

**\*THE HYMN**

*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.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

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 CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**THE POSTLUDE**

*La Nativité du Seigneur*

Olivier Messiaen

**THE MUSICIANS**

The Chancel Choir – Rev. Dr. Jonathan Crutchfield, Organist/Choirmaster

“Once in Royal David’s City” – Anna Nuckols, soloist

“Adam lay ybounden” – John Young, soloist

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” – The Handbell Choir (Jeff Peters, director);

Mac Frampton and Derek Matthews, pianists

“Shepherd’s Pipe Carol” – Mac Frampton, piano

“In the Bleak Midwinter” – Megan Mashburn, soprano; Nan Nowell, alto;

John Young, tenor; Brandon Odom, baritone

“O Holy Night” – Megan Mashburn, soprano

The hymn settings – Mark Mashburn, trumpet

**THE READERS**

Alex Page, lesson one

Joe Ballay, lesson five

James Klotz, lesson two

Daisy Ottmann, Clerk of Session, lesson six

Sarah Chatel, lesson three

Rev. Drew Stockstill, Associate Pastor, lesson seven

Ellen Behm, lesson four

Rev. Dr. Baron Mullis, Senior Pastor, lesson eight



CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 24, 2015

8 p.m.

1411 North Morningside Drive, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306

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## *GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO*

### THE OFFERTORY

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

Harold Darke

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter long ago. Our God, Heaven cannot hold him nor earth sustain; Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign: in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ. Enough for Him, whom cherubim worship night and day, a breast-full of milk and a manger-full of hay. Enough for Him, whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel which adore. What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb. If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

### THE EIGHTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

### THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

*(The light is passed throughout the congregation during the singing of the hymn.)*

### THE HYMN *(remain seated)*

*Silent 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, 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.

### THE SOLO

*O Holy Night*

Adolphe Adam

### THE PRAYER *(in unison)*

*(The congregation is asked to extinguish the candles following the prayer.)*

**Eternal God: in Jesus Christ your light shines in our darkness, bringing joy in our sorrow and presence in our loneliness. On this holy night, draw us in to the mystery of your love. May the blessings of Christmas fill every heart, and may we fall to our knees in recognition and joy. In the name of the Christ child we pray. Amen.**

**THE CAROL***Shepherd's Pipe Carol*

John Rutter

Going through the hills on a night all starry on the way to Bethlehem, far away I heard a shepherd boy piping on the way to Bethlehem. *Angels in the sky brought this message nigh: 'Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King is come to bring us peace on earth, and he's lying cradled at Bethlehem.'* "None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely on the way to Bethlehem; but a King will hear me play sweet lullabies when I get to Bethlehem." Angels in the sky came down from on high, hovered o'er the manger where the babe was lying cradled in the arms of His mother Mary, sleeping now at Bethlehem. "Where is this new King, shepherd boy piping merrily, is he there at Bethlehem?" "I will find him soon by the star shining brightly in the sky o'er Bethlehem." *Angels in the sky . . .* "May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily, come with you to Bethlehem? Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle, is it far to Bethlehem?" Angels in the sky brought this message nigh: *"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the infant King is born this night in lowly stable yonder, born for you at Bethlehem."*

**\*THE HYMN***O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

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!*

Yes, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation! Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to  
God, all Glory in the highest! *Refrain*

**THE SEVENTH LESSON**

Matthew 2:1-11

**THE CAROL***The Three Kings*

Healey Willan

"Who knocks tonight so late," the weary porter said. Three Kings stood at the gate, each with a crown on head. The serving man bowed down; the inn was full, he knew. Said he, "In all this town is no fit place for you!" A light the manger lit: there lay the Mother meek. Said they, "This place is fit: here is the rest we seek!" Come in, ye Kings! And kiss the feet of God.

**THE OFFERTORY PRAYER***Christmas Eve**December 24, 2015**Order of Worship**8:00 p.m.*

**To maintain the reverence of this service of worship,  
please make sure your cell phone is off and refrain from applause.**

**THE MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS** (7:30 p.m.)

The Handbell Choir (Jeff Peters, director);  
Elisabeth and Mason Copeland (Cello and Piano);  
Mac Frampton (Piano)

**THE INTROIT***Ave Maria*

Franz Biebl

**\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Baron Mullis

Leader: Unto us a child is born; unto us a Son is given.

People: **His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

**\*THE PROCESSIONAL CAROL** *Once in Royal David's City* arr. David Willcocks  
(Verse 1, soloist; verse 2, choir; verses 3-5, congregation)

3. For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew, he was little, weak and  
helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew; and he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in  
our gladness.

4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love, for that child so dear and  
gentle is our Lord in heaven above. And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

5. Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by, we shall see him; but in heaven, set  
at God's right hand on high: when like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

**THE BIDDING PRAYER** (*please be seated*)**THE WELCOME****THE FIRST LESSON**

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

*\* (The asterisk indicates parts of the worship when the congregation is invited to stand as they are able.)*

**THE CAROL***Adam lay ybounden*

Philip Ledger

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond; four thousand winter thought he not too long. And all was for an apple, an apple that he took, as clerkes (*clergy*) finden written in their book (*the bible*). Ne had the apple taken been, ne had never our Lady abeen heavene queen. Blessed be the time that apple taken was; therefore we moun (*must*) singen *Deo gracias* (*thanks be to God*)!

**THE SECOND LESSON**

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

**THE CAROL***Of the Father's heart begotten*

arr. David Willcocks

Of the Father's heart begotten, ere the world from chaos rose. He is Alpha: from that fountain all that is and hath been flows. He is Omega, of all things yet to come the mystic Close, *Evermore and evermore*. By His word was all created; He commanded and 'twas done; earth and sky and boundless ocean, universe of three in one, all that sees the moon's soft radiance, all that breathes beneath the sun, *Evermore and evermore*. This is He, whom seer and Sybil sang in ages long gone by; this is He of old revealed in the page of prophecy. Lo! He comes, the promised Savior; let the world his praises cry! *Evermore and evermore*. Sing, ye heights of heaven, His praises; angels and archangels, sing! Where so e'er ye be, ye faithful, let your joyous anthems ring. Every tongue His name confessing, countless voices answering, *Evermore and evermore*.

**THE THIRD LESSON**

Isaiah 11:1-9

**\*THE HYMN***It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

CAROL

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 prophet bards foretold, when with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold; when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

**THE FOURTH LESSON**

Luke 1:26-33

**THE CAROL***Angelus ad Virginem*

arr. David Willcocks

Gabriel to Mary came, and entered at her dwelling. With his salutation glad her maiden fears dispelling: 'All hail, thou queen of virgin's bright! God, Lord of earth and heaven's height, thy very Son shall soon be born in pureness, the Savior of all kind. Thou art the gate of heaven bright, the sinners 'healer kind.' "How could I a mother be that am to man a stranger? How should I my strong resolve, my solemn vows endanger?" 'Power from the Holy Ghost on high shall bring to pass this mystery. Then have no fear: Be of good cheer, believing that still thy chastity in God's almighty keeping shall all unsullied be.' Then to him the maid replied, with noble mien supernal, "Lo! The humble handmaid I of God the Lord eternal! With thee, bright messenger of heaven, by whom this wondrous news is given, I well agree and long to see fulfilled thy gracious prophecy. As God my Lord doth will it, so be it unto me!" 'Hail! Thou Mother of the Lord, who brings of gifts the rarest, peace to angels and to all, when Christ the Lord thou barest! Do thou, we pray, entreat thy son for us our longed redemption himself to win, and from our sin release us; his succor for to give, that, when we hence are taken, we too in heaven may live."

**THE FIFTH LESSON**

Luke 2: 1-7

**THE CAROL***Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*

arr. Dan Forrest

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 a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see, hail the incarnate Deity, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel, Hark! The herald angels sing! "Glory to the newborn King!" 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, Hark! The herald angels sing! "Glory to the newborn King!"

**THE SIXTH LESSON**

Luke 2:15-20