



# **CHRISTMAS EVE**

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DECEMBER 24, 2025

4:00 P.M. & 6:00 P.M.

# *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



*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.*

## APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

### **The Prelude**

*(beginning at 3:40 & 5:40)*

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

arr. Hayes

*Shepherd's Christmas Music*

arr. McAllister

*Patapan*

*Fum, Fum, Fum*

*Noël Nouvelet*

*Il est ne, le divin Enfant*

*What Child Is This?*

arr. Holcombe

*Christmas Favorites*

arr. Malcolm

*Burgundian Carol*

*O Come, Little Children*

*Away in a Manger*

*The First Noel*

*Carol of the Bells*

arr. Halferty

*The Montgomery Symphony Woodwind Quintet*

### **The Chiming of the Hour**

† Congregation, please stand as able

† **The Call to Worship** – Zechariah 9:9, 10, 17 (*congregation reads bold print*)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

**Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!**

Behold, your King comes to you;

**Righteous and having salvation is He.**

His rule shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

**How great is His goodness, and how great His beauty!**

•† **The Carol No. 140**

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

† **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, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

**The Anthem** (4:00 p.m.)

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

Holst, arr. Bertalot

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan,

Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;

Snow had fallen, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;

Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign:

In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there, Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;

But His mother only in her maiden bliss, worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give Him: give my heart.

**The Interlude** (6:00 p.m.)

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

arr. Hayes

## HEARING GOD'S VOICE

† **The Reading of God's Word** – Matthew 2:1-12

pew Bible, page 1026

**The Homily**

**A SKY FULL OF STARS**

Rev. Kurt Cooper

### COMMUNING WITH THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AND HIS PEOPLE

#### **The Invitation to and Fencing of the Table**

*Who should come to the Lord's table? Those who are displeased with themselves because of their sins, but who nevertheless trust that their sins are pardoned and that their remaining weakness is covered by the suffering and death of Christ, and who also desire more and more to strengthen their faith and to lead a better life, and who are members in good standing of an evangelical church. (from the Heidelberg Catechism)*

† **The Hymn No. 125**

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

PICARDY

† **The Confessing of Our Faith** (*congregation reads bold type*)

What do you believe about God the Father?

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

What do you believe about God the Son?

**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.**

What do you believe about God the Spirit?

**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.**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## † The Prayer of Humble Access

### The Words of Institution

### The Serving of the Supper

*Please partake of the elements as you receive them,  
just as we must each receive Christ for our own salvation by faith.*

### The Organ Interlude and Passing of Light

*In Him 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. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. But to all who did receive 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!*  
*(congregation joins in verse 2)*

STILLE NACHT

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.

† *(sung by all)* **Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, 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 Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

**Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing alleluia to our King;  
Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**

*Chip Lasseter, soloist*

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

Lord, now let Your servants depart in peace, according to Your word;  
for our 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**

*Please extinguish candles.*

**The Postlude**

*Joy to the World*

Craig Phillips

**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.

**Leading in Worship**

Rev. Kurt Cooper, *Senior Minister*

Rev. Cameron Whitehurst, *Assistant Minister (4:00 p.m.)*

Rev. Michael Howell, *Assistant Minister (6:00 p.m.)*

Dr. Mark Nabholz, *Director of Music*

Dr. Jacob Taylor, *Organist & Music Associate*

**The Instrumentalists**

Robert Scott, *flute*

Christie McLaughlin, *oboe*

Bob Holt, *clarinet*

Russell Greene, *horn*

David Simpson, *bassoon*

## **SERMON NOTES**

Matthew 2:1-12  
A Sky Full of Stars

### I. The Wise Men

A.

B.

C.

### II. So What

*To* all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to all who will come,  
this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome  
in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.



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

**trinitypca.org**