

Trinity Presbyterian Church Pensacola, Florida Love God. Love Neighbor. Make Disciples. Make a Difference.



December 24, 2020 · Christmas Eve · 5 and 7 p.m.

Greetings! Welcome to Trinity Presbyterian Church. Whether you are a first-time guest or here every week, we're glad that you're here to worship with us tonight. 2020 has been a stressful year, but tonight, the Good News is that God has come to us in the Christ Child to live with us, as one of us, to sustain and deliver us! Thanks be to God!

PRELUDE "O Holy Night"
Hyunjoo Kim and Rachel Lee

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES "Light of Light" Joel Raney
Featuring The Handbell Choir and Hyunjoo Kim, piano

Congregation sings

Light of Light, we humbly pray; Shine in our hearts today. Dispel the gloom and dark of night;

Fill all the world with love and light.

REFRAIN: Voices cry out from a world in grief.

Prayers of those who seek relief. End their darkness, hear their call For peace on earth, good will for all.

Responsive Litany Liturgist: 5 PM Greg Longuet 7 PM Greg Landsgaard

ONE: Light of Light, shine in our hearts and renew our hope.

ALL: Joy to the world, Emmanuel has come.

ONE: Light of Light, shine in our hearts and grant us peace.

ALL: Joy to the world, Emmanuel has come.

ONE: Light of Light, shine in our hearts and bring us true joy.

ALL: Joy to the world, Emmanuel has come.

ONE: Light of Light, shine in our hearts and fill us with love.

ALL: Joy to the world, Emmanuel has come.

Candle Lighting

Tonight we light all five candles - the candles of hope, peace, joy, love, and finally, the Christ Candle, celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior. The candle of hope reminds us that in sending Christ, God sent hope to the earth. The candle of peace reminds us that peace will one day reign. The candle of joy is a reminder that we have been given eternal life and have no reason to be fearful. And the candle of love represents God's redeeming love for us, brought to earth in the form of a tiny child.

REFRAIN: Voices cry out from a world in grief.

Prayers of those who seek relief. End their darkness, hear their call For peace on earth, good will for all. *CAROL

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELIS

*UNISON PRAYER

Great and glorious God, on this holy night we gather – to stand with shepherds amazed at your glory; to sing with angels rejoicing in your work; to wait with Joseph, trusting in your promise; to sit with Mary, cradling your love. Tonight, we receive your Good News of great joy, for unto us is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Glory and praise to you forever, O God! Amen.

*CAROL

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

SCRIPTURE (UNISON) The Prophecy Isaiah 9:2-7 (NRSV)

- 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.

*CAROL "The First Nowell"

ENGLISH CAROL

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:1-21 (NRSV)

In 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. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ 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. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ 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.

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ 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: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And 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!"

¹⁵ 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." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*CAROL "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing" MENDELSSOHN

SERMON THE PATH HOME: I'll Be Home For Christmas Hugh Hamilton

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM "Noel"

Rachel Lee and Hyunjoo Kim

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: God is with you
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: Tonight, we have much for which to thank you, God: you sent your

Child to shine among us while we were still under the shadow of death. You broke the yoke of sin and emptiness that burdened us. You dwelt among us in justice and truth, giving grace and peace. We join the

angels' song to the shepherds:

People: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth,

good will to all:

Sing: Refrain from "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Glo-o-ri-a, in excelsis Deo, Glo-o-ri-a, in excelsis Deo, Pastor: Teach us, Child of Bethlehem, Prince of Peace, to follow your example

of righteous livingand good will to all. As Jesus broke bread with his disciples and followers, so we remember you as we break bread together this night. Be among us now as we proclaim the mystery of

faith

People: Christ was promised; Christ is born; Christ indwells us!

Pastor: At this table unify our hearts and lives that we may be your people and

return to the world glorifying and praising you through our living. We pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem, who grew to teach us

to pray:

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE SHARING OF THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ANTHEM "All is Well"

Clara Riggleman and Hyunjoo Kim

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST John 1:1-14

*CAROL "Silent Night! Holy Night!"

STILLE NACHT

*PRAYER (UNISON) Christmas Prayer by Robert Louis Stevenson

"Loving Father, Help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Thy children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake, Amen!"

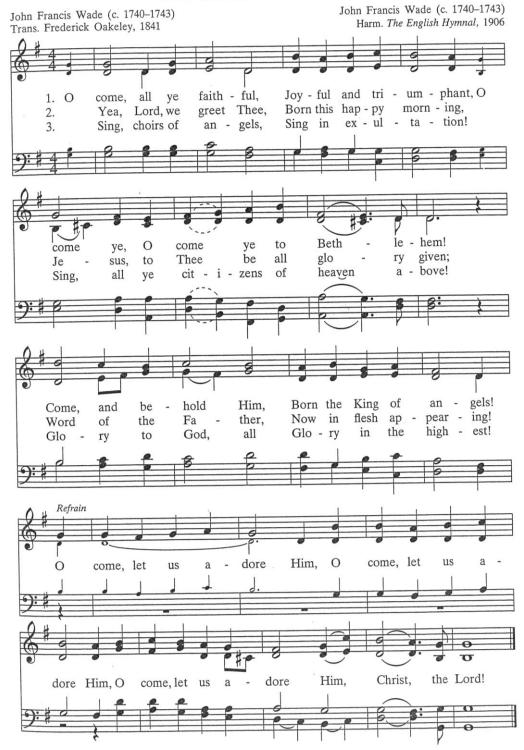
(Extinguish candles)

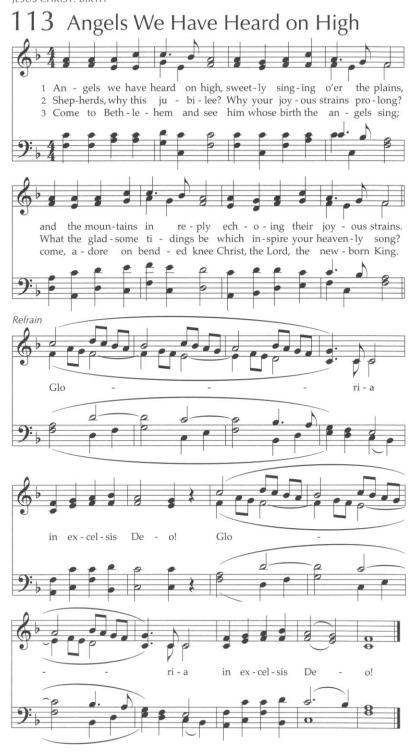
*CAROL "Joy To the World" ANTIOCH

*BENEDICTION

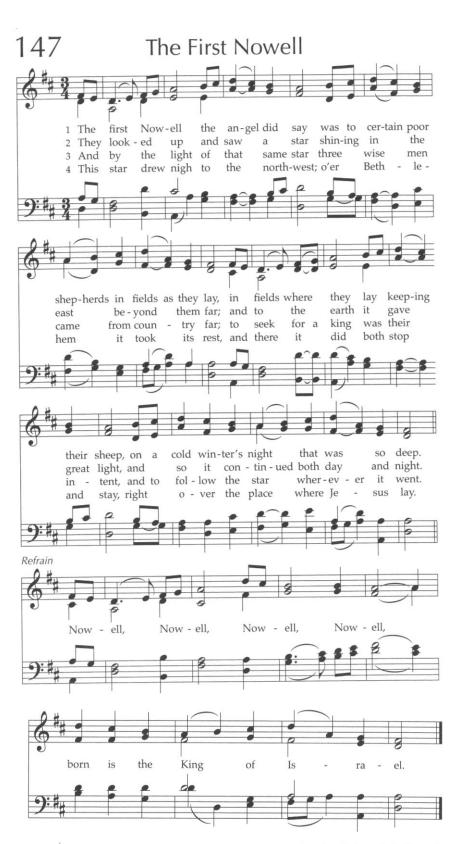
*POSTLUDE "Hallelujah" Handel

ADESTE FIDELES 6.6.10.5.6 with refrain





This French carol probably dates from the 1700s, though it was not printed until the following century. Because it uses a vernacular language for the narrative stanzas and Latin for the refrain, it belongs to a special category called "macaronic" or mixed-language texts.



"Nowell" is the English form of the French "noel," a shout of joy formerly used at Christmas (as in Chaucer's "Franklin's Tale"), a clue that the word is older than its first printing. It may have Latin and French roots related to "born" ($natus / n\acute{e}$) as well to "news" (nova / nouvelle).

119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing 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, 3 Hail the heaven-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 the vir-gin's womb. Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings. join the tri-umph of the skies; Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; hail the in-car - nate de - i - ty, Veiled in flesh the God-head see; Mild he lays his glo - ry born that we no more may die, with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!" pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el. to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth. Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

Brought together in the mid-19th century, the text and tune of this familiar carol began in quite different forms. The text had ten stanzas and began, "Hark, how all the welkin rings." The tune was created for a festival celebrating Gutenberg's introduction of moveable type.





While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4–9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.