



Christmas Eve

Lessons, Carols and the Celebration of Light

December 24, 2023 • 5:00 PM

Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church
Mt. Lebanon, PA

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Lessons, Carols and the Celebration of Light

Sunday, December 24, 2023 * 5:00 PM
Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church * Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania

Dr. Kyle Bennett, *Preschool Director/ Academy Principal*
Mr. Peter Chace, *Director of Next Generation Ministries*
Jinna Park, *Accompanist and Organist*

WE GATHER FOR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Prelude	Christmas Carol Selections	Various
Introit	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i> Tone Chimes Ensemble	arr. Larson
Greeting		
Prayer of Invocation		
Processional Carol No. 208	vv. 1-4	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him born the King of angels;**

Refrain: **O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

**God of God, Light of Light;
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb:
Very God, begotten, not created;**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;**

**Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning:
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;**

Carol No. 225

vv. 1, 2, 4, 5

Once in Royal David's City

**Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.**

**He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall:
With the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.**

**And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars His children crowned all in white shall wait around.**

Children's Anthem

Little Christmas Lamb

Elkins

First Song Choir; Jonathan Lucas, *soloist*

*Little Christmas Lamb, little Christmas Lamb, Friend so true.
Little Christmas Lamb, little Christmas Lamb, I Love You.*

*You came on Christmas Day, a present from my Father I believe.
Whatever comes our way, my truest Friend, you'll always be.*

*Little Christmas Lamb, little Christmas Lamb, shares with me.
Little Christmas Lamb, little Christmas lamb cares for me.*

*You've heard my ev'ry pray'r, a comfort when my day is at an end.
You know my ev'ry care, and there could be no better Friend.*

*Closer than a brother, You have always been to me.
And no matter what the days may bring, together we'll always be.*

**Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.**

Refrain: **Glo-ria in excelsis Deo, Glo-ria in excelsis Deo.**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heav'nly song?**

**Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.**

The Christmas Gospel

Luke 2:8-20

Children's Anthem

God With Us, Emmanuel
New Song Choir, Youth Choir

Gawrowski

*The Light came down into the darkness.
The Light shines through into the darkness. God with us.*

*Oh, would You rend the heavens! Come down! Oh, that the mountains would tremble before You.
For no ear has heard, no eye has seen what God will do for those who wait.*

*Emmanuel - and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.
Emmanuel - but this Word pure and true we drove away from us.
Emmanuel - so would You rend the heavens! Come down!*

*Oh, that the mountains would tremble before You.
For no ear has heard, no eye has seen, what God will do for those who wait.
Emmanuel - and the light shines through into the darkness, that the light would shine into the darkest parts of me!*

*Emmanuel, God with us!
Oh, would you rend our hearts with Your grace! Oh, that our lives would truly tremble before You!
For no ear has heard, no eye has seen, what God will do for those who wait.
Emmanuel, God with us.*

THE CHRISTMAS STORY RETOLD AND CELEBRATED

*The children are asked to come forward for this special portion of the service
which has been planned with them in mind.
Parents are welcome to accompany those children who are shy about coming by themselves.*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Countdown is Complete!

THE CELEBRATION OF LIGHT

Carol No. 203

vv. 1-3

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

**Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th’ angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”**

Refrain: **Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”**

**Christ, by highest heav’n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come,
offspring of the Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th’ incarnate Diety,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.**

**Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.**

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing alleluia to our King;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Christmas Prayer

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Dismissal

Please place used candles and cups on the tables at the exits.

For those who would like to contribute to a Christmas offering,
red boxes may be found at the front exits following worship tonight.

Sunday, December 31

10:00 AM Worship Service

Please join us as we gather together for worship.

Merry Christmas!

Welcome to Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church for this special Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. We extend a warm greeting to each of you and hope your time with us will be a meaningful way for you to celebrate the birth of God's Son, Jesus Christ.

Christmas is the celebration of God taking on human form and coming to earth through the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ. God's advent in Jesus was for the specific purpose of making atonement for sin through Christ's sacrificial death on the cross, offering forgiveness to all who would accept it by faith as His gift, and restoring men and women to a right and eternal relationship with their Creator and Lord.

Christmas means that real peace and hope is possible for all who find it in Jesus and place their trust in Him as Savior and Lord. This is the Gospel, the good news. This is why we celebrate Jesus' birth. His coming is God's proclamation of love for us and commitment to our eternity with Him.

It is our hope that you know the true peace and hope that Jesus came to bring. It is our hope that you know the true glory of Christmas in your heart by faith. It is our hope that this year you will enjoy an uncommon closeness to the Savior who came to earth for you and that this experience tonight will aid you in your adoration of "the newborn King."

If during this holiday season or at any time of the year you believe the staff or members of Beverly Heights Church may be able to serve you in some way, please do not hesitate to contact us. We would consider such an opportunity a privilege and we welcome such inquiries.

Merry Christmas to All!