



Christmas Eve
December 24, 2022
10:30 p.m.

PRELUDE

Arise, Arise & Shine

M. McDonald

Arise, arise and shine! The light of the Lord is with you. Arise, arise and shine! For the glory of the Lord is with you. Star of wonder so bright, lead us to the light where the Child, with Mary lay. We will travel far by the wondrous star to see this Child! Arise, arise and shine! The light of the Lord is with you. Arise, arise and shine! For the glory of the Lord is with you. Come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!
Born a Child in Bethlehem, Son of God and Son of Man; Holy Child, in love He came. Born a Savior, born a Son; Heaven's Light to earth has come. Glory in the highest! Light to all has come! Arise, arise and shine!
The light of the Lord is with you. ***Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar; seek the great Desire of nations, you have seen the Infant's star.***
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King! Arise, arise, and shine!

What Star is This

arr. H. Helvey

What star is this, with beams so bright, more lovely than the noonday light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn king, glad tidings of our God to bring.
'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed, "From Jacob shall a star proceed;"
and lo! the Eastern sages stand to read in heaven the Lord's command.
While outward signs the star displays, an inward light the Lord conveys
and urges them, with tender might, to seek the giver of the light.
O Jesus, fount of boundless grace, your star calls us to seek your face;
prepare our hearts to fully shine and share your light and love divine.

What Sweeter Music

J. Rutter

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King?
Awake the voice! Awake the string! Dark and dull night, fly hence away,
and give the honor to this day that sees December turned to May.
Why does the chilling winter's morn smile, like a field beset with corn? Or smell like a meadow
newly shorn thus on the sudden? Come and see the cause, why things thus fragrant be:
'Tis he is born, whose quickening birth gives life and luster, public mirth, to heaven and the underearth.
We see him come, and know him ours, who, with his sunshine and his showers, turns the patient ground to
flowers. The darling of the world is come, and fit it is, we find a room to welcome him.
The nobler part of all the house here, is the heart, which we will give him; and bequeath this holly,
and this ivy wreath, to do him honor; who's our King, and Lord of all this reveling.
What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heavenly King?

Lost in the Night

F.M. Christiansen

Lost in the night doth the sinner yet languish, longing for morning the darkness to vanquish,
plaintively heaving a sigh full of anguish: Will not day come soon?
Sorrowing brother, in darkness yet dwelling, dawned has the day of a radiance excelling,
death's dreaded darkness forever dispelling: Lo, Christ is coming soon!
Light o'er the land of the sinner is beaming, rivers of life through its deserts are streaming.
Millions yet sigh for the Savior redeeming. Must he be vainly awaiting the morrow?
Shall we, no light and no comfort him borrow?
Giving no heed to his burden of sorrow: oh, will not day come soon? He is coming soon.

Magnificat
(sung in Latin)

J. Rutter

Magnificat anima mea Dominum; et exultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae:

He hath regarded the humility of his handmaid:

ecce, enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes.

behold from henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

Away

arr. M. Burrows
Voices in Accord

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.

The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but the little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.

I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray;

bless all the dear children in thy tender care and fit us for heaven to live with thee there. Away.

ORGAN

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

arr. N. Harmon

GREETING

Brandon Wallace

*PASSING THE PEACE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us dance with delight in the Lord

People: and let our hearts be filled with rejoicing,

Leader: for eternal salvation has appeared on the earth.

People: Alleluia!

*OPENING HYMN #234

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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.

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,

lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;

Son of the Father, begotten, not created; [Refrain]

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;

O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest; [Refrain]

**Standing as you are able and comfortable.*

THE CHRIST CANDLE

Choir: Of the Father's love begotten, ere the world began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he.

Refrain: Emmanuel, Emmanuel, evermore and evermore, Emmanuel.

Leader: Tonight, we light the Christ Candle, welcoming the One promised long ago.

People: Emmanuel: God with us!

Leader: We celebrate the hope of the Wonderful Counselor.

People: Emmanuel: God with us!

Leader: We rejoice in the strength of the Mighty God.

People: Emmanuel: God with us!

Leader: We praise the goodness of the Prince of Peace.

People: Emmanuel: God with us!

Leader: We adore the love of the Everlasting Father.

People: Emmanuel: God with us! Alleluia!

Leader: Tonight, we light all the candles as we celebrate the birth of Christ,
the Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.
All praise and glory and honor to the One who is Emmanuel, Jesus Christ, God with us.

Refrain: Emmanuel, Emmanuel, evermore and evermore, Emmanuel.

Choir: Evermore and evermore, Emmanuel.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eric Lekberg

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

ANTHEM

O Day of Peace that Dimly Shines

arr. J. Black

O day of peace that dimly shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
guide us to justice, truth, and love, delivered from our selfish schemes.
May swords of hate fall from our hands, our hearts from envy find release,
till by God's grace our warring world shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.
Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce devour the small;
as beasts and cattle calmly graze a little child shall lead them all.
Then enemies shall learn to love, all creatures find their true accord;
the hope of peace shall be fulfilled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

SECOND LESSON

Psalms 96

Sunil Kotian

*HYMN #240

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

***Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"***

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

***Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. [Refrain]***

***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. [Refrain]***

THIRD LESSON

Titus 2:11-14

Amy Sell

ANTHEM

Of the Father's Love Begotten

arr. J. Rouse
Voices in Accord

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the world began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been and the future years shall see evermore.
Let the heights of heaven adore him; angel hosts his praises sing,
power, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring evermore.
Christ, to thee, with God the father and, O Holy Ghost to thee
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unending praises be.
Honor, glory, and dominion and eternal victory evermore and evermore.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

**Strong and Loving God,
guide the nations and the peoples of the world
into your ways of truth and justice,
and establish among them a lasting peace and an abiding hope,
through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN #218

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

***It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.***

***Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.***

***And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!***

***For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.***

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Sunil Kotian

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Sing We Now of Christmas

arr. K. Pederson

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here. Hearts in expectation, Noel drawing near.
Sing we Noel, sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel.
In stillness lays the world in silent reverie; longing for the birth of love and mercy.
Yearning for hope, good news to fill our souls; turning to the manger that grounds all mystery.
Angels bending low, shepherds bend their knee, wisemen from the east,
all have come the child to see. All of creation where love has come to dwell;
sing we now of Christmas, the good news that we tell. Sing Noel!

FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

Amber Denney

ANTHEM

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

K. Hoefler

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger; lying there the undefiled, to the world a stranger.
Such a child in such a place, can He be the Savior? Ask the saved of all the race who have found His favor.
Angels sang about His birth, wisemen sought and found Him. Heaven's star shone brightly forth
glory all around Him. Gloria! Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing.
All the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ringing. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
He is still the undefiled but no more a stranger. He is the Son of God, of humble birth, beautiful the story.
Praise His name in all the earth, hail the King of Glory!

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

ANTHEM

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

arr. M. James

God rest ye merry, gentlemen let nothing you dismay; remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,
to save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray, O tidings of comfort and joy.
From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came, and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same,
how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name, O tidings of comfort and joy.
"Fear not," then said the angel, "let nothing you a-fright, this day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright, to free
all those who trust in Him from Satan's power and might, O tidings of comfort and joy.
Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place, and with true love and brotherhood each other now
embrace; this sacred time of Christmas tide all others now deface; O tidings of comfort and joy.

SERMON

A Practical Gift

Darren Cushman Wood

SILENT NIGHT

*(Please remain seated for Silent Night. The Choir will sing the first verse in German.
The congregation and choir will then sing in English.)*

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht. Alles schläft; einsam wacht.
Nur das traute hochheilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh! Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

*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, shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.*

*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!*

*PROCLAMATION OF THE LIGHT

Leader: In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

**People: The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overcome it.**

Leader: And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory.

People: From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace.

*JOY TO THE WORLD

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.*

*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.*

THE BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

arr. J. Vivian

Tonight's worship leaders

Darren Cushman Wood, *Senior Pastor*
Sunil Kotian, *Pastor of Mission & Outreach*
Amy Sell, *Minister of Discipleship & Formation*
Brandon Wallace, *Minister of Youth & Young Adults*
Amber Denney, *Co-Lay Leader*
Eric Lekberg, *Co-Lay Leader*
John Hague and Allen McCormack, *Audio Visual*
Mark Gilgallon, *Director of Music*
Heather Hinton, *Organist*

Upcoming Events

Sundays Dec 25 and Jan 1, 11:00am
(Only one worship service; no Sunday school and no child care.)

Jan 6, 5:30-7:30pm — Epiphany Party
Celebrate Epiphany with dinner, king cake, and fun activities and games.

Jan 15, 11:00am — MLK Sunday
Guest preacher will be Rev. Dr. Frank A. Thomas of the Christian Theological Seminary

Jan 15, 5:00pm — Forum on the eviction crisis

Tuesdays from Jan 24-Feb 28, 6-7:30pm — "6 Ways We Encounter God,"
A study led by Pastor Sunil (in person and online).

Jan 28, 5-6:30pm — "The Working Hungry," a film by Indy Hunger Network

Feb 21, 5:30-7pm — Mardi Gras

Front cover artwork, "Madonna and Christ Child," vie da Jesus Mafa, Cameroon, ca. 1970.