

SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

**Christmas Eve 2015
Candlelight Communion**

PRELUDE

Concerto Grosso in G Minor, Op. 6, No. 8
Fatto per la notte di Natale

Antonio Corelli

Vivace - Grave. Arcate, sostenuto e come stà
Allegro
Adagio - Allegro - Adagio
Vivace
Allegro
Largo. Pastorale ad libitum

The Song of the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ

Marc-Antoine Charpentier

Praeludium

Recitative: "There were, in the same country, shepherds..."

Air: "Be not afraid..."

Chorus: "Awaken, let us hasten..."

Marche

Recitative and Air: "And when these humble shepherds..."

Air: "On this day earth shall ring..."

Chorus and Ritornello: "On this day earth shall ring..."



THE GATHERING BEFORE GOD

PRAYER

* HYMN 133

O Come All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of the commonplace,
we confess that we have been impressed by power and authority.
We do not expect to meet you in the poor of the land, in cold barns,
or on lonely duty watches.
We are slow to hear the angels or to embrace the "good news of great joy."
We hesitate to leave our chosen tasks to share in your larger purposes.
We settle for idols of material security even as you thrust us into the battles of life,
where we have nothing on which to rely on other than our faith in you.
Forgive our lack of trust. Renew us in the Holy Spirit, we pray.**

Silent Confession

RESPONSE *sung by all:*

ST. LOUIS

**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!**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

* HYMN 112

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

SUSSEX CAROL

The cantor begins each verse.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

LESSON: Isaiah 11: 1-10

VOLUNTARY

Toccata in C Major

Johann Pachelbel

ANTHEM

Cantate Domino

Hans Leo Hassler

(The translation of the text is found in *Glory to God* #639, the first two verses.)

HYMN 129

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN

LESSON: Luke 1: 26-38

ANTHEM

Advent Lullaby

tune and text John Bell

Lullaby, lullaby, wait till tomorrow; your time will come.
Lullaby, lullaby, God comes tomorrow; God is here.

LESSON: Luke 2: 1-7

VOLUNTARY

Away in a Manger

Charles Ore

LESSON: Luke 2: 8-14

* HYMN 113

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

LESSON: Luke 2: 15-20

ANTHEM

Salvator mundi natus est

Gustav Holst
text Old English Carol

In Bethlehem that noble place As by prophecy said it was,
Of Virgin Mary full of grace, Salvator Mundi natus est. (The Savior of the world is born.)
Be we merry in this feast, In quo Salvator natus es. (In which the Savior is born.)

On Christmas night an angel told, To shepherds watching o'er their fold,
"In Bethlehem with beasties wolde, Salvator mundi natus est." Be we merry....
Behold to you we bring great joy For why? Jesus is born today
To us of Mary that holy May, Salvator mundi, natus est. Be we merry

Then compassed were the shepherds quite, Around them shone a great light
"Dread ye naught," said the angel bright, The Savior of the world is born. Be we merry....
"And thus in faith find Him ye shall, Lying poorly in oxen stall."
The shepherd's lauded God for all, The Savior of the world is born. Be we merry....

VOLUNTARY

Interlude on "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen"

W. S. Lloyd Webber

LESSON: John 1: 1-14

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Carol of the Advent

text and music John Bell

From a worn and weary nation, *Veni Immanuel!*
 Where and when will come salvation? *Veni Immanuel!*
 In the place you least expect, In the face of real neglect,
 One appointed, unanointed, God has chosen to perfect. *Veni Immanuel!*
 To an unsuspecting mother, *Ave Maria!*
 Why choose her and not some other? *Ave Maria!*
 So that earth might be restored, Flesh no longer be ignored,
 Faith infected, love directed, God through woman be adored. *Ave Maria!*
 In the song of God's elected, *Magnificat!*
 Can the future be detected? *Magnificat!*
 God the proud will overthrow, Worldly wealth will lose its glow;
 Hunger halted, poor exalted, Heav'n appear through what we know. *Magnificat!*
 Through the midnight air is seeping, *Gloria!*
 Why such sound when most are sleeping? *Gloria!*
 Thus shall strangers find their way Where a simple fam'ly stay,
 Recognizing how surprising God appears when laid in hay. *Gloria!*
 Let the very earth cry glory, *Hallelujah!*
 Ev'ry tongue retell the story, *Hallelujah!*
 God no longer is confined Out of sight and out of mind.
 Gone is distance and resistance; Christ is here in humankind. *Hallelujah!*

SERMON

Born in Bethlehem

Patrick Johnson

A Time of Silent Reflection

HYMN 110

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

WELCOME

CHRISTMAS JOY GIFT OFFERING

The offering supports retired and active ministers, church workers and their families in times of need and the mission of Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges. More information is available at www.pcusa.org.

ANTHEM

Of the Father's Love Begotten

arr. Robert Lind

(The text is that of Hymn 108)

HYMN 108, v. 6

Of the Father's Love Begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

**Christ to thee with God the Father,
 and O Holy Ghost, to thee,
 hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
 and unwearied praises be.
 Honor, glory, and dominion,
 and eternal victory,
 evermore and evermore! Amen.**

THE EUCHARIST

We will receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper by intinction. All are welcome to come forward to one of the stations in the sanctuary (people in the balcony are invited to come first, down the center aisle). Our servers will give you a piece of bread to dip in the juice. A gluten free option will be available in the center of the chancel steps. If you prefer to be served at your seat, we would be glad to serve you there.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Responses:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and God of might!

VENI EMMANUEL

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and God of might!

Heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the highest...!

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

VOLUNTARY

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella

arr. Brian Tate

ANTHEM

Psallite unigenito

Michael Praetorius

Translation: Sing your psalms to Christ, the only begotten son of God.

The Redeemer God as a child lies in the manger.

A small child lies in a small crib.

All the little angels serve the child, sing and make noise to him.

To Jesus, God's child and Mary's little son, our dear little Jesus in the manger

With the oxen and asses.

HYMN 144

In the Bleak Midwinter

CRANHAM

VOLUNTARY

What Child Is This?

trad.

THE SENDING

PASSING OF THE CHRISTMAS LIGHT

Please extinguish your candle after the Benediction before you exit.

HYMN

Silent Night

STILLE NACHT

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.

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* HYMN 119

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

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 the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

* VOLUNTARY

Sinfonia to Cantata #29

Johann Sebastian Bach

** All who are able are invited to stand*

Lay Readers: *Sam Drummond, Emma Frellick, Katie Huntley, Anna Huntley, Nicholas Poulos, Tristan Wall*
Musicians: *Duncan Wickel, Grayson Wickel, violins; Jim Lestock, cello; Barbara Weiss, harpsichord;*
Vicie barrack, Kim Thomas, sopranos; Valorie Vliek, mezzo-soprano; John Webb, Ben Flanagan, baritones;
Michael Cortes, Jai Kumar, trumpets; Sabrina Kumar, flute; Preston Cate, guitar

THE CHRISMON TREE

Chrismon comes from Christ Monogram, symbols which represent Jesus Christ. These historic symbols were used by Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, VA, in 1956, as the decorations on an evergreen tree which would be appropriate for worship. First Presbyterian Church's chrismons were made in 1974 by Marion Fortenberry, Jane Johnson, and other volunteers and have been hung on trees in the Sanctuary and Chapel since then. Additional information is available in the Narthex.



Our Partners in Ministry at 40 Church



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