

Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church Mt. Lebanon, PA

## Christmas Eve

Lessons, Carols and the Celebration of Light

Sunday, December 24, 2023 \* 9:00 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 Festive Trumpet Tune German

Chad Winkler, trumpet; Jinna Park, organ

Greeting and Prayer of Invocation

Processional Carol No. 225

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,

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.

vv. 1, 2, 4, 5

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.

Special Music

What Child is This?
Anne Davis and Cindy Egeland, flutes; Jinna Park, piano

arr. Bonam

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through; the cross be borne for me, for you: Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby:
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; 11:1-9

Carol **No. 208** 

vv. 1-4

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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;

Second Lesson Luke 1:26-35

Choral Anthem Night of Glory Keveren

Night of glory, night of grace, earth and heaven in one place. We behold our Maker's face; night of glory, night of grace.

Night of glory, so divine, ageless King steps into time To seek and save a heart like mine; night of glory, so divine.

Gloria, gloria, glory in the highest.

Night of glory, He is here, no more longing, dry your tears. Angels tell us have no fear; night of glory, He is here.

Gloria, gloria, glory in the highest.

Night of glory, night of grace, earth and heaven in one place. We behold our Maker's face; night of glory, night of grace.

Third Lesson Luke 2:1-7

Carol **No. 214** vv. 1-3 Angels We Have Heard on High

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 ADORATION OF THE SHEPHERDS

Fourth Lesson Luke 2:8-20

Carol vv. 1-6 The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay a-keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far, And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

And by the light of that same star, three Wise Men came from country far; To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.

This star drew nigh to the northwest; o'er Bethlehem it took its rest; And there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay.

Then entered in those Wise Men three, fell reverently upon their knee, And offered there in His presence, their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
and with His blood mankind hath bought.

Fifth Lesson Matthew 2:1-11

Special Music

Gesu Bambino
Elissa Winkler, mezzo-soprano; Chad Winkler, piano

Yon, arr. Hayes

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night, Was born the Child, the Christmas Rose, the King of Love and Light.

The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth rejoiced; And at His blessed birth the stars their exultation voiced.

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

Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night, That gave the world its Christmas Rose, its King of Love and Light.

Let ev'ry voice acclaim His name, the grateful chorus swell. From paradise to earth He came that we with Him might dwell. 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.

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

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.

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

The Christmas Gospel

Mr. Peter Chace

Special Music Stille Nacht Davis, arr. C. Winkler

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright Round you 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

Carol **No. 195** vv. 1-4 Joy to the World!

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

**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 the 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!

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.