



Christmas Eve

Lessons, Carols and the Celebration of Light

December 24, 2024 • 9:00 PM

Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church
Mt. Lebanon, PA

Christmas Eve

Lessons, Carols and the Celebration of Light

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 * 9:00 PM
Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church * Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania

Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, *Senior Pastor*
Dr. Kyle Bennett, *Director of Education*
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>Festive Trumpet Tune</i> Chad Winkler, <i>trumpet</i> ; Jinna Park, <i>organ</i>	German
Pastoral Greeting and Prayer of Invocation		Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor
Processional Carol No. 225	vv. 1, 2, 4, 5	<i>Once in Royal David's City</i>

**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.**

THE PROPHECIES

Special Music

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Redner, arr. Young

Kyung Won Jeon and Anne Martindale Williams, *cello*; Jinna Park, *piano*

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by:
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

*How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.*

*O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.*

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

THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD

Choral Anthem

When Stars Shone Down

Aldredge

*O night when stars shone down, the Lord of Heaven was born.
While the shepherds abiding heard the song heaven was singing:*

Adoramus te, glorificamus te, Rex Gloria!

*O night when stars shone down, the Son of God was born,
Angel choirs filled the sky o'er Bethlehem, the heavens were singing:*

*Adoramus te, glorificamus te, Rex Gloria!
Sing Gloria! Adoramus te, glorificamus te, Alleluia! Rex Gloria! Gloria!*

*O glorious Lord of Light, o light of our dark night,
Born to the world when stars shone down, while heaven was singing:*

Adoramus! Glorificamus! Gloria! Rex Gloria!

Latin Translation: We adore you, we glorify you, O King of glory!

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

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, 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

In the Bleak Midwinter

arr. Hayes

Elissa Winkler, *mezzo-soprano*; Chad Winkler, *piano*

*In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
 Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter.*

*Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;
 Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
 In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.*

*Angels and archangels may have gathered there, cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
 But only His mother in her maiden bliss worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.*

*What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
 If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; Yet what I can I give Him: give my heart.*

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.

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.”

**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.**

Benediction

Postlude

Christmas Carol Selections

Various

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.

Please join us as we gather together for worship.

Sunday, December 29

9:00 AM Coffee fellowship

10:00 AM Worship Service

Beverly Heights Church ♦ 1207 Washington Road ♦ Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228

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