

**Christmas Eve**  
**The Nativity According to St. Luke**  
**December 24, 2020**  
**YouTube Service**

Rejoice  
for Christ  
is born!



# W E L C O M E

*To know and serve Christ by reaching out in love to all.*

**Prelude**      ***Offertorie Sur le Noel: Joseph est bien marie Alexander Guilmant***  
***(Offertory on the Noel: Joseph married well)***

*The assistant carries a candle into the sanctuary, and lights the remaining candles while the pastor leads the following:*

**Gathering**                      ***From Heaven Above to Earth I Come***

P: From heaven above to earth I come / to bring good news to everyone!

Glad tidings of great joy I bring, / to all the world, and gladly sing:

**R: “To you this night is born a child / of Mary, chosen virgin mild;  
this newborn child of lowly birth / shall be the joy of all the earth.**

P: My heart for very joy now leaps; / my voice no longer silence keeps;  
You too must join the angel-throng / to sing with joy his cradle-song:

**R: Glory to God in highest heaven / who unto us his Son has given.  
With angels sing in pious mirth: / A glad new year to all the earth!**

**Invocation**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**



## **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

**P:** We gather to celebrate the birth of the light of the world.

We light the candle of **hope** to remind us of the **hope** we have in Jesus.

*A purple candle is lit.*

**P:** We light the candle of **peace** to remind us that **peace** is the way, the truth, and the life.

*A second purple candle is lit.*

**P:** We light the candle of **joy** to remind us of the **joy** God gives every heart that abides in him.

*The rose candle is lit.*

**P:** We light the candle of **love** to remind us that God is love.

*A third purple candle is lit.*

**P:** We light the **Christ** candle to remind us that the light of the world was born this night.

*The Christ candle is lit.*

**P:** We pray: O God, you make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that we may ever walk in the light of Jesus' presence; for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Introit** (*Psalm 2:1-2,4-6; antiphon: Liturgical Text*)

**R: When all was still, and / it was midnight,\*  
your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the / royal throne.**

**P:** Why do the / nations rage\*

and the peoples / plot in vain?

The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take coun- / sel  
together,\*

against the LORD and against / his anointed.

He who sits in the / heavens laughs;\*

the Lord holds them / in derision.

Then he will speak to them / in his wrath,\*

and terrify them in his / fury, saying,

“As for me, I have / set my King\*

on Zion, my / holy hill.”

**R: Glory be to the Father and / to the Son\*  
and to the / Holy Spirit;  
as it was in / the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen.**

**When all was still, and / it was midnight,\***

**your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the / royal throne.**





1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! Oh,  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, Light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, oh, come . . ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee . . be . . glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold him Born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . In . . the . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, Now in flesh ap - pear - ing:



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Oh, come, let us a - dore him,



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

## **The Hebrew Scriptures** (*Isaiah 9:2-7*)

**A:** A reading from Isaiah:

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,  
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder,  
the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup> For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult  
and every garment rolled in blood  
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
and his name shall be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,  
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,  
to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness  
from this time forth and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**





1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

*Refrain*



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glo - - - - -



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.



## **The Christian Scriptures** (*Titus 2:11-14*)

**A:** A reading from Titus:

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people,  
<sup>12</sup> training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup> waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**





(Hymn Introduction by Robert Hobby)



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ - teous - ness!



Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on-ciled."  
Late in time be-hold him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, Born that we no more may die,



With an - gel - ic hosts pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el!  
Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us sec - ond birth.

*Refrain*



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

## **The Holy Gospel** *(Luke 2:1-20)*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke:

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. <sup>2</sup> (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. <sup>4</sup> And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) <sup>5</sup> To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. <sup>6</sup> And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. <sup>7</sup> And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup> And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

<sup>10</sup> And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

<sup>12</sup> And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

<sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, <sup>14</sup> Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. <sup>16</sup> And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

<sup>18</sup> And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. <sup>19</sup> But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Choir Carol**

***Murmurs in a Stable***


**Craig Courtney**

**Apostles' Creed**

**C: I believe in God, the Father, almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
born of the virgin Mary.  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**



1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo-rious song of old,  
 2 Still through the clo-ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un-furled,  
 3 And you, be-neath life's crush-ing load, Whose forms are bend-ing low,  
 4 For lo! The days are has-t'ning on, By proph-ets seen of old,  
 From an-gels bend-ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
 And still their heav'n-ly mu-sic floats O'er all the wea-ry world.  
 Who toil a-long the climb-ing way With pain-ful steps and slow:  
 When with the ev-er-cir-cling years Shall come the time fore-told,  
 "Peace on the earth, good will to all, From heav'n's all-gra-cious king."  
 A-bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov-'ring wing,  
 Look now, for glad and gold-en hours Come swift-ly on the wing;  
 When peace shall o-ver all the earth Its an-cient splen-dors fling,  
 The world in sol-emn still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.  
 And ev-er o'er its ba-belsounds The bless-ed an-gels sing.  
 Oh, rest be-side the wea-ry road And hear the an-gels sing!  
 And all the world give back the song Which now the an-gels sing.

## **Sermon**

**Pastor Dan Skillman**

## **Choir Carol**

***Ding Dong! Merrily on High***

**setting by Glen Poore**

## **Announcements**

### **Prayers of the People**

**A:** Lord, in your mercy.

**C:** Hear our prayer.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**P:** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those**

**who trespass against us.**

**and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**



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



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 your ho - ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,



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 your birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

**Closing Prayer and Benediction**

**P:** We pray: Almighty God, you make this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence, and wake to the brightness of his glory; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn*****Joy To The World*****LBW 39**

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive its  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs em -  
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
play, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make his bless - ings  
prove The glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
ness And won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love.

**Dismissal**

**A:** Go in peace; share the good news.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**Postlude****In dulci jubilo****J. S. Bach**

## **Contributors to the Service**

*Presiding Minister*

*Rev. Dan Skillman*

*Organist*

*Dale Hukill*

*Assisting Minister*

*Dean Firing*

*Combined Choirs*     *Cindy Cain, Sherrill Crawford, Culley Coughlin, Shaun McGrath,  
Lynne Morella, Mary Murphy, Andrea Soncina, Loren Reash-Henz*

*Audio/Video*

*Phillip Sultan*



## **NEXT SERVICE**

December 25, 2020

**11:00 am "In Building"**

**11:00 am on YouTube**

Christmas / The Nativity According to St. John

## **READINGS**

John 1:1-18 (Exodus 40:17-21, 34-38, Titus 3:4-7)

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