



CHRISTMAS EVE

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DECEMBER 24, 2022

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion

THE SILENT MEDITATION UPON ENTERING THE SANCTUARY

She will bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.

— MATTHEW 1:21



APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

The Prelude

In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729
Et Exultavit from Magnificat, BWV 243

J. S. Bach
J. S. Bach

*My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for He has looked on the humble estate of His servant.
For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for He Who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is His Name.*
Luke 1:46-49

The Eve of Christmas

The Christ Candle, the white one in the center of the wreath, proclaims the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, Who gives the Light of Salvation to those who walked in sin's darkness. It is lighted on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The Striking of the Hour

† **The Call to Worship – Micah 5:2; Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 1:21; Luke 2:14**

Mr. Cooper

Minister: But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me One Who is to be Ruler in Israel Whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

People: For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His Name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Minister: She will bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!

† **The Carol**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

(see pages 7-8)

*Children from Seraphim and Covenant choirs, grades 1 through 5,
are invited to the choir loft area to sing the descant for the opening hymn.*

† **The Prayer of Adoration and Invocation**

† **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, Which art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in 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, the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

The Reading of God's Word

Isaiah 9:6

For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His Name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

The Homily

EVERLASTING FATHER

Mr. McRoberts

Isaiah 9:6

COMMUNING WITH THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND HIS PEOPLE

The Invitation to and Fencing of the Table

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at Trinity Presbyterian Church is for all those who have received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, do now repent, endeavor to live a holy life, and have publicly professed their faith through membership in an evangelical church. Children who have not publicly confessed Christ by being received by the Session into communicant church membership should refrain from the Sacrament and learn by reverent observation; this even though they may already have received Christ privately. Those without personal saving faith in Jesus Christ are to refrain from the Sacrament and are implored now to receive Him by faith and repentance.

† **The Hymn** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* (see page 9)

† **The Confessing of Our Faith** The Apostles' Creed

Ministr: What do you believe about God the Father?

People: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.

Minister: What do you believe about God the Son?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

Minister: What do you believe about God the Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Minister: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

† The Prayer of Humble Access

The Words of Institution

The Serving of the Supper

The Solo

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

Cantique de Noël

Fran Nabholz, *mezzo-soprano*

Michael Huff, *trumpet*

The Organ Interlude and Passing of the Light

In Him (Jesus) was life, and the light was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it ... the True Light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world ... to all who received Him, who believed in His Name, He gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God (John 1:4-5, 9, 12-13).

FOLLOWING GOD'S SPIRIT

† The Carol

Silent Night! Holy Night!

(see page 10)

† The Closing Prayer (in unison) – Luke 2:29-32

Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your Word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a Light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel. Amen.

† The Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace ... the peace of God, which passes all understanding ... and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon and remain with you until the day breaks and the shadows flee away.

Please extinguish candles.

The Postlude

Variations on *Noel*

Marcel Dupre

*Noël nouvelet, sing we a new Noël. Thank we now our God, and of His goodness tell;
Sing we Noël to greet the newborn King; Noël nouvelet, a new Noël we sing!*

Translated from the French



Your offering may be given to one of the ushers at the exit doors.

The Christmas Eve offering provides monthly supplemental, temporary, or one-time assistance to our retired and disabled pastors, missionaries, pastors without call, church lay workers, and their widows and dependent children who have low incomes. The Christmas Eve offering this year is given to help these dear brothers and sisters who have served so faithfully for the advancement of God's Kingdom.



THE ADVENT SEASON AT TRINITY

December 25 at 10:00 a.m. in Trinity Hall CHRISTMAS MORNING FAMILY WORSHIP

Come and worship the newborn King on the day we celebrate His birth.

We will not have Sunday school, nursery, or evening worship.

The Hull Street entrance will be locked.

Homily by Claude McRoberts.

January 1 at 10:00 a.m. in Trinity Hall NEW YEAR'S DAY MORNING WORSHIP

We will not have Sunday school or evening worship. A nursery will be provided.

The Hull Street entrance will be locked.

Homily by Claude McRoberts.

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 heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
 3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!
 4. Come, De - sire of Na-tions, come! Fix in us thy hum - ble home:

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, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.
 rise, the wom - an's con-q'ring seed, bruise in us the ser-pent's head.

Joy - ful, all ye na-tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in-car-nate De - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,
 Ad - am's like-ness now ef - face, stamp thine im - age in its place:

with th'an - gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.
 sec - ond Ad - am from a - bove, re - in - state us in thy love.

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King."

The musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat major) and a common time signature. It features a series of chords in the first four measures, followed by a melodic line in the fifth measure, and then more chords in the sixth and seventh measures. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. It provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and a melodic line that includes a long note in the fifth measure. The lyrics are placed between the two staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
2. King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on
3. Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard
4. At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim, with

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
on the way, as the Light of light de - scend - eth
sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the pres - ence,

for with bless - ing in his hand, Christ our God to earth de -
in the bod - y and the blood, he will give to all the
from the realms of end - less day, that the pow'rs of hell may
as with cease-less voice they cry, "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

scend - eth, our full hom-age to de - mand.
faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.
van - ish as the dark-ness clears a - way.
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Silent Night! Holy Night!

1. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
2. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight!
3. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
4. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

The first system of music features a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes. The bass line consists of block chords in the left hand.

round yon vir - gin moth - er and child. Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild,
Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
with the an - gels let us sing al - le - lu - ia to our King;

The second system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are centered under the notes. The music maintains the same key signature and time signature.

sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!

The third system concludes the piece. The melody ends with a final cadence, and the bass line provides harmonic support. The lyrics are repeated for two parts.



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