

New St. James Church

**Christmas Eve Family Service
Monday, December 24, 2018 - 6:30 p.m.**



*** Please stand, if able**

Prelude *In Dulci Jubilo* German Carol (14th Century);
arr. M. Dupré (1886-1971)

*** Carol** *Once in royal David's city*

**First verse sung by soloist unaccompanied, then
congregation joins in:**

Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed, Where a
mother laid her Baby In a manger for His bed: Mary was that
mother mild, Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from heaven, Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable, And His cradle was a stall; With the
poor, and mean, and lowly, Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And through all His wondrous childhood He would honor and
obey, Love and watch the lowly maiden, In whose gentle arms He
lay: Christian children all must be Mild, obedient, good as He.

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.

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.

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; Where
like stars His children crowned All in white shall wait around.
(Please be seated).

Bidding Prayer

Lighting of the Christ Candle Bruce Curtis, Clerk of Session

Introit *Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light (Christmas Oratorio)*
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, and usher in the
morning; Ye shepherds, shrink not with affright, but hear the

angel's warning. This Child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be, the power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making!

* **Carol** *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 pow'r when we were gone astray
Refrain: Oh tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
Oh tidings of comfort and joy

In Bethlehem, in Israel this blessed Babe was born
And laid within a manger upon this blessed morn
The which His Mother Mary did nothing take in scorn
Refrain

From God our Heavenly Father a blessed Angel came;
And unto certain Shepherds brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by Name.
Refrain

"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."
Refrain

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding In tempest, storm and wind:
And went to Bethlehem straightway the Son of God to find.
Refrain

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.
Refrain

(Please be seated)

Welcome and Greetings

First Lesson Isaiah 9 Christ's Birth and Kingdom are foretold

* **Carol** *On Christmas night all Christians sing (Sussex)*

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news
the angels bring, on Christmas night all Christians sing, to
hear the news the angels bring, news of great joy, news of
great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should we on earth be sad, since our Redeemer
made us glad, then why should we on earth be sad, since our
Redeemer made us glad, when from our sin he set us free, all
for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before His grace, then life and health come
in its place; when sin departs before His grace, then life and
health come in its place. Heaven and earth with joy may sing,
all for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light which made the angels sing
this night; all out of darkness we have light which made the
angels sing this night; "Glory to God and peace to men, now
and forever more, amen."

(Please be seated)

Second Lesson Isaiah 11

Anthem *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming*
M. Praetorius (1571-1621)

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath
sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung. It
came a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half
spent was the night. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have
in mind, with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind. To
show God's love aright, she bore to men a Saviour, when half
spent was the night.

Third Lesson The annunciation Luke 1

Choir and Dance Drama

Gabriel's Message Basque Carol;
arr. D. Willcocks (©1975)

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted
snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail," said he, "Thou lowly maiden
Mary, most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud
and honour thee. Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
most highly favoured lady, Gloria!”

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, “To me be as it
pleaseth God,” she said, “My soul shall laud and magnify His holy
name.” Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a
Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will
ever say: most highly favoured lady, Gloria! [text: S. Baring-
Gould (1834-1924)]

Fourth Lesson The birth of Jesus

Children’s participation: The children are invited to come
forward to sing away in a manger.

Away in a manger (Cradle Song)
(Please remain seated)

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.

Fifth Lesson The shepherds go to the manger Luke 2

Anthem *Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow* Trad. American Spiritual

There's a star in the east on Christmas morn. Rise up, shepherd, and follow. It will lead to the place where the saviour's born. Rise up, shepherd, and follow. Follow the star of Bethlehem. Rise up, shepherd, and follow. If you take good heed to the angel's word, you'll forget your flock, you'll forget your herds... Follow the star to Bethlehem, Rise up, shepherd, and follow!

* **Carol** *The first Noel (the first Noel)*

The First Noel the angel did say Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; In fields as they lay, keeping their sheep, On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star Shining in the east beyond them far, And to the earth it gave great light, And so it continued both day and night.

Refrain

And by the light of that same star Three wise men came from country far; To seek for a king was their intent, And to follow the star wherever it went.

Refrain

This star drew nigh to the northwest, O'er Bethlehem it took it rest, And there it did both stop and stay Right over the place where Jesus lay.

Refrain

Then entered in those wise men three Full reverently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Refrain

Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heavenly Lord; That hath made heaven and earth of naught, And with his blood mankind hath bought.

Refrain

Sixth Lesson Wise men Matthew 2

Carol (*Seated*) *We three Kings of Orient are (Kings of Orient)*
We three kings of Orient are bearing gifts we traverse
afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain following
yonder star

*Refrain: O Star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty
bright. Westward leading, still proceeding guide us to thy
perfect light*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain gold I bring to crown
Him again. King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign.
Refrain

Frankincense to offer have I, incense owns a Deity nigh.
Prayer and praising, all men raising worship Him, God
most high.
Refrain

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume breathes of life of
gathering gloom. Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
Refrain

Glorious now behold Him arise King and God and Sacrifice.
Alleluia, Alleluia. Earth to heav'n replies
Refrain

* **Seventh Lesson** The mystery of the incarnation
(*Please stand for the Gospel*) Rev. Dr. Thompson

* **Carol** (*Joy to the world*)
Joy to the world! The Lord is come.
Let earth receive its 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 earth! the Saviour reigns:
Let us our songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy
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.

(Please be seated)

A Christmas Meditation *(The pageant is seated during the meditation)*

*** Carol**

(All stand to sing)

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"
Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see. Hail the incarnate Deity.
Pleased as man with man to dwell Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Refrain

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of
Righteousness! Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing
in His wings. Mild He lays His glory by born that man no more
may die, born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them
second birth

Refrain

Carol *Good king Wenceslas (Sung seated)*

(All)

Good King Wenceslas looked out
On the feast of Stephen
When the snow lay round about
Deep and crisp and even
Brightly shone the moon that night
Though the frost was cruel
When a poor man came in sight
Gath'ring winter fuel.

(Men Only)

"Hither, page, and stand by me
If thou know'st it, telling
Yonder peasant, who is he?
Where and what his dwelling?"

(Women Only)

"Sire, he lives a good league hence
Underneath the mountain
Right against the forest fence
By Saint Agnes' fountain."

(Men Only)

"Bring me flesh and bring me wine
Bring me pine logs hither
Thou and I will see him dine
When we bear him thither."

- INTERLUDE -

(All)

Page and monarch forth they went
Forth they went together
Through the rude wind's wild lament
And the bitter weather.

(Women Only)

"Sire, the night is darker now
And the wind blows stronger
Fails my heart, I know not how,
I can go no longer."

(Men Only)

"Mark my footsteps, my good page
Tread thou in them boldly
Thou shalt find the winter's rage
Freeze thy blood less coldly."

(All)

In his master's steps he trod
Where the snow lay dinted
Heat was in the very sod
Which the Saint had printed
Therefore, Christian men, be sure
Wealth or rank possessing
Ye who now will bless the poor
Shall yourselves find blessing.

Offering and Offertory *(taken up by Wenceslas and his page and the ushers.)*

Prayer of Dedication

Candle light service

(Lights all down except for Christmas lights, congregation turns tea lights on)

Duet*O Holy Night*

A. Adam (1803-1856)

Conlan and Natalie Gassi

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining. It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining, 'til 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! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming, with glowing hearts by His cradle we stand. So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, here came the wise men from orient land. The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger, in all our trials born to be our friend. He knows our need, to our weakness no stranger – behold your King! Before Him lowly bend! 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. Christ is the Lord, then ever, ever praise we, His power and glory evermore proclaim!

Carol*Silent night with candle light (Stille Nacht)**(This is the 200th anniversary of this carol)*

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 heaving afar, heavenly hosts sing "Hallelujah, Christ, the Saviour is born! The Saviour 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 they birth, Jesus, Lord , at Thy birth.

Benediction

(All stand to sing)

* **Carol** Oh 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.*

*God of God, Light of light, born unto Mary, the virgin blest, very God,
begotten, not created.*

Refrain

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, leaving their
flocks draw nigh with holy fear; we too will tither bend our joyful
footsteps;

Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing all that hear in heaven
God's holy word. Give to our Father glory in the Highest;

Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning, Jesus to thee
be glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

Choir *We wish you a merry Christmas!*

Postlude *In Dulci Jubilo* German Carol (14th Century);
arr. P. Laubengayer (©1997)



Happy and Holy Christmas
New St. James Presbyterian Church

Minister
The Rev. Dr. David Thompson

Director of Music
Torin W. Chiles