



Emmanuel

DECEMBER 24, 2024
+ CHRISTMAS EVE +

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PRELUDE

La Nativité
Jean Langlais
Sam Parnin, Organ

WELCOME AND PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter

CHORAL INTROIT

Of the Father's Love Begotten
arr. Robert Lind
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.

Oh, that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race,
and the babe, the world's redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.

This is he whom seers of old time changed of with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long-expected; let creation praise its Lord
evermore and evermore.

Let the heights of heav'n adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing;
pow'rs, dominions, bow before him and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice in concert ring
evermore and evermore.

O friends, in gladness let us sing,
supernal anthems echoing,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One:
"Alleluia, Alleluia!"
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia! Amen.

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.

* HYMNS OF CELEBRATION

153 - It Came Upon the Midnight Clear
173 - Good Christians All, Rejoice

* THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Jim Meyer, Kristen Engebretson,
Owen and Miles

Beloved, today we welcome the Christ Child, the fulfillment of our joy, as we proclaim with the prophet Isaiah, "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." (Isaiah 9:6)

Christ our joy has come near. Emmanuel, God with us, has come to dwell with us as a tiny baby. "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." (Isaiah 9:7)

We light this candle as a sign of Christ coming to dwell with us, to live in the neighborhood of vulnerable humanity as a vulnerable child. May the light of Christ warm our hearts and light our way as we share the joy of God's salvation wherever we go.

The Christ Candle is lit.

We sing together all four verses of hymn 122, O Zion, Acclaim Your Redeemer!

Let us pray: **Lord Jesus, this evening we rejoice in the incarnation; Word made flesh, God with us. We give you thanks for promises kept and love made real. As we celebrate your coming, may we look with hope and joy to that great day when all will be set to right, when heaven and earth will be one, when there will be no more tears or sorrow or pain. Come Lord, Jesus. Amen.**

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CHORAL ANTHEM

What Sweeter Music
John Rutter

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol,
for to sing the birth of this our heav'nly King?
Awake the voice! Awake the string!

Dark and dull night, fly hence away,
and give the honour to this day
that sees December turn'd 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 quick'ning birth gives life and lustre,
public mirth, to heaven and the underearth.

We see him come, and know him ours,
who, with his sunshine and his show'rs,
turns the patient ground to flow'rs.

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 honour; who's our King
and Lord of all this revelling.

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol,
for to sing the birth of this our heav'nly King?

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Mary Chase-Ziolek, Reader

Isaiah 9:2-7

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-20

* HYMN 162

Angels We Have Heard on High

A CHRISTMAS STORYBOOK

The Deliverer Has Come!

Written by Sarah Shin

Illustrated by Shin Maeng

Read by Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter

RESPONSIVE CAROL 171

What Child Is This, Who, Laid to Rest

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Generosity

The Trustees will come around at this time to receive physical offerings.

Giving online at any time is also an option at www.npcovenant.org/give.

Offertory

Angels, from the Realms of Glory (159)

arr. Anna Laura Page

Chancel Handbell Choir, Linnea Olfelt, Director

In the Bleak Midwinter

* Responsive Hymn 151, verse 4

* Prayer of Dedication

LIGHTING OUR CANDLES 176

Now Shine a Thousand Candles Bright

*The candles we light and hold serve as symbols of Christ's light that shines
in our lives, as well as the light we carry into the dark places of the world.*

* HYMN 172

Silent Night, Holy Night

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

O Come All Ye Faithful (147)

arr. Mary McDonald

** Please rise, in body or in spirit.*

*All are welcome to return tomorrow morning at 6:30 am
for a traditional Julotta service. God Jul!*

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

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 - furl'd,
 3 All 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 long fore - told,

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 comes round the age of gold:

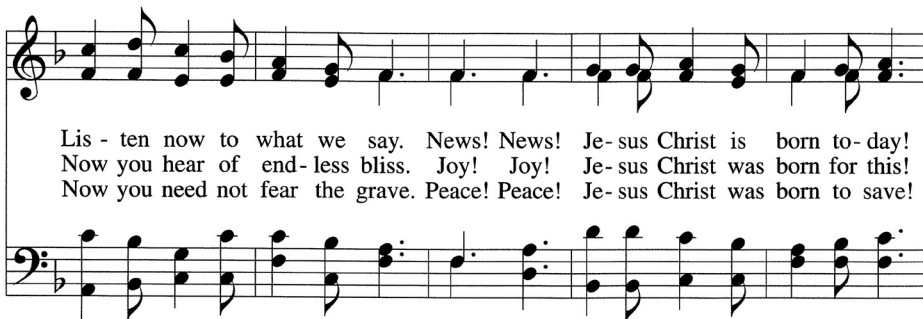
"Peace on the earth, good will to all from heav'n's most gra - cious King!"
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
 look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,

The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 O rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing.
 and the whole world send back the song which now the an - gels sing.

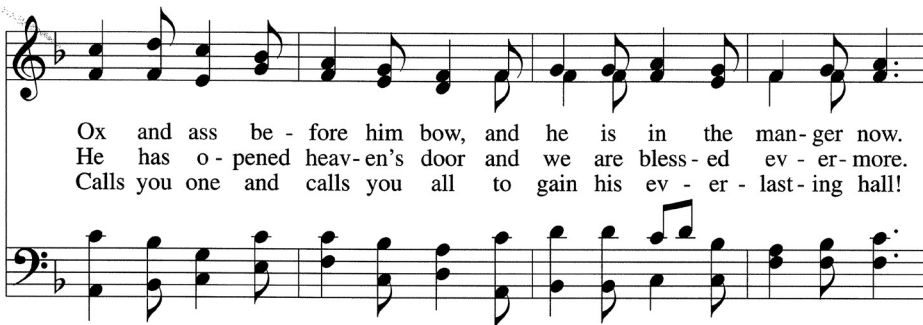
Good Christians All, Rejoice



1 Good Chris-tians all, re-joice with heart and soul and voice!
 2 Good Chris-tians all, re-joice with heart and soul and voice!
 3 Good Chris-tians all, re-joice with heart and soul and voice!



Lis - ten now to what we say. News! News! Je - sus Christ is born to-day!
 Now you hear of end - less bliss. Joy! Joy! Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 Now you need not fear the grave. Peace! Peace! Je - sus Christ was born to save!



Ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He has o - pened heav - en's door and we are bless - ed ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall!



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

O Zion, Acclaim Your Redeemer!

1 O Zi - on, ac - claim your Re - deem - er! Je - ru - sa - lem, wel - come your King!
 2 He comes from the joys of the a - ges, he leaves his do - min - ion sub - lime;
 3 He comes as a ran - som most ho - ly, he dies on the cross for the world;
 4 He comes from the tomb as a vic - tor, the shad - ows of death clear a - way;
 5 He comes to the sor - row - ing spir - it and life is re - newed by his hand;

Strew palms on the way for the Sav - ior, his prais - es ex - ul - tant - ly sing.
 from glo - ry to Beth - le - hem's man - ger he comes in the full - ness of time.
 re - demp - tion from sin is ac - com - plished, his ban - ner of light is un - furled.
 the slum - ber - ing saints are a - wak - ened, a - roused from their sleep in the clay.
 he comes to es - tab - lish a King - dom that shall thro' e - ter - ni - ty stand.

Refrain

Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice in your Sav - ior and King!

Re - joice! Re - joice! Ac - claim him your Sav - ior and King!

162 Angels We Have Heard on High

Descant

3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

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;

come a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
Say what may the ti - dings 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

Glo ri - a

CHRISTMAS: BIRTH

in ex-cel-sis De - o, glo

in ex-cel-sis De - o, glo

The first system consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major with lyrics 'in ex-cel-sis De - o, glo'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in G major with lyrics 'in ex-cel-sis De - o, glo'. The bottom staff is a bass line in G major with lyrics 'in ex-cel-sis De - o, glo'. The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

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

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

The second system consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major with lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel-sis De - o.'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in G major with lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel-sis De - o.'. The bottom staff is a bass line in G major with lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel-sis De - o.'. The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

171 What Child Is This, Who, Laid to Rest

Em D/F# G D Em Am/C B

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?
 3 So bring him in-cense, gold, and myrrh, come peas-ant, king, to own him;

Em D/F# G D Em Am B Esus Em

Whom an-gels greet with an-thems sweet, while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
 Good Chris-tian, fear: for sin-ners here the si-lent Word is plead-ing.
 the King of kings sal-va-tion brings, let lov-ing hearts en-throne him.

Refrain
Bm G D Em Am/C B

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the song on high, the Vir-gin sings her lul-la-by;

Bm G D Em Am B Esus Em

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar-y!
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar-y!
 joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar-y!

In the Bleak Midwinter

151

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Our God, heav'n can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
 3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim thronged the air;
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed
 but his moth - er on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.
 wor - shiped the Be - lov - ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Now Shine a Thousand Candles Bright 176

In unison F C7 Dm B♭ F F/A B♭ Gm7 C C7 F

1 Now shine a thou-sand can-dles bright up-on the world's dark sphere;
 2 In sub-urb, ghet-to, farm, and town they spread the news a-broad
 3 O star that shone o'er Beth-le-hem, now let your kind-ly light
 4 To ev-'ry dark and an-guish'd heart send down your ray di-vine,

C F/A C7/G F F/A B♭ Gm7 C C7 F

the deep blue sky is set a-light as myr-iad flames ap-pear.
 that Je-sus Christ is born to-night, our Sav-ior and our God.
 with tran-quil hope and glo-ry shine in ev-'ry home to-night.
 and may the light of God's own love like Christ-mas can-dles shine.

WORDS: Emmy Köhler, 1858-1925; tr. J. Irving Erickson, 1914-1992, Karl A. Olsson, 1913-,
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 MUSIC: Emmy Köhler, 1858-1925; arr. Norman E. Johnson, 1928-1983, © 1972,
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C.M.
 CHRISTMAS CANDLES

Silent Night, Holy Night

172

B \flat F7

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,
Stil - le Nacht! hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,

B \flat E \flat B \flat

all is bright 'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child,
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light, ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,
ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar,

E \flat B \flat F7

ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy
“Hol - der Kna - be im lock - i - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher

B \flat B \flat /F F F7 B \flat

peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh!”

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Regional Co-coordinator for Europe

Peter and Anna Kim, Taiwan

James and Rachel Ventress, Alaska

Paul and Sheryl Noren, Congo

Eugenio and Pia Restrepo,
Latin America

Welcome Statement

We welcome all people to begin or deepen their relationship with Christ through worship and study. We invite all believers to fully participate in the life and ministry of our church as members, leaders, and lay staff. We celebrate the gifts and presence of diverse Christians among us—whether those differences be race, ethnicity, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, or socioeconomic status. We are blessed by our diversity and are unified in Christ.

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