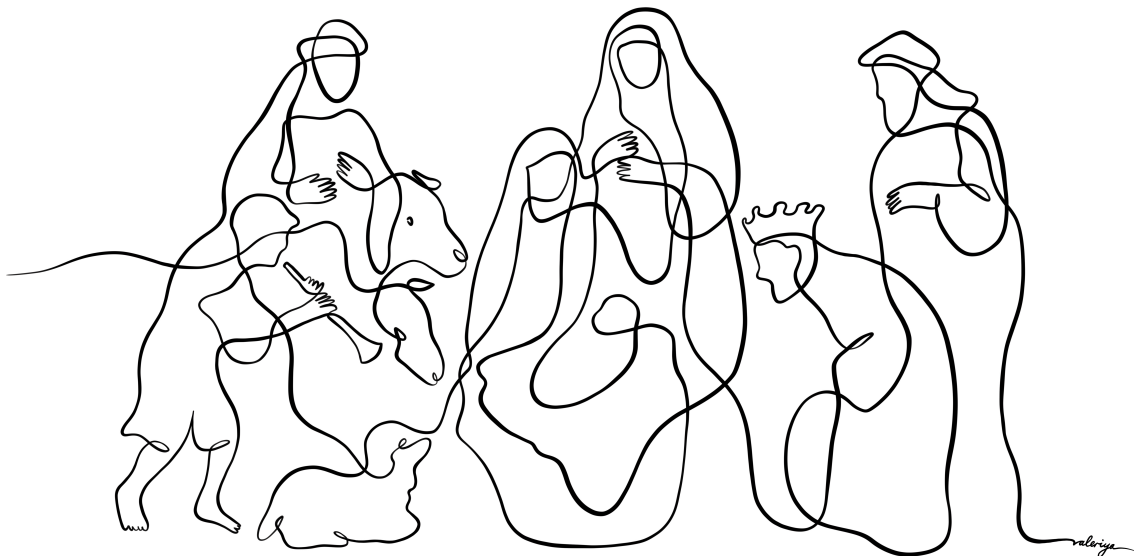


CHURCH OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Grow in Faith. Live in Hope. Share God's Love.

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The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

December 24, 2024

CHORAL PRELUDE — 8:30 p.m.

FESTIVE EUCHARIST — 9:00 p.m.

A Choral Prelude of Music of the Season

STRING QUARTET

The First Noel

—arr. Michael Tyree (b. 1998)

HYMN “The First Nowell” *Standing, all who are able; everyone sings.*

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say
6 Then let us all with one ac - cord

was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
sing praise - es to our heaven - ly Lord;

in fields as they lay, keep - ing their sheep,
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,

on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
and with his blood our life hath bought.

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

—Words: English Carol, 18th cent.

Music: *The First Nowell*, English carol, 17th

cent.

STRING QUARTET

I Saw Three Ships

—arr. Michael Tyree

ANTHEM *Sung by the Choir.*

On Christmas Night

On Christmas night all Christians sing,
to hear the news the angels bring;
On Christmas night all Christians sing,
to hear the news the angels bring:
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King's birth.

When sin departs before Thy grace,
Then life and health come in its place;
When sin departs before Thy grace,
Then life and health come in its place;
Angels and men with joy may sing,
All for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light
Which made the angels sing this night;
All out of darkness we have light
Which made the angels sing this night:
“Glory to God and peace to men,
Now and forevermore. Amen.”

—Words: English Traditional

Music: English Traditional, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Still, Still, Still

—Austrian carol, arr. Graham Twist (b. 1957)

ANTHEM *Sung by the Choir.*

Creator of the Stars of Night

Creator of the stars of night,
Your people's everlasting light,
Jesu, Redeemer, save us all,
And hear your servants when we call.

Lord, grieving that the ancient curse
Should doom to death a universe,
You are redemption, full of grace,
To save and healed a ruined race.

You came, the Bridegroom of the bride
As drew the world to eventide;
Proceeding from the virgin shrine,
The spotless Victim all divine

At whose great Name, majestic now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
All things celestial you shall own,
And things terrestrial, Lord alone.

O Lord, whose coming is with dread
To judge and doom the quick and dead,
Preserve us while we dwell below,
From every insult of the foe.

To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, three in one,
Laud, honor, might, and glory be
From age to age eternally. Amen.

—Words: Latin 9th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale (1818–1866), alt.

Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong Mode 4, arr. Vincent Ryan

STRING QUARTET

Carol of the Bells

—arr. Michael Tyree

HYMN “O little town of Bethlehem” *Standing, all who are able; everyone sings.*



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how stil we see thee lie!
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is given!
5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels their great glad tid - ings tell;



1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

—Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)
Music: *St. Louis*, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908)

ANTHEM *Sung by the Choir.*

Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
Not by any din of drums,
Nor the manner of his airs,
Nor by anything he wears.

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
Not by his crown or by his gown,
But his coming known shall be
By the holy harmony
Which his coming makes in thee.

Thou shalt know him when he comes. Amen.

—Words: Anonymous.
Music: Hal Hopson (b. 1933)

STRING QUARTET

In the Bleak Midwinter

—arr. Michael Tyree

+ + + + + + +

The Holy Eucharist

The Liturgy of the Word

HYMN “O come, all ye faithful” *Standing, all who are able; everyone sings.*



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



1 come ye, O come ___ ye to Beth - le - hem;
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven ___ a - bove;
6 Je - sus, to thee ___ be ___ glo - ry given;



1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
3 glo - ry to God, ___ glo - ry in the high - est;
6 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;



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



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

—Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others
Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786)

CHRISTMAS ACCLAMATION *Remain standing.*

Celebrant: Unto us a child is born;

People: Unto us a son is given.

Celebrant: And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

People: Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace!

Celebrant: Glory to God in the highest heaven!

People: On earth, peace and goodwill to all!

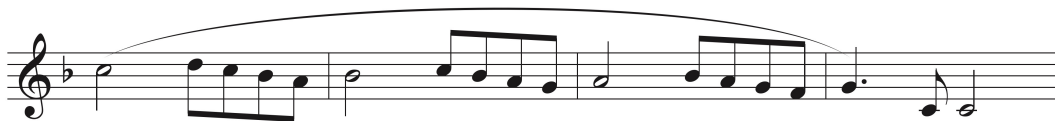
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS “Angels we have heard on high” *Everyone sings.*



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;



and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de-light.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.



Glo - - - - - ri - a



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



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

—Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt.
Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958)

COLLECT OF THE DAY *Remain standing.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

FIRST LESSON *Seated.*

A reading from the Book of Isaiah (9:2–7).

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. 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. 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. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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. 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN “It came upon the midnight clear” *Standing, all who are able; everyone sings.*



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that
3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the



glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing
world has suf - fered long; be - neath the heaven - ly



near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
hymn have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;



“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from
and war - ring hu - man - kind hears not the



heaven’s all - gra - cious King.” The world in sol - emn
tid - ings which they bring; O hush the noise and



still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
cease your strife and hear the an - gels sing!

—Words: Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876), alt.
Music: *Carol*, Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900)

SECOND LESSON *Seated.*

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus (3:4–7).

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN “Hark! the herald angels sing” *Standing, all who are able; everyone sings.*



1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.



with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

—Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Music: *Mendelssohn*, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847);
adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

GOSPEL Luke 2:1–20 *Remain standing.*

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (2:1–20).

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And 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.

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

When 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.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

CREED *Standing, all who are able; everyone sings.*



1 We be - lieve in God al - might - y, Au - thor of all things that be,
2 We be - lieve that Je - sus suf - fered, scourged and scorned and cru - ci - fied,
3 We be - lieve in God's own Spi - rit, bond - ing all the saints with - in



Ma - ker of the earth and hea - vens, Keep - er of the sky and sea.
Ta - ken from the cross, was bur - ied. True Life there had tru - ly died.
One church catho - lic, one church ho - ly, where for - give - ness. frees from sin;



We be - lieve in God's Son Je - sus, now for us both Lord and Christ,
We be - lieve that on the third day, Christ was raised up from the grave,
In the bo - dy's res - sur - rect - ion, for the break - ing of death's chain



Of the Spi - rit and of Ma - ry, born to bring a - bun - dant life.
And a - scen - ded to God's right hand. He will come a - gain to save.
Gives the life that's ev - er - last - ing. This the faith that we have claimed.

—Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955–1993), alt. © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.
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Music: *Regent Square*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813–1879), adapted.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Remain standing.*

Leader: Beloved in Christ, in the peace of God, all the gifts we shall give and receive in these days are but small tokens of the gift that shines forth in God's Word made flesh this night. From grateful hearts let us intercede for all who find themselves longing for this deepest, truest gift, saying: Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad.

That the peace proclaimed by the angels in the shepherd's field might be realized on every field of war and every street of violence, let the heavens rejoice,

People: And let the earth be glad.

Leader: That the child born to us might find in our hearts warm welcome by our openness to the needs of the homeless and the hungry and our willingness to nourish the growth of our souls, let the heavens rejoice,

People: And let the earth be glad.

Leader: That in this time of gift-giving we might become more responsive to the abandoned, the despairing and the mourning, let the heavens rejoice,

People: And let the earth be glad.

Leader: That the rejoicing of this day might be a bond leading us to true communion of life and worship, let the heavens rejoice,

People: And let the earth be glad.

Leader: That the peace and consolation of the Wonderful Counselor might enliven all who are living with disease and illness, let the heavens rejoice,

People: And let the earth be glad.

Leader: That we may join with the angels in a chorus of gratitude and thanksgiving for our many blessings, and especially for the gift of our Lord who is born this night, let the heavens rejoice,

People: And let the earth be glad.

Leader: That the blessed hope we celebrate this night might be the fulfillment of all who have gone before us in faith, let the heavens rejoice,

People: And let the earth be glad.

Silence is kept for a space.

Priest: God of light and hope, you have pierced the quiet of this night by the utterance of your Word in our flesh. May our words of praise and petition be strong echoes of your Christmas Word, so that all might come to the peace you promise in Jesus, who is Lord and God this night and forever. *Amen.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All kneel. Silence is kept.

All: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

PEACE *Standing.*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Greet one another in the name of the Lord.

GREETINGS *Seated.*

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY

All that we are and all that we have comes from God. Let us offer our best to God in thanksgiving, remembering that God loves a cheerful giver. (*2 Corinthians 9:7*)

ANTHEM *Sung by the Choir.*

A Child My Choice

Let folly praise that fancy loves, I praise and love that Child
Whose heart no thought, whose tongue no word, whose hand no deed defiled.
I praise Him most, I love Him best, all praise and love is His;
While Him I love, in Him I live, and cannot live amiss.

Love's sweetest mark, laud's highest theme, man's most desired light,
to love Him life, to leave Him death, to live in Him delight.
He mine by gift, I His by debt, thus each to other due;
First friend He was, best friend He is, all times will try Him true.

Though young, yet wise; though small, yet strong; though man, yet God He is:
As wise, He knows; as strong, He can; as God, He loves to bless.
His knowledge rules, His strength defends, His love doth cherish all;
His birth our joy, His life our light, His death our end of thrall.

Alas! He weeps, He sighs, He pants, yet do His angels sing;
Out of His tears, His sighs and throbs, doth bud a joyful spring.
Almighty Babe, whose tender arms can force all foes to fly,
Correct my faults, protect my life, direct me when I die!

—Words: Robert Southwell (1561–1595)
Music: Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

HYMN “What can I give him?” *Standing—all who are able; everyone sings.*

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.

—Words: Christina Rossetti (1830–1894)
Music: *Cranham*, Gustav Theodore Holst (1874–1934)

The people stand or kneel.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore according to his command, O Father:

All: We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

(continued)

Celebrant: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

Everyone sings:



—Setting: *Greensleeves*, traditional English melody, adapt. Fredrick Brabson, 2016, rev. 2000; Copyright © 2016 by Fredrick Brabson. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Silence is kept as the ministers bow in thanksgiving.

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. Everyone sings.

Musical notation for the Eucharistic prayer. It consists of four treble clef staves with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The melody is a simple, rhythmic line of quarter notes.

Setting: From *New Plainsong*, David Hurd (b. 1950)

INVITATION

Celebrant: This is the table not of the righteous, but of the poor in spirit. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom our Savior identified. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which our Lord became incarnate. This is the table of Jesus Christ. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often, and you who have not been for a while or ever before; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and all of us who have failed. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. It is Christ who invites you to be known and loved and fed here.

DURING COMMUNION

HYMN “Away in a manger” *Everyone sings.*



1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
* 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for ev - er, and love me I pray.



The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is night.
and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

—Words: Traditional carol
Music: *Cradle Song*, William James Kirkpatrick (1838–1921)

HYMN “One earth, one sky” *The cantor sings the verses; everyone sings the refrain.*

1. One earth, one sky, one God on high,
 one people here below,
 One binding theme, one goal, one dream
 for all who live and grow. (*Refrain*)

Peace on earth, peace on earth, shan - ti, sa - laam, sha - lom.

Peace on earth, peace on earth, shan - ti, sa - laam, sha - lom.

2. Each caring choice, each gentle voice,
 can make the music ring.
 Each mind and heart must do its part,
 each hand can help to bring (*Refrain*)

3. If all the shouts could turn to prayers
 amidst the fiery rush,
 The whole world 'round would hear the sound,
 an unfamiliar hush: (*Refrain*)

—Words: Allison Hubbard (b. 1950)
 Music: Kim Oler (b. 1954)

HYMN “Be still, for the presence of the Lord” *Everyone sings.*

1. Be still, for the pres - ence of the Lord, the Ho - ly One, is here;
 2. Be still, for the glo - ry of the Lord is shin - ing all a - round;
 3. Be still, for the pow - er of the Lord is mov - ing in this place:

come bow be - fore him now with rev - er - ence and fear:
 he burns with ho - ly fire; with splen - dor he is crowned:
 he comes to cleanse and heal, to min - is - ter his grace.

in him no sin is found, we stand on ho - ly ground.
 how awe - some is the sight, our rad - iant King of Light!
 No work too hard for him, in faith re - ceive from him.

Be still, for the pres - ence of the Lord, the Ho - ly One, is here.
 Be still, for the glo - ry of the Lord is shin - ing all a - round.
 Be still, for the pow - er of the Lord is mov - ing in this place.

—Words and Music: David Evans, 1986

SOLO *Sung by Caitlin Bolden.*

O Holy Night

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining; It is the night of the dear Savior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining, Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope- the weary world rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn! Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! O night, O holy night, O night divine!	Led by the light of faith serenely beaming, With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand. So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, In all our trials born to be our Friend. Here came the Wise Men from Orient land. The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger, He knows our need, to our weakness is no stranger. Behold your King, before Him lowly bend! Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!
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Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we;
Let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever!
His power and glory evermore proclaim!
His power and glory evermore proclaim!

—Words: Placide Cappeau (1808-1877); tr. John Sullivan Dwight (1818-1893)
Music: Canticque de Noel, Adolphe Adam (1803-1856); arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The people kneel, all who are able..

All: Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

HYMN “Silent night, holy night” *Remain kneeling; everyone sings.*

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,
all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,
Ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy
peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

—Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)
Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910)

BLESSING *Remain kneeling.*

Celebrant: May the humility of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the joy of the angels, and the peace of the Christ Child
be God's gift to you this Christmastime, and for evermore.
And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

HYMN “Joy to the world! the Lord is come” *Standing, all who are able; everyone sings.*



1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the
ceive her King; let ev - ery heart___ pre - pare him room,___ and
na - tions prove the glo - ries of___ his right - eous - ness,___ and
heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture___
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his___
sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

—Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Go Tell It on the Mountain

—arr. Charles Callahan (1950–2024)

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