

By James He Qe

10:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION SERVICE





ORDER OF SERVICE

CAROL SING

Carols by candlelight (see pages 7-11)

CAROL PLEASE STAND

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

Adeste Fideles

Adeste Fideles laeti triumphantes, Veníte, veníte in Bethlehem. Natum vidéte, Regem Angelorum:

Refrain:

Veníte adoremus, Veníte adoremus Veníte adoremus Dóminum

True God of true God, Light of Light eternal, lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb; very God, begotten not created; [Refrain]

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above! Glory to God, in the highest! [Refrain]

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n! Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! [Refrain]

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Jim & Elizabeth Greenshields

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

People: For unto us a child is born; unto us a Son is given.

Leader: To symbolize the coming of Jesus as the Light of the world,

we light the Christ candle.

HYMN

No. 6, v. 5 "A Candle is Burning"

Away in a Manger

We honour Messiah with Christ-candle's flame, Our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim. O come, all you faithful, rejoice in this night, as God comes among us, the Christian's true light.

WORDS OF WELCOME PLEASE BE SEATED

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This 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 in the guest room.

- ⁸ Now in that same 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 and 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, just as it had been told them.

CAROL

No. 473 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Picardy

MEDITATION

"Nor Thorns Infest the Ground" Rev.Dr. Jason Byassee

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM CHOIR ONLY

"The Night the Earth Stood Still"

Arndt/Gungor Sanctuary Choir

I looked up to the vault of the sky and saw it standing still; birds of the air, suspended in flight on the night the earth stood still: "Silent night, holy night; all is calm and all is bright" Christmas Eve in the trenches of France; the dead lay cold in no man's land beneath the stars, under the moon; hot bright bullets filled the air, far from home; rank and file, fallen comrades side by side: "Silent night, holy night" all was calm and all was bright. Carols and hymns, they sang carols and hymns on the night that time stood still. "Peace on earth, let all war cease! Ring the bells of charity!" Christmas dawn, wrapped in a mist, on the night that time stood still.

CAROL PLEASE STAND

No. 40 v. 1 *Marvel*

Before the marvel of this night adoring, fold your wings and bow, then tear the sky apart with light and with your news the world endow. Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease: Sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

If you're wondering whether you are invited to commune with us, the answer is yes. We seek Jesus in this bread and cup and invite all to dine on him with us.

INVITATION

CALL TO GIVE THANKS

Minister: Glory to God in the highest!

People: And on earth, peace to all!

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People:** It is good to give our thanks and praise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: Blessed are you, gracious God,

Creator of light, Giver of all life, Source of love...
... And as we wait and watch for your coming,

we proclaim your goodness:

Choir: Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. No. 942

Minister: As we gather at this table,

we remember that on the night before he died...

...Grant that in praise and thanksgiving,

we may so offer ourselves to you

that our lives may proclaim the mystery of our faith:

People: We remember his death, and we proclaim his resurrection,

as we await his coming in glory.

Minister: We pray you, God of Love,

send your Holy Spirit upon us and what we do here...

... As our Saviour taught us, let us pray together:

THE LORD'S PRAYER SAY TOGETHER

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Those wishing to receive communion will be ushered to the communion rail where, kneeling, you will receive the elements by dipping the wafer into the communion cup. Gluten-free wafers are available from the ministers; please raise your hand to receive one.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

"All Bells in Paradise"

Rutter

Sanctuary Choir

Deep in the cold of winter, darkness and silence were everywhere; softly and clearly, there came through the stillness A wonderful sound to hear: All bells in paradise I heard them ring, sounding in majesty the news that they bring; all bells in paradise I heard them ring, welcoming our Saviour, born on earth a heavenly King. All bells in paradise I heard them ring: 'Glory to God on high' the angel voices sing. Lost in awe and wonder, doubting I asked what this sign might be: Christ our Messiah revealed in a stable, a marvellous sight to see. All bells in paradise I heard them ring, sounding in majesty the news that they bring; all bells in paradise I heard them ring, welcoming our Saviour, born on earth a heavenly King. He comes down in peace, a child in humility, the keys to his kingdom belong to the poor; before him shall kneel the kings with their treasures, gold incense

and myrrh. All bells in paradise I heard them ring, sounding in majesty the news that they bring; all bells in paradise I heard them ring, welcoming our Saviour, born on earth a heavenly King. All bells in paradise I heard them ring: 'Glory to God on high' the angel voices sweetly sing.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION SAY TOGETHER

O Holy Mystery: God ethereal and God incarnate. At Christmas, you bring heaven to earth, that your Kingdom might dwell in our midst. Your Word becomes flesh; the Virgin's womb his tabernacle, and he bids us eat and drink of him, that we may live. As you assumed our human nature, so may we, in communion with Christ, partake in the Divine nature, that there will be richly provided for us an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit: One God, unto ages of ages; world without end. Amen.

BENEDICTION PLEASE REMAIN STANDING

RECESSIONAL CAROL PLEASE STAND

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

Still Nacht

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.

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht, Gottes Sohn, o wie lacht Lieb' aus deinem göttlichen Mund, Da uns schlägt die rettende Stund'. Christ, in deiner Geburt! Christ, in deiner Geburt!

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Meditation on 'The First Noel'

Paul Fey Stephen Boda

CAROLS FOR 9:30 PM

No. 38 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?

Refrain

No. 64 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessed gift of heaven.
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

No. 44 "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 all, from heaven's all-gracious King!"

The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

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

"God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen"

God rest ye merry, gentlemen let nothing you dismay
Remember, Christ, our Saviour was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy. O tidings of comfort and joy

In Bethlehem, in Israel, this blessed Babe was born
And laid within a manger upon this bless-ed morn
The which His Mother Mary did nothing take in scorn
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy. O tidings of comfort and joy

From God our Heavenly Father a bles-sed 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, comfort and joy. O tidings of comfort and joy

"Fear not then," said the Angel, "Let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Saviour 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, comfort and joy. O tidings of comfort and joy

And when they came to Bethlehem where our dear Saviour lay,
They found Him in a manger, where oxen feed on hay;
His Mother Mary kneeling down, unto the Lord did pray.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy. 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 holy tide of Christmas all other doth deface.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy. O tidings of comfort and joy.

No. 69 "Away in a Manger"

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay close by me for ever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

"O Holy Night"

O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining, It is the night of the dear Saviour'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! Oh, hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born; O night, O Holy Night, O night divine! 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. Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born; O night, O Holy Night, O night divine!

No. 43 "Go, Tell it on the Mountain"

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. [Refrain]

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Saviour's birth. [Refrain]

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent our salvation that blessed Christmas morn. [Refrain]

No. 75 "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"

While shepherds watched their flocks by night all seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.

"Fear not," said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind; "glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and humankind.

"To you, in David's town this day is born of David's line a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:

"The heavenly babe you there shall find to human view displayed, all meanly wrapped in swathing bands, and in a manger laid."

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith appeared a shining throng of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:

"All glory be to God on high, and on earth be peace; good will to all from highest heaven begin and never cease."

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Give ye heed to what we say: News! News!
Jesus Christ is born today. Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy!
Jesus Christ was born for this! He hath opened heaven's door,
and we are blest for evermore. Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace!

Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall. Christ was born to save!

Christ was born to save!

"Little Drummer Boy"

Come, they told me, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum A newborn King to see, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum Our finest gifts we bring, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum And to lay before the King, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum Rum, pum-pum, pum, rum, pum-pum, pum

So to honor Him, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum When we come (Rum, pa-rum) (Rum, pa-rum, rum, pa-rum) (Rum, pa-rum, rum)

Little Baby, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum
And I am a poor boy, too, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum
And I have no gift to bring, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum
And that's fit to give the King Pa-rum, pum-pum, pum
Rum, pum-pum, pum, rum, pum-pum, pum

Shall I play for Him? Pa-rum, pum-pum, pum On my drum! (Pa-rum) And on my drum!

Mary nodded, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum
And the ox and Lamb kept time! Pa-rum, pum-pum, pum
And I played my drum for Him, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum
And I played my best for Him, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum
Rum, pum-pum, pum, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum

Then, He smiled at me, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum Jesus smiled at me, pa-rum, pum-pum, pum Me and my drum, my drum! Me and my drum, my drum!

(Rum, pa-rum, rum, pa-rum) (Rum, pa-rum, rum, pa-rum)
Me and my drum! (Rum, pa-rum, rum, pa-rum, rum, pa-rum, pa-rum)
Pa-rum, me and my drum!)



THURSDAY DECEMBER 25: CHRISTMAS DAY 9:00-10:00 AM: TOGETHER AT CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025 ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 11 AM

Jason Byassee preaching "As For You, Little Child..."

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026 9:15 & 11:00 AM | COMMUNION

Joanne Leatch preaching "Nothing in All Creation"