



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DECEMBER 5, 2021

MORNING WORSHIP

THE SILENT MEDITATION UPON ENTERING THE SANCTUARY

*Come to Bethlehem and see Him Whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Glory • in the highest • to God.*



APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

The Christian Greeting and Call to Preparation

8:25 and 10:55 a.m.

The Bethlehem Candle, the second candle, is lighted pointing to the Messiah being born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem as foretold by the prophet, Micah.

The Prelude

Veni Emmanuel

Robert Groves

*Please maintain social distancing. Masks are requested in the sanctuary;
masks are mandatory in the Spires Room and the Westminster Room.*

The Striking of the Hour

The Choral Introit

O Come, O Come – Let All Mortal Flesh

Arr. Diana Stoneberg

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
For with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

Pilgrimage Psalms were sung by the people of God when making the regular, required physical journey to Jerusalem. Also known as Psalms of Ascent (120-134), God's people would worship in song as they ascended Mount Zion, God's holy hill.

† The Hymn No. 214

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo. gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song? (*Refrain*)

Come to Bethlehem and see Him Whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (*Refrain*)

† The Confession of Our Faith

Shorter Catechism Questions 27, 28

Q: Wherein did Christ's humiliation consist?

A: Christ's humiliation consisted in His being born, and that in a low condition, made under the law, undergoing the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, and cursed death of the cross; in being buried, and continuing under the power of death for a time.

Q: Wherein consisteth Christ's exaltation?

A: Christ's exaltation consisteth in His rising again from the dead on the third day, in ascending up into Heaven, in sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and in coming to judge the world at the last Day.

✠ The Prayer of 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

✠ The Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-5

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. 2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. 3 A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 4 Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. 5 And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

The Corporate Prayer of Confession

O promised Christ: We are a world at war. Our peace depends on Your coming. We are a sinful people. Our pardon depends on Your coming. We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises; our only hope of doing the Father's will is that You should come and help us do it. Lord Christ, Word made flesh, our world waits for Your peace, for Your pardon, and for Your grace. Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

The Assurance of God's Pardon – Isaiah 40:28-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

The Pastoral Prayer

The Offering of His Tithes and Our Gifts Beyond the Tithe

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

The Anthem

Children, Go Where I Send Thee

Ruth Elaine Schram

Covenant Choir

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 Children's Message ~ Heidelberg Catechism Question Numbers 31 & 32

*Children in Second Grade and younger are invited to the front steps of the Chancel
for the children's message.*

Q. Why is He called "Christ," meaning "anointed"?

A. Because He has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our Chief Prophet and Teacher Who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our deliverance; our only High Priest Who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of His body, and Who continually pleads our cause with the Father; and our Eternal King Who governs us by His Word and Spirit, and Who guards us and keeps us in the freedom He has won for us.

Q. But why are you called a Christian?

A. Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in His anointing. I am anointed to confess His Name, to present myself to Him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a free conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for eternity.

The Hymn of Preparation No. 213 *What Child Is This?*

GREENSLEEVES

What Child is this, Who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through; the cross be borne for me, for you:
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own Him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby:
joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Children age four through kindergarten may leave to attend Children's Church.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, 2 during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. 3 And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 4 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight. 5 Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, 6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field.

**The grass withers and the flowers fade,
but the Word of our God shall stand forever. Amen.**

The Sermon **THE GLORY OF THE CHRIST-CHILD AT HIS BIRTH** Mr. McRoberts
Exaltation in Humiliation
Selections from the Gospel of John

INTRODUCTION

I. THE ETERNAL WORD/ THE INCARNATE SAVIOR ~ John 1:1, 14

II. THE LAMB TO SLAUGHTER/ THE LORD OF CIRCUMSTANCES ~ John 10:18

III. THE SUFFERING SERVANT/ THE WILLING SON ~ John 17:24

IV. THE GRUESOME GAME/ THE TRUTH PROCLAIMED ~ John 18:33; 19:15, 19

V. THE REGAL LOSS OF LIFE/ THE POWER TO TAKE IT UP AGAIN ~ John 19:30

CONCLUSION

The Closing Prayer

FOLLOWING GOD'S SPIRIT

† The Hymn No. 211

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

GOD REST YOU MERRY

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,
to save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray;

Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heav'nly 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*]

The Congregational Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of Trinity Presbyterian Church immediately following each morning worship service for the purpose of electing officers for the Church and Trustees for the Corporation. If you are not a member of Trinity, you are welcome to stay as an observer; however, if you would like to leave prior to the meeting, you may do so during the closing hymn. We are glad you worshiped with us this Lord's Day!

† The Benediction of God's Grace and The Congregation's AMEN

Minister: Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever.

The Threefold Amen (*sung by all*):



The Postlude

Noel X

Claude Daquin