



CHRISTMAS EVE

PRELUDE: “O Little Town”
 words by Phillip Brooks; music by Don Chapman

Praise Team

GREETING

CAROL: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

- 1 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!

- 2 The highest, most holy,
 light of light eternal,
 born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
 Son of the Father
 now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*
- 3 Sing, choirs of angels,
 sing in exultation,
 sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
 Glory to God
 in the highest: *Refrain*
- 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786;
 tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7

- ² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined.
- ³ You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.
- ⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.
- ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
- ⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- ⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

CAROL: “The First Noel”

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

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

- 2 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. *Refrain*
- 3 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. *Refrain*
- 4 This star drew near 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. *Refrain*
- 5 Then entered in those wise men three,
full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain*

Text: English traditional

GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

“What Child is This?” – Dennis Janzer

Karla Fuhs, violin

SERMON: “Hark, The Herald Shepherds”

Pastor Larry Isbell

CAROL: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

- 2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
 Christ, the everlasting Lord,
 late in time behold him come,
 offspring of a virgin's womb.
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
 Hail, incarnate deity!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell,
 Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*
- 3 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 we no more may die,
 born to raise each child of earth,
 born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

CHRISTMAS PRAYERS

(At the end of each petition, the leader will say "Lord, in your mercy." Feel free to respond with "Hear our prayer.")

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER:

**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.**

COMMUNION

CANDLE-LIGHTING CEREMONY

CAROL: “Silent Night”

- 1 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.
- 2 Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
- 3 Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885

BENEDICTION**CAROL: “Joy to the World”**

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry 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.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sin and sorrow 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.

- 4 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.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

POSTLUDE: “O Little Town of Bethlehem” – Paul Manz



**Poinsettias are given by Bob & Lucie Stricker, Tom & Sue McKinley,
and Terry & Linda Trautman.**

