

Christmas Eve
Saturday, December 24, 2022 – 4:00 p.m. service

Prelude: *Est ist ein Rose entsprungen*
The Huron Carol
In dulci jubilo
See amid the winter's snow

arr. Eric Haas
arr. David Kemp
arr. Eric Haas
arr. Eric Haas

Word of God

Hymn: O Come, all ye faithful *Adeste fidelis*
**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; 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 heaven above;
glory to God, all glory in the highest; O come, let us adore him, O come,
let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; O come, let us adore him, O come,
let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.**

Opening Acclamation

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

People: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.

Celebrant: For unto us a child is born.

**People: And he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.**

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Musical Response *Gloria*

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee – Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.**
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

**See him in the manger laid whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.**
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Collect of the Day

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.**

Reading: 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.

Psalm 96 *read responsively by half verse*

- 1 Sing to God a new song; *
sing to God, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing and bless God's holy Name; *
proclaim the good news of salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare God's glory among the nations *
God's wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For God is great and greatly to be praised; *
more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is God who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of God's presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendor of God's sanctuary!
- 7 Ascribe to the God, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to God honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe due honor to God's holy Name; *
bring offerings and come into God's courts.

- 9 Worship the Most High in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before God.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations that God reigns! *
**God has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;
and will judge the peoples with equity."**
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before God who will come, *
who will come to judge the earth.
- 13 God will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with truth.

Reading: Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Hymn: Hark! the herald angels sing *Mendelssohn*

**Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim – Christ is born in Bethlehem!
*Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!***

**Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!
*Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King!***

**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.
Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!!
*the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King.***

The Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

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.]

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Confession of Sin

(From Enriching Our Worship)

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

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.**

**We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Absolution

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

Welcome, Celebrations and Invitations

Holy Communion

The Offering

Voluntary on *Pat-a-pan* (French Carol)

arr. by Marg Hall

Offertory Response – With gratitude and humble trust (Forest Green)



1. With grat - i - tude and hum - ble trust we bring our best to
2. A world in need now sum - mons us to la - bor, love, and



thee to serve thy cause and share thy love with all hu - man - i -
give; to make our life an of - fer - ing to God that all may



ty. O__ thou who gav - est__ us__ thy self in
live; the__ Church of Christ is__ call - ing us to



Je - sus Christ thy Son, help us to give our -
make the dream come true: a world re - deemed by



selves each day un - til life's work is done. _____
Christ-like love all life in__ Christ made new. _____

The Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

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.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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,

Celebrant and People

**We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom

we are acceptable to you, 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 [] and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. *AMEN.*

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

People and Celebrant

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.
A period of silence is kept.*

The Fraction Anthem *said*

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation or similar words.
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Music at the Communion

Voluntary on *Joseph lieber, Joseph mein*

German carol arr. Eric Haas

Carol: Silent night, holy night *Stille 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.**

**Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia; Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**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.**

Voluntary on *Quelle est cette odeur* (What is this lovely fragrance?)

French carol arr. Eric Haas

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Carol: Joy to the World - *Antioch*

**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.**

**Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy,**

**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.**

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude - Voluntary on *In dulci jubilo* J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Thank you to the Regent Recorder Ensemble. Members who played today were Betty Cohen, Gary Rosenshield, Janet Murphy, Gail Jaeger, Karen Enklund, Larry Bechler and Ken Stancer

Permissions

The text and music of *Silent Night* and *Joy to the World*, the music of the offertory hymn (*Forest Green*) and the postlude are in the public domain. The text of the offertory hymn, and the texts and music of the hymns *O come, all ye faithful*, *Angels we have heard on high*, and *Hark! the herald angels sing* are reproduced under One License A-703718. The *Huron Carol* arrangement is reproduced under Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial License 4.0. The prelude and communion voluntaries arranged for recorder ensemble by Eric Haas are reproduced with his permission. Permission was sought to reproduce the offertory voluntary arrangement of *Pat-a-pan*.