



Christmas Eve



DECEMBER 24, 2024 • 5:30 + 8:00 PM



Christmas Eve

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

ORGAN PRELUDE: “Deux Noëls (I-Noël huron)” Denis Bedard

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: “Sinfonia” from *Messiah*. G.F. Handel

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Andrew, Ashley, Will, Peter, and Betsy Nearn (5:30)
Sam and Leslie Shaw (8:00)

CHORAL INTROIT: “O Magnum Mysterium” Evan Ramos

Words: Latin Sacred Text / Music: Evan Ramos / Luke 2:10-12

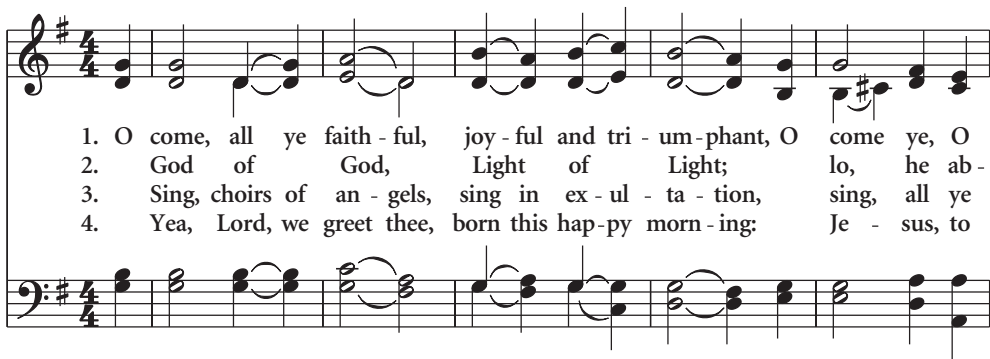
O magnum mysterium,	O great mystery,
Et admirabile sacramentum.	And wonderful sacrament.
Ut animalia viderunt	That animals should see
Dominum natum	The newborn Lord
Jacentem in praesepeio.	Lying in a manger.
O magnum mysterium. Amen	O great mystery. Amen.

*Choral Ensemble
Calvin Ellis, director*

CALL TO WORSHIP Todd Erickson (5:30)
Damon Conley (8:00)

♠PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 140 “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ADESTE FIDELES

Words and Music: John Francis Wade; arr. David Willcocks / Luke 2:15



1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O
 2. God of God, Light of Light; lo, he ab -
 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye
 4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing: Je - sus, to

come ye to Beth - le - hem; come and be - hold him born the King of
 hors not the vir - gin's womb: ver - y God, be - got - ten, not cre -
 cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove; glo - ry to God in the
 thee be all glo - ry giv'n; Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap -

an - gels;
 at - ed; O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
 high - est;
 pear - ing;

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

✦INVOCATION

✦GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 1:18-25
 (page 807 in pew Bible)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE ADESTE FIDELES

O come, let us adore Him,
 O come, let us adore Him,
 O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE GIFTS OF GOD

Tonight's offering, unless otherwise designated, will support the church's Caring Ministry Fund. This fund helps those in need within our church community. Visit 2pc.org/caring to give online or text CARING to (901) 410-9500. Special envelopes are also available in the pew racks.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "O Holy Night" David Clydesdale

Words: John S. Dwight / Music: Adolphe Adam, Placide Cappeau / Luke 1:35

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appear'd 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 divine, O night, O night divine.

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother;
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name.

Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever,
His power and glory evermore proclaim.
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

*Jauna Ellis, soloist
The Chancel Choir*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

HYMN OF PREPARATION:

No. 176 "Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor" QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE

Words: Frank Houghton / Music: French Carol Melody; arr. Charles H. Kitson / II Corinthians 8:9

Blanche Tosh, reader

Emily Woelke, soloist:

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor
All for love's sake becamest poor;
Thrones for a manger didst surrender,
Sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor
All for love's sake becamest poor.

♠ Congregation stands and joins:

2. Thou who art God be - yond all prais - ing, all for love's sake be -
3. Thou who art love be - yond all tell - ing, Sav - ior and King, we
cam - est man; stoop - ing so low, but sin - ners rais - ing,
wor - ship thee. Em - man - u - el, with - in us dwell - ing,
heav'n - ward by thine e - ter - nal plan. Thou who art God be -
make us what thou wouldst have us be. Thou who art love be -
yond all prais - ing, all for love's sake be - cam - est man.
yond all tell - ing, Sav - ior and King, we wor - ship thee.

PROPHETIC LESSON Isaiah 7:14
(page 572 in pew Bible)

The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the Word of our God will stand forever. (Isaiah 40:8)

SERMON: With Us for Certainty George Robertson

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

This is the Lord's table. All who profess their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are invited to receive communion. If this is not your faith, we would still encourage you to walk forward, knowing that no one will make you take the elements. Any of our elders or pastors will be happy to talk to you about questions or doubts you have about faith in Christ.

We encourage children not to take communion until they have joined the church but do welcome them to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing.

All communion wafers are gluten free.

✦PROFESSION OF OUR FAITH The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by Whom all things were made;
Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man,
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again with glory
to judge both the living and the dead;
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

♠ GLORIA PATRI GREATOREX

Words: Anon., 4th cent. / Music: Henry W. Greatorex / Psalm 29:2

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the
 Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er
 shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy Father, who sent Your one and only Son to bear the sin of the world
 and to bring life and light to sinners far and wide,
 we confess our need of Your gracious and forgiving love,
 for we have violated Your commandments
 by our thoughts, words, and deeds,
 and we are without excuse.
 On this holy night, we cast our sins upon Jesus
 and pray that You would heal us of our guilt and shame
 and of our wandering hearts,
 that we may serve You with glad obedience,
 to the everlasting glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON..... Matthew 1:21

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
 Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
 For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

“What Sweeter Music”..... John Rutter

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King? Awake the voice! Awake the string!
Dark and dull night, fly hence away, and give the honor to this day,
That sees December turned to May. That sees December turned to May.

Why does the chilling winter’s morn smile like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly-shorn, thus, on the sudden? Come and see
The cause, why things thus fragrant be: ‘Tis He is born, whose quickening birth
Gives life and luster, public mirth, to heaven and the under-earth.

We see Him come and know Him ours, who, with His sunshine and His showers,
Turns all the patient ground to flowers. Turns all the patient ground to flowers.
The darling of the world is come, and fit it is, we find a room
To welcome Him, to welcome Him.

The nobler part of all the house here is the heart.
Which we will give Him; and bequeath this holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do Him honor, who’s our King, and Lord of all this reveling.

What sweeter music can we bring, than a carol for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?

No. 170 “What Child Is This” GREENSLEEVES

Words: William C. Dix / Music: Trad. English Melody, 16th cent. / Matthew 2:2

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y’s lap is sleep-ing?
2. Why lies he in such mean es-tate, where ox and ass are feed-ing?
3. So bring him in-cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him;

Whom an-gels greet with an-thems sweet, while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si-lent Word is plead-ing.
the King of kings sal-va-tion brings, let lov-ing hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing:
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you:
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by:

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y.
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y.
joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y.

No. 143 "Away in a Manger"..... CRADLE SONG

Words: Anon.; John Thomas McFarland / Music: arr. Mack Wilberg / Luke 2:7

Women: 1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
Men: 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the Ba - by a - wakes,
All: 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask Thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.
close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
I love Thee, Lord Je - sus, look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
and fit us for Hea - ven to live with Thee there.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LIGHTING OF THE CHURCH

HYMN OF CHRIST'S BIRTH: No. 162 "Silent Night! Holy Night!" Dan Forrest

Words: Joseph Mohr; tr. John Freeman Young / Music: arr. Dan Forrest / Luke 2:16

1. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
2. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight!
3. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
4. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

round yon vir - gin moth - er and child. Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild,
Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
with the an - gels let us sing al - le - lu - ia to our King;

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

♠HYMN OF JOY: No. 128 "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come" ANTIOCH

Words: Isaac Watts / Music: G.F. Handel; arr. Samuel Metzger / Psalm 98:4

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re -
 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the
 ceive her King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of His right - eous -
 room, and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 -ness and won - ders of His love, and won - ders of His
 sing, and heav'n and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 love, and won - ders won - ders of His love.

♠BENEDICTION

♠BENEDICTION RESPONSE GLORIA

**Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

♠POSTLUDE: "Toccatà" from *Symphony No. 5* Charles Widor

♠Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License # 252778

*Instrumentalists:
Diane Cohen and James Ryan, violin; Michelle Pellay-Walker, viola;
Mark Wallace, cello; Leo Davis, piano and organ*

*If you are in need of a listening support device, please see an usher
in the Narthex at the back of the Sanctuary for assistance.*

December 29 Worship Schedule

We'll meet for worship on Sunday, December 29, at 8:15 and 11:00 a.m. All are invited to the Fellowship Hall from 9:45-10:45 a.m. for coffee and fellowship between the services. We will not meet for Sunday School or Sunday Night Worship. Nursery will be available for ages 5 and under at the 8:15am service.

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Retell. Reimagine. Repair.