

Christmas Eve

A Service of Candles, Carols, and Readings

December 24, 2023 - 7 P.M.

PRELUDE

O Come Let Us Adore Him Adult Bell Choir
Christmas Songs of Peace Laura Hillman, Jasmine Muhlfeld,
River English
In the Bleak Midwinter Abbie Clement

WELCOME

John Muhlfeld

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Bob McIntyre

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Noah Keating

LESSON 1 The Annunciation

Luke 1:26-38 Caleb Keating, Heidi Moyer
*Hymn 208 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

LESSON 2 The Visitation

Luke 1:39-45 Amy Muhlfeld
*Hymn 196 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming Rebekah Hillman

LESSON 3 The Nativity

Luke 2:1-7 Luke Snyder, Sam Kleeman
It Came upon the Midnight Clear Adult Choir
*Hymn 201 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

LESSON 4 The Angels

Luke 2:8-20 Lydia Moyer, Ruth Clement, Micah Keating
Angels We Have Heard on High Covenant Children
*Hymn 211 *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen*

LESSON 5 The Wise Men

Matthew 2:1-12 Ryder Riggall, Grayston Estevez
We Three Kings Adult Bell Choir

LESSON 6 The Presentation

Luke 2:21-33 Lily Snyder, Jaron Riggall, Abbie Riggall
*Hymn 225 *Once in Royal David's City*

GOSPEL MESSAGE

Juan Estevez

Silent Night! Holy Night! (Hymn 210) Piano Quartet, v. 1
congregation joins on v. 2-4, please remain seated

*BENEDICTION

John Muhlfeld

POSTLUDE

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing Helen Ro

**Please stand if able*

Pageant Participants:

Adelyn Benoit, James Benoit, Olivia Benoit, Skylar Buhay, William Clement, Brooks Dietterich, Judah Dietterich, Ryder Dietterich, River English, Sunshine English, Trinity English, Alexandria Estevez, Hosanna Estevez, Tobias Estevez, Emry Evans, Blake Hoogenhuis, Cole Hoogenhuis, Kinley Hoogenhuis, Janie Keating, Ben Kleeman, Adie McMillan, Carissa McMillan, Peter McMillan, Anna Moyer, Jesse Moyer, Jasmine Muhlfeld, Jack Nelson, Luke Nelson, Alexis O'Hara, Aubrey Riggall, Gracie Snyder, Lincoln Sparks, Owen Sparks, Sophia Thornhill, Hannah Walsh, Reuben Walsh, Arnie Waltenbaugh

Many thanks to Sharon Muhlfeld, pageant coordinator

Music Director and Organist: Helen Ro

*Kindly silence all electronic devices
Please see an usher if you would like to utilize an assisted listening device*

O Come, All Ye Faithful

208

Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about. Luke 2:15

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

O come ye, O come ye to Beth-le-hem; come and be-hold him
 lo, he ab-hors not the Vir-gin's womb: ver-y God, be-
 sing, all ye cit-i-zens of heav'n a-bove; glo-ry to God
 Je-sus, to thee be all glo-ry giv'n; Word of the Fa-ther,

REFRAIN
 born the King of an-gels;
 got-ten, not cre-a-ted; O come, let us a-dore him, O come, let
 in the high-est; late in flesh ap-pear-ing;

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

Latin hymn
 Attr. to John Francis Wade, 1751
 Tr. by Frederick Oakeley, 1841; alt.

ADESTE FIDELES 6.6.10.3.6 ref.
 John Francis Wade's Cantus Diversi, 1751

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

196

Waiting for the consolation of Israel. Luke 2:25

1. Come, thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
 2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, ap-pear;
 3. Come to earth to taste our sad-ness, he whose glo-ries knew no end;
 4. Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re-lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 come, thou prom-ised Rod of Jes-se, of thy birth we long to hear!
 by his life he brings us glad-ness, our Re-deem-er, Shep-herd, Friend.
 born to reign in us for-ev-er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.

Is-rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
 O'er the hills the an-gels sing-ing news, glad tid-ings of a birth:
 Leav-ing rich-es with-out num-ber, born with-in a cat-tle stall;
 By thine own e-ter-nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a-lone;

dear De-sire of ev-'ry na-tion, joy of ev-'ry long-ing heart.
 "Go to him, your prais-es bring-ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."
 this the ev-er-last-ing won-der, Christ was born the Lord of all.
 by thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it, raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

St. 1, 4, Charles Wesley, 1744
 St. 2-3, Mark E. Hunt, 1978
 Text of stanzas 2 & 3 © 1978, InaVanity Christian Fellowship. Used by permission.

HYFRYDOL 6.7.8.7.D
 Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855

201

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small ... out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. Mic. 5:2

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie;
 2. For Christ is born of Mar - y; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4. O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

a - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by:
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 And prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him still, the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el.

Philips Brooks, 1868

ST. LOUIS C.M.D. irrag.
 Lewis H. Redner, 1968

Hymns from Trinity Hymnal used by permission of
 Great Commission Publications

211

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Luke 2:10

1. God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may,
 2. From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther, a bless - ed an - gel came;
 3. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "let noth - ing you af - fright;
 4. The shep - herds at those tid - ings re - joic - ed much in mind,

re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas day,
 and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:
 this day is born a Sav - ior of a pure vir - gin bright,
 and left their flocks a - feed - ing, in tem - pest, storm, and wind:

to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray;
 how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name,
 to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."
 and went to Beth - le - hem straight - way, the Son of God to find.

REFRAIN
 O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy,

O tid - ings of com - fort and joy.

English carol, 18th cent.

GOD REST YOU MERRY 8.5.8.6.8.6.ref.
 English melody, 18th cent.

Once in Royal David's City

You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger. Luke 2:12

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
 2. He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
 3. And through all his won - drous child - hood he would hon - or and o - bey,
 4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
 5. Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,

where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
 and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall:
 • love and watch the low - ly maid - en in whose gen - tle arms he lay:
 for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove,
 we shall see him, but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 with the poor, and mean, and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 • Chris - tian chil - dren all must be mild, o - be - dient, good as he.
 and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone,
 when like stars his chil - dren crowned all in white shall wait a - round,

Geoffr. Francois Alexander, 1848

IRBY 8,7,8,7,7,7
 Harry J. Gauntlett, 1849

Silent Night! Holy Night!

They hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. Luke 2:16

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

vir - gin moth - er and child. Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild,
 stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;
 beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
 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!

Joseph Mohr, 1818
 Tr. ca. 1850

STILLE NACHT Imng.
 Franz Gruber, 1818

Hymns from Trinity Hymnal used by permission of
 Great Commission Publications

Welcome to everyone worshipping with us tonight, and especially to our visitors. We trust the Lord will strengthen and encourage you through our fellowship together.

If you are a visitor and would like more information about Covenant, please speak to one of the pastors after the service.



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

310 Covenant Lane, Harleysville, PA 19438

information@covpreschurch.org

www.covpreschurch.org

(215) 256-1007