

## 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  
2025

*Christmas Eve*  
8:00 p.m.

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### Prelude

“On Christmas Night All Christians Sing” Stephen Nielson, <i>pianist</i>	<i>SUSSEX CAROL</i> <i>arr. S. Nielson</i>
“Mary’s Cradle Song” Andrea Miller, <i>vocalist</i>	<i>Traditional</i>
“Noël” Nathan Davy, <i>organist</i>	<i>Claude Daquin</i>
“God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen” Winston Miller, <i>vocalist</i>	<i>Traditional</i>
“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” Hayden Ponder, <i>vocalist</i>	<i>arr. Sally DeFord</i>

### \*Call to Worship

The Rev. Mark Davis

“Christmas Fanfare”  
Brass and Percussion Ensemble  
*Dan Miller*

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.**

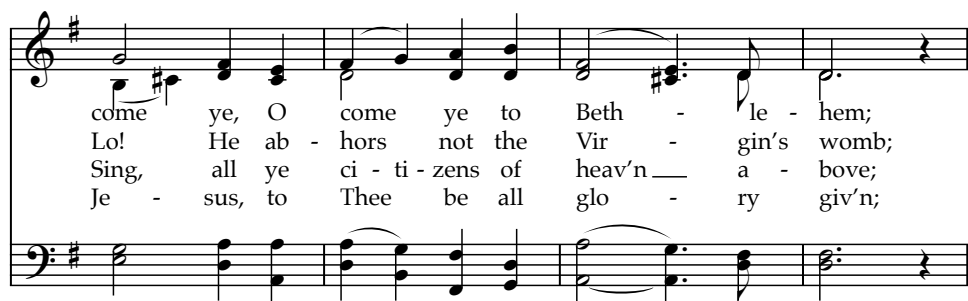
**\*Processional Carol**

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

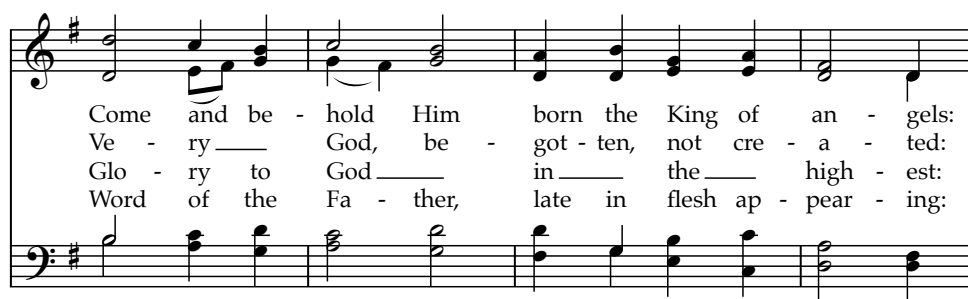
ADESTE FIDELES



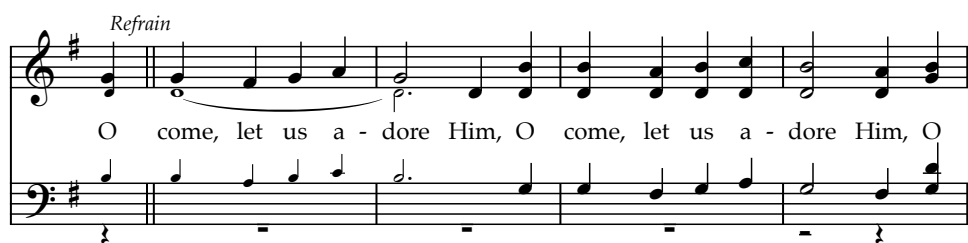
Harmony 1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 Harmony 2. God of \_\_\_\_\_ God, \_\_\_\_\_ Light \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ Light,  
 Melody 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 Melody 4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,



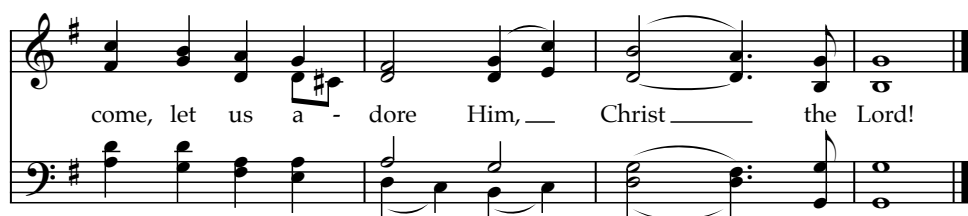
come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 Lo! He ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
 Sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heav'n \_\_\_\_\_ a - bove;  
 Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry giv'n;



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!

**\*Prayer of Adoration concluding with**

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;  
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**

"Jesus Christ the Apple Tree"  
Chancel Choir • Andrea Miller, soloist

*Hutchins/Poston*

*The tree of life my soul hath seen laden with fruit, and always green: The trees  
of nature fruitless be, compared with Christ, the apple tree.*

*His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne'er can tell the glory  
which I now can see in Jesus Christ, the apple tree.*

*For happiness I long have sought and pleasure dearly I have bought: I missed  
of all; but now I see, 'tis found in Christ, the apple tree.*

*I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile: Under the shadow  
I will be of Jesus Christ, the apple tree.*

*This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive; which  
makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ, the apple tree.*

**Public Confession of Sin**

The Rev. Robert Rucker

O Source of all good,  
we render to You,  
gift of gifts,  
only an impoverished soul.  
Before Your wisdom,  
we are undone,  
with no will to return to You,  
and no intellect to devise recovery.  
You came, God-incarnate,  
to save us to the uttermost,  
as man to die our death,  
to shed satisfying blood on our behalf,  
to work out a perfect righteousness for us.  
Meanwhile, we live in selfishness, hard-heartedness,  
with a stiff-necked and unforgiving spirit.  
We beg You, through Your incarnate life and willing sacrifice,  
to pardon and blot out our sins.  
Have mercy upon us, O Lord.

**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

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

GO TELL IT

*Refrain*



Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev-'ry - where;



go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.



1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er  
2. The shep - herds feared and trem - bled when,  
3. Down in a low - ly man - ger our



si - lent flocks by night, be - hold, through - out the  
lo! a - bove the earth rang out the an - gel  
hum - ble Christ was born, and God sent us sal -



heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light. \_\_\_\_\_  
cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth. \_\_\_\_\_  
va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn. \_\_\_\_\_

(to Refrain)

Prayer of Intercession/Offertory Prayer

Mr. Rucker

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](http://pcpc.org/give) or text “give” to 214-833-7724.

## Musical Offering

“How Great Our Joy”

arr. Krogstad

Chancel Choir • Brass and Percussion Ensemble  
Nathan Davy, organ • J. Marty Cope, conductor

*While by the sheep we watched at night glad tidings brought an angel bright.  
How great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!  
There shall be born in a Bethlehem stall this Child who shall redeem us all.  
How great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!  
This gift of God we'll cherish well, that ever joy our hearts shall fill.  
How great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!*

## \*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.*  
<sup>9</sup> *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.*  
<sup>10</sup> *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.*  
<sup>11</sup> *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*  
<sup>12</sup> *And this will be a sign for you: you will find a Baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”*  
<sup>13</sup> *And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,*  
<sup>14</sup> *“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!”*  
<sup>15</sup> *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.”*  
<sup>16</sup> *And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby lying in a manger.*  
<sup>17</sup> *And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this Child.*  
<sup>18</sup> *And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.*  
<sup>19</sup> *But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.*  
<sup>20</sup> *And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.*

## Christmas Eve Meditation

Mr. Davis

## New Testament Reading and Lighting of the Christ Candle

John 1.1-5, 14  
The Brunone family

## Musical Acclamation

"O Holy Night"

arr. Bob Krogstad

Claire Spencer, vocalist

Mr. Nielson, piano • Dr. Davy, organ • Brass and Percussion Ensemble

## Carol

"Silent Night! Holy Night!"

STILLE NACHT

*Melody* 1. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm,  
*Melody* 2. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
*Harmony* 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

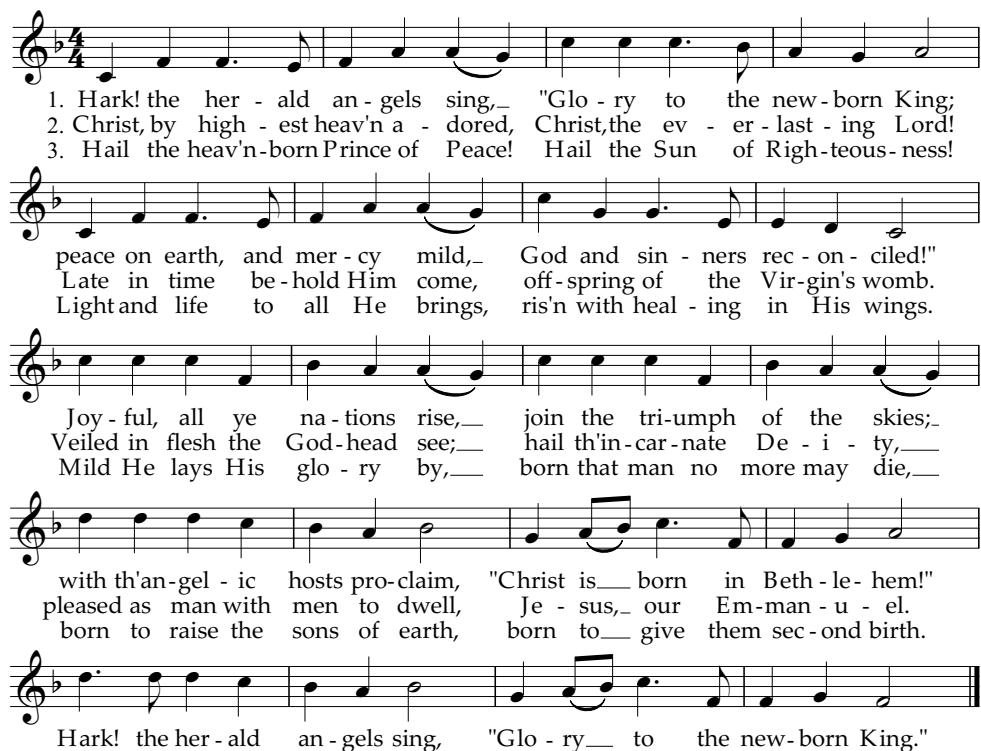
peace, — Sleep — in heav - en - ly peace.  
born! — Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!"  
birth, — Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

## Christmas Prayer

## \*Closing Carol of Celebration

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

MENDELSSOHN



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."

## \*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

arr. Keith Chapman

*\*Please stand if you are able.*



*We thank the following musicians for their leadership  
in our Christmas Eve service:*

Kyle Sherman, *trumpet*  
Cody McClarty, *trumpet*  
Alex Kienle, *French horn*  
Jon Hinton, *trombone*  
Clay Garrett, *tuba*  
Mike McNicholas, *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.**

*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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