

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA DECEMBER 8, 2024 AT 6:00 p.m.

### CONCLUDING THE LORD'S DAY IN WORSHIP



HRISTMAS SERVICE



The Welcome & Call to Preparation

Rev. Cameron Whitehurst

The PreludeI Saw Three Shipsarr. E. L. DuBoseIl Est Ne le Divin Enfant and Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

Samuel Vargas, *violin*, Lorna Wood, *violin* Nikko White, *viola*, Jiaoyang Xu, *cello* 

	The Chiming of the Hour			
	The Call to Worship – TBI	)	Rev. Whitehurst	
†	The Processional Carol No. 140 <b>O Come, All Ye Faithful</b>		Arr. David Willcocks	
†	* The Opening Prayer		Rev. Michael Howell	
	SERAPHIM AND COVENANT CHOIRS			
		Ding Dong Merrily on High!	Arr. Ruth Artman	
†	• The Reading of God's Word – Matthew 2:1-12		pew Bible, page 1026	
	The Homily	THE VISIT OF THE WISEMEN	Rev. Howell	
	The Piano Interlude	Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	W ZLOBIE LEZY	
<i>†</i> Congregation, please stand as able				

#### THE CHERUB CHOIR

### A Christmas Mosaic

Richard Lamb

Bells are ringing in Bethlehem, listen to the bells in the town and follow them, To the stable beneath the star where they gather from near and far. Come ye shepherds and come ye kings! Bring Him perfume and precious things! Bells ring out through the misty morn heralding the news that a child is born! Still the star is in the sky, still the angels sing on high: Leave your cattle, leave your sheep and come to where the holy Child is sleeping.

### The Hymn

### Away in a Manger

MUELLER

(*Cherub Choir Only*) 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.

(*Soloist: Becca Hall*) 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.

(Congregation and Choir) 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.

### THE COVENANT CHOIR

*Shepherd's Pipe Carol* Abby Kate Carroll, *soloist*  Arr. 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.

> *Refrain:* 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 there at Bethlehem.'

'Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily on the way to Bethlehem, Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely on the way to Bethlehem?' *Refrain* 

'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.' *Refrain*  '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.' *Refrain* 

'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 SERAPHIM AND COVENANT CHOIRS

Children, Go Where I Send Thee Allie Thompson, soloist Arr. Elaine Schram

Refrain: Children, go where I send thee. How shall I send thee?

I'm gonna send you one by one, one for the itty bitty Baby, Born, born, born in Bethlehem. *Refrain* 

I'm gonna send you two by two, two for Paul and Silas, One for the itty bitty Baby, born, born, born in Bethlehem. *Refrain* 

I'm gonna send you three by three, three for the Hebrew children, Two for Paul and Silas, one for the itty bitty Baby, Born, born, born in Bethlehem. *Refrain* 

I'm gonna send you four by four, four come knockin' at the door, Three for the Hebrew children, two for Paul and Silas, One for the itty bitty Baby, born, born, born in Bethlehem. *Refrain* 

Any way I send you, better go now! Go and find that itty bitty Baby, born, born, born in Bethlehem!

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 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 Judea, 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

Millie Brewer, Angel Luke Carlson, Noah/Shepherd Annie Coyne, Eve/Angel Samuel Dean, Abraham/Shepherd Phillipa Dobson, Angel Anne Griffin Gibson, Angel Ridge Govan, Moses/Shepherd Alice Jones, Angel Leighton Howe, Joseph Mary Mills Hudson, Angel Mary Lousie Shaw, Mary Jones Thompson, Adam/Donkey Will Van Hooser, David/Shepherd

The Advent Prayer and Benediction

Rev. Howell

### 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

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Noel X

Claude Daquin

Andrew Wales, organist

### **WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

Rev. Michael Howell, Assistant Minster Rev. Cameron Whitehurst, Assistant Minister Shannon Mathai, Assistant Director of Music and Organist Lucy Freeman, Director of Children's Ministries Robert Hogan, Narrator Andrew Wales, piano, organ Shaka Marko, Seraphim Teacher Ed Patterson, organist Emeritus Alice Williams, piano