connect.

pcpc.org/connect



New Members Class

Is the Lord calling you to be a member of PCPC? Our New Members Class gives you the opportunity to explore that question as we discuss our church's beliefs, vision, and mission. The next class will begin on Sunday, January 12. Register today!

pcpc.org/membership

Special Events at PCPC

Preschool Pop & Play

FRIDAY, JAN. 3 | 9:00 A.M. | PRESCHOOL AREA

First Friday/bEfriend

FRIDAY, JAN. 3 | 6:00 P.M. | PRESCHOOL AREA

The Gathering (High School)

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8 | 7:15 P.M. | THE LOFT

60+ Community Fellowship

FRIDAY, JAN. 10 | 11:30 A.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL

All-Church Prayer

SUNDAY, JAN. 12 | 4:00 P.M. | SANCTUARY

Communicants Class Parent Intro

SUNDAY, JAN. 12 OR 19 | 11:00 A.M. | CHAPEL

Missionary Luncheon for Hill & Deboer

SUNDAY, JAN. 19 | 12:30 P.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Men's Night of Worship

THURSDAY, JAN. 23 | 6:30 P.M. | SANCTUARY

Adkins & Nielson Concerts

SUNDAY, JAN. 26 | 5:30 & 7:30 P.M.

pcpc.org/calendar

City Missions Expo

Sunday, January 5

10:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL

Join us for this come-and-go event to learn what God has done, is doing, and will do through our City Missions Partners. We hope to see you there!

pcpc.org/events

Year End Giving

In order to comply with IRS regulations, Tuesday, Dec. 31, is the deadline for donations to be receipted for 2024. Mailed checks must be postmarked by Dec. 31. Church offices will be closed Dec. 23 through Jan. 1. Donations can be hand-delivered to the secure drop box at the south entrance. For stock donation instructions, contact Cheli Conejo. Please note that mutual fund donations can take up to one month to process. Thank you for your generous stewardship of all God has given.

pcpc.org/give

2025 Spring Kickoff

Launching January 12-17

Register for classes as we abide in Christ and connect with one another:

- Grief Support Group
- Men, Women, & Couple's Bible Studies
- Middle & High School Small Groups
- UNION Pre-Marriage Class (February)

pcpc.org/calendar

pcpc.org/guide

PARK CITIES

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4124 Oak Lawn Avenue

Dallas, Texas 75219

pcpc.org

Social: [@parkcitiespca](https://twitter.com/parkcitiespca)

App: pcpc.org/app

Church Office: 214-224-2500

Pastoral Concerns: 214-224-2742

or pastorsprayer@pcpc.org

24/7 Prayer Line: 214-224-2680

or [24-7prayer@pcpc.org](tel:214-224-2680)

Sermon Archives: pcpc.org/sermons

Deep Light Podcast: pcpc.org/deeplight

Every Thought Captive: etcdevo.org

GIVE ONLINE

You may scan the QR code to give online at pcpc.org/give/.



Download the PCPC

App with iOS or Android device where

you can give online (including setting up recurring gifts).

GENERAL FUND

2024/2025 Operating Budget \$17,200,000

Jul 1, 2024-Dec 15, 2024 Budget \$8,216,177

Jul 1, 2024-Dec 15, 2024 Giving \$6,517,942

Budget Variance (\$1,698,236)