



# *Children's Choirs*

## CHRISTMAS SERVICE

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DECEMBER 3, 2023



# *Children's Choirs*

## CHRISTMAS SERVICE

*Among the oxen (like an ox I'm slow)  
I see a glory in the stable grow  
Which, with the ox's dullness might at length  
Give me an ox's strength.*

*Among the asses (stubborn I as they)  
I see my Savior where I looked for hay;  
So may my beast like folly learn at least  
The patience of a beast.*

*Among the sheep (I like a sheep have strayed)  
I watch the manger where my Lord is laid;  
Oh that my baaing nature would win thence  
Some woolly innocence!*

**THE NATIVITY BY C. S. LEWIS**



The Prelude

Trinity Handbell Choir

Steve Lee, *Director*

The Chiming of the Hour

† The Processional Carol No. 140 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

† The Opening Prayer

Rev. Michael Howell

† *Congregation, please stand as able*

**SERAPHIM AND COVENANT CHOIRS AND HANDBELLS**

*Gaudete*

*Piae Cantiones*, 1582,  
Arranged by Robert J. Batastini

*Soloists:* Emory Govan, Timothy Taylor, Caty James Gunnells,  
Sophia Wales, Wilda Muzio, Ramsey Govan

*Refrain: Gaudete, gaudete! Christus est Natus Ex Maria virgine, Gaudete!*  
(*Translation: Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary, Rejoice!*)

Gentle Mary laid her Child lowly in a manger;  
There He lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger. *Refrain*  
Such a babe in such a place, can He be the Saviour?  
Ask the saved of all the race, who have found His favor. *Refrain*  
Angels sang about His birth, wise men sought and found Him,  
Heaven's star shone brightly forth, glory all around Him! *Refrain*  
Shepherd's saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing.  
All the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ringing. *Refrain*  
Gentle Mary laid her Child lowly in a manger,  
He is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger. *Refrain*  
Son of God of humble birth, beautiful the story!  
Praise His Name in all the earth, Hail the King of glory! *Refrain*

† The Reading of God's Word – Luke 1:5-12

pew Bible 1087

The Homily **THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST FORETOLD**

Rev. Howell

**THE CHERUB CHOIR**

*Away in a Manger*

CRADLE SONG

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 Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray;  
bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, and fit us for Heaven,  
to live with Thee there.

*Good News!*

Nancy Harrison

Have you heard about the Baby who was born in Bethlehem? Good news!

Have you heard the story about the Saviors birth? Good news!

The Lord of glory come to earth, have you heard about the Baby  
who was born in Bethlehem?

Have you heard about the angels who surprised the shepherds with good news?

Have you heard the story about the Savior's birth? The Lord of glory come to earth!

Have you heard about the Baby who was born in Bethlehem? Good news!

† The Hymn No. 163

*In The Bleak Midwinter*

CRANHAM

**THE SERAPHIM AND COVENANT CHOIRS**

*The Holly and the Ivy*

The holly and the ivy when they are both full grown,  
Of all trees that are in the wood the holly bears the crown.

*Refrain:* The rising of the sun and the running of the deer,  
the playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom, white as the lily flower,  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, to be our sweet Savior. *Refrain.*

The holly bears a berry, as red as any blood,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to do poor sinners good. *Refrain.*

*Go! Tell It on The Mountain*

arr. Mark Patterson

Bo Johnson, soloist

Down in a lowly manger our humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

*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 Savior's birth. *Refrain.*

**THE CHRISTMAS STORY** ~ Robert Hogan, *narrator*; featuring the Cherub Choir

Narrator: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. And God made man in His image: male and female.

God loved them and He let them live in a beautiful garden. He walked with them in the cool of the evening. And everything that God had made was good.

God put a tree in the middle of the Garden and told the man and the woman not to eat of it.

But the man and the woman sinned against God. They chose to follow their own desires instead of God's.

And the world that God had made for good was poisoned by human sin.

Adam and Eve could no longer walk with God in the Garden. Because they were no longer holy, they had to leave God's presence.

But God still loved them. God already knew how He was going to redeem the world from sin and make humanity holy again. He promised that He would send a Savior.

**People: And all the men and women who descended from Adam and Eve needed a Savior, just like the One God had promised.**

Narrator: God's plan for salvation unfolded slowly. Righteous men and women were a part of His plan. One such man was Noah.

God instructed Noah to build an ark. While God caused a great flood to cover the earth and cleanse it, Noah, his wife, and his family were saved from the flood and, with them, two of every living creature on earth. And Noah and his family believed and trusted in God.

**People: And all the men and women who descended from Noah needed a Savior, just like the One God had promised.**

Narrator: God's plan for salvation unfolded slowly. Righteous men and women were a part of His plan. One such man was Abraham.

God instructed Abraham to leave everything he had ever known and follow God to a distant land. God said to him, "I will make of you a great nation, as great as the stars in the heavens, as numerous as the grains of sand on the seashore!" And Abraham believed and trusted in God.

**People: And all the men and women who descended from Abraham needed a Savior, just like the One God had promised.**

Narrator: God's plan for salvation unfolded slowly. Righteous men and women were a part of His plan. One such man was Moses.

God instructed Moses to lead God's people to freedom. God sent plagues on Pharaoh and the Egyptians to show His power. God caused the Red Sea to part so that God's people could walk to freedom on dry land. And Moses believed and trusted in God.

**People: And all the men and women who descended from Moses needed a Savior, just like the One God had promised.**

Narrator: God's plan for salvation unfolded slowly. Righteous men and women were a part of His plan. One such man was David.

David was just a boy when God called him. God declared David to be the King of Israel. God told David that out of his children would come the true King, the Messiah, the Son of God Who would save us from our sins. And David believed and trusted in God.

**People: And all the men and women who descended from David needed a Savior, just like the One God had promised.**

Narrator: God’s plan for salvation unfolded slowly. Righteous men and women were a part of His plan. Prophets and faithful women.

Some of those men were the prophets, like Isaiah who said:

“Behold, a young woman shall conceive and bear a Son, and you shall call His name Emmanuel, which means, ‘God is with us.’ For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: And His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

**People: All of these men and women who heard and believed the words of the prophets longed to be with God again. They knew they needed a Savior, just like the One God had promised.**

Narrator: God’s plan for salvation unfolded slowly. Righteous men and women were a part of His plan. One such woman was the Virgin Mary, along with her husband, Joseph.

The time had finally come for God’s plan for salvation to be fully revealed. And it happened like this:

“And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

“And while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

“And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

“And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

“And the angel said unto them, ‘Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; you shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.’

“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly host praising God, and saying,

**People: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”**

Narrator: “And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.”

God’s plan for salvation has been unfolding slowly over thousands and thousands of years. Righteous men and women were a part of His plan. We are invited today to be a part of His plan, to be those righteous men and women, boys and girls, and come to the manger and bow down and worship the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

#### **CHILDREN’S PAGEANT**

Jack Behm, *Animal*

David Blades, *Joseph*

Hollan Brewer, *Angel*

Walden Bush, *Shepherd*

Luke Carlson, Jr., *Animal*

Jeremiah Clifton, *Shepherd*

Grayson Cooper, *Abraham/Shepherd*

Annie Coyne, *Angel*

Samuel Dean, *Animal*

Hattie DeMoss, *Angel*

Beau DeMoss, *Shepherd*

Phillipa Dobson, *Angel*

Bizzy Gibson, *Angel*

Ridge Govan, *Animal*

Becca Hall, *Eve/Angel*

Leighton Howe, *Animal*

Henry Hudson, *David/Shepherd*

Xander Hudson, *Moses/Shepherd*

Alice Jones, *Angel*

Wils Jones, *Noah/Shepherd*

Rud Lybrand, *Animal*

Rosemary McFee, *Angel*

Alice Moseley, *Angel*

Gus Muzio, *Adam/Shepherd*

Sarah Elizabeth Russell, *Angel*

Mary Louise Shaw, *Angel*

Jones Thompson, *Animal*

Collins Trammell, *Mary*



**THE SERAPHIM AND COVENANT CHOIRS AND CONGREGATION**

† Congregational Hymn No. 161 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* MENDELSSOHN

† The Advent Prayer and Benediction

**ALL CHOIRS AND CONGREGATION**

† *Peace, Peace* arr. Fred Bock

*Choirs Only:* Peace, peace, peace on earth and good will to all.  
This is a time for joy, this is a time for love.  
Now let us all sing together of peace, peace, peace on earth.

***Congregation and Cherub Choir:* 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.**

† The Postlude *Go! Tell it on the Mountain!* Norah Duncan IV





**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

Rev. Michael Howell, *Assistant Minister*  
Shannon Mathai, *Assistant Director of Music and Organist*  
Lucy Freeman, *Director of Children's Ministries*  
Steve Lee, *Handbell Director*  
Robert Hogan, *Narrator*

**COVENANT CHOIR**

Shannon Mathai  
Denise Taylor  
Shaka Marko

**SERAPHIM CHOIR**

Denise Taylor  
Shaka Marko  
Lacey Thomas

**CHERUB CHOIR**

Shelby Howe  
Adrian Cooper  
Lynn Gilreath  
Lucy Freeman  
Jan Hogan  
Kathy Horton  
Denise Taylor

**HANDBELL CHOIR**

Melissa Behm, Bonnie Gay Bear, Hannah Crisler, Katie Gilreath,  
Suzanne Hager, Emily Harris, Braden Lee, Laurel Pinard  
Rachel Wales, Lori Woodham, Frank Young



## **CHILDREN'S CHOIRS**

### **CHERUB CHOIR**

Jack Behm, David Blades, Hollan Brewer, Walden Bush, Luke Carlson, Jr.  
Grayson Cooper, Annie Coyne, Samuel Dean, Hattie DeMoss  
Beau DeMoss IV, Phillippa Dobson, Bizzy Gibson, Ridge Govan, Becca Hall  
Leighton Howe, Henry Hudson, Xander Hudson, Alice Jones  
Wils Jones Jr., Rudyard Lybrand, Rosemary McFee, Alice Mosely  
Gus Muzio, Sarah Elizabeth Russell, Mary Louise Shaw  
Jones Thompson, Collins Trammell, Jeremiah Clifton

### **SERAPHIM CHOIR**

Sarah Ann Carroll, William Coyne, Stuart Frazer, Charlie Freeman,  
Ramsey Govan, Wells Griffin, John Hinely, Alex Jenaies, Ann Caroline Johnson  
Piper Ostberg, Lillian Russell, Caroline Spooner, Rachel Taylor,  
Mitchell Thomas, Allie Thompson

### **COVENANT CHOIR**

Caroline Blades, Thomas Burton Jr., Abby Kate Carroll, Brooks Carroll  
Ian Clifton, Lucy Clifton, Lillie Coleman, Stella Coleman, Campbell Cooper,  
Coleman Cooper, Henry Coyne, Lucy Frazer, James Freeman  
Maggie Nell Gibson, Emory Govan, Spears Griffin, Caty James Gunnells,  
Sabrina Hinely, Bo Johnson, Jr., Wilda Muzio, Anne Margaret Russell,  
Houghton Smith, George Spooner, Timothy Taylor,  
Emerson Trammell, Sophia Wales



## **THE ADVENT SEASON AT TRINITY**

**December 10 at 6:00 p.m.**

### **MONTGOMERY CHRISTIAN YOUTH CHOIR**

*The Montgomery Christian Youth Choir will lead a service of choral and instrumental music, readings, and congregational carol singing, followed by a wassail reception in the Westminster Room.*

*Homily by Kurt Cooper.*

**December 17 at 6:00 p.m.**

### **THE 28th ANNUAL SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**

*A beloved Trinity Church Christmas tradition led by the Chancel Choir with orchestra and organ, including selections spanning over three centuries of Christmas celebration. Harpist Vonda Darr will provide a prelude of familiar carols beginning at 5:40 p.m.*

*Jonathan Gibson will read the lessons.*

**December 24 at 10:00 a.m.**

### **CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING WORSHIP**

*Gather to celebrate the eve of Christ's birth in morning worship. The choir will sing, and a trumpet soloist will help us herald the Savior's birth. Adult Sunday School will be combined, and children will attend their regular classes.*

*Sermon by Kurt Cooper.*

**December 24 at 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.**

### **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION**

*A service of quiet wonder, with Holy Communion and special music, will prepare our hearts to receive the newborn King.*

***Nursery will be available during the 4:00 p.m. service only for children ages three and under.***

*Homily by Bill Clark.*



*A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)*

**trinitypca.org**