

WHITE MEMORIAL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NATIVITY OF THE LORD CHRISTMAS DAY
DECEMBER 25, 2022 | 10:30 A.M.



WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

Greeting

Kirsten Homdrom

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us prepare for worship.

Preparation for Worship

Almighty God who comes to us as a child, come to us anew this day. As we marvel at the birth of our Savior, help us to marvel at the gifts of grace all around us. United together, may we rejoice with wonder at your great love for us. Amen.

Prelude – Christmas Carols for the Congregation

Christian Welcome and Announcements

Gloria Johnson

Call to Worship

One: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

All: Glory to God in the highest!

*One: The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.*

All: Glory to God in the highest!

*One: For a child has been born for us,
a Son has been given to us.*

All: Glory to God in the highest!

*One: He is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

All: Glory to God in the highest!

*One: To us is born in the city of David a Savior,
the Messiah, the Lord.*

All: Glory to God in the highest!

One: And the Word became flesh and lived among us.

All: Glory to God in the highest!

***Hymn 134 – Joy to the World**

ANTIOCH

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, we confess that our hearts have not been opened to all that you have revealed to us in the nativity of your Son. You sent Christ to be born as a helpless child, and yet we have not attended the suffering of children. You chose humble Mary to be mother of our Lord Jesus, and yet we have not attended to the struggles of women. Mary and Joseph could find no room in Bethlehem but a stable, and yet we have not attended to the cry of the homeless. You announced your birth to lowly shepherds, yet we ignore those who tend our farms and fields. Forgive our lack of attention, and free us for joyful compassion, that we may know Christ in serving others. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen

***Assurance of Pardon**

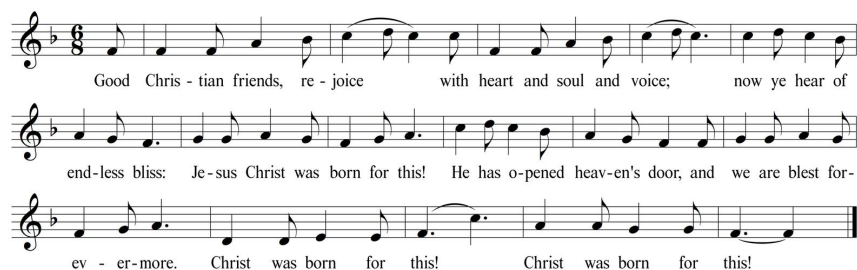
***Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

***Response Hymn 132 – stanza 2**

IN DULCI JUBILO



WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9; pew Bible, p. 602

First Gospel Reading – Luke 2:8-20; pew Bible, p. 54

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn 119 – Hark the Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

A Time With Young Disciples – A Christmas Story

Following our time together, children will return to the pews
for the remainder of the service.

Hymn 133 – O Come, All Ye Faithful

Second Reading – John 1:1-14; pew Bible, p. 86

Sermon – “Alone in a Crowd”

Chip Pope

***Hymn 147 – The First Nowell**

THE FIRST NOWELL

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on 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, forever.
Amen.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory – *Prelude on IRBY*

Philip Moore (b. 1943)

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

***Hymn 136** – *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

GO TELL IT

***Charge and Benediction**

***Chiming of the Trinity**

The worship service ends with the Chiming of the Trinity.
Please be mindful of those who remain to listen to the postlude.

Postlude – *Fantasia on ADESTE, FIDELES*

David Blackwell (b. 1961)

JOYS & CONCERNS

IN THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

Nina Musselman Page - December 14, 2022

Robert “Bob” Harmon Usry - December 16, 2022

WMPC family members: wife, Shirley and children, Sid Usry and Kaye Usry

William “Bill” Kerr Brawley - December 18, 2022

WMPC family member: wife, Nancy

PRAYERS AND CHRISTIAN CONCERNS TO

Sue Hane and family, on the death of her father,
William “Bill” Clarence Smith, Jr., Horsepasture, VA.

YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS

Will the generous donor of Elevance Health stock please call
Jody Grayson at 834-3425 ext. 204 to identify your gift so
we can give you proper credit?

NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR NEW OFFICERS

The Churchwide Nominating Committee starts meeting in mid-January to consider nominations for church Elders and Deacons, class of 2026. Please give prayerful consideration to placing a church member into nomination for these critical leadership roles. [The nomination form can be found online.](#)

All recommendations must be received by January 9, 2023

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134

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



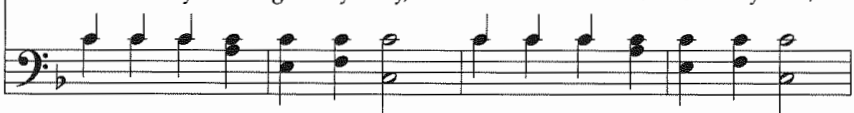
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king.
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!



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, risen with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car-nate de - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with the an - gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Brought together in the mid-19th century, the text and tune of this familiar carol began in quite different forms. The text had ten stanzas and began, "Hark, how all the welkin rings." The tune was created for a festival celebrating Gutenberg's introduction of moveable type.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

133



- 1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -



ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,



Refrain



born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!



us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!



From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

The First Nowell

1 The first Now-ell the an-gel did say was to cer-tain poor
 2 They look-ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the
 3 And by the light of that same star three wise men
 4 This star drew nigh to the north-west; o'er Beth - le -

shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing
 east be-yond them far; and to the earth it gave
 came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was their
 hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop

their sheep, on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.
 great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher-ev - er it went.
 and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.

Refrain

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.


- 5 Then entered in those wise men three, 6 Then let us all with one accord
 full reverently upon their knee,
 and offered there in his presence
 their gold, and myrrh, and
 frankincense.

sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
 that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
 and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

Refrain

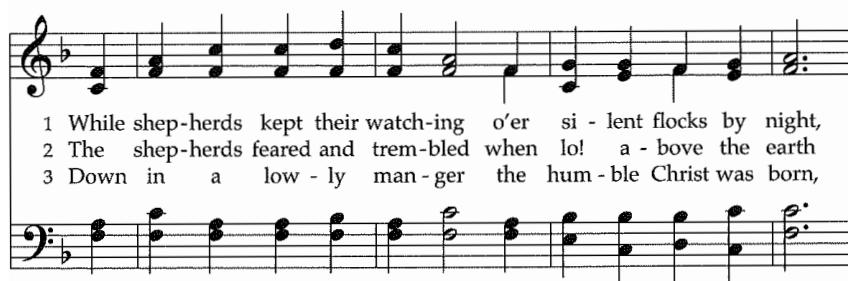
136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain 

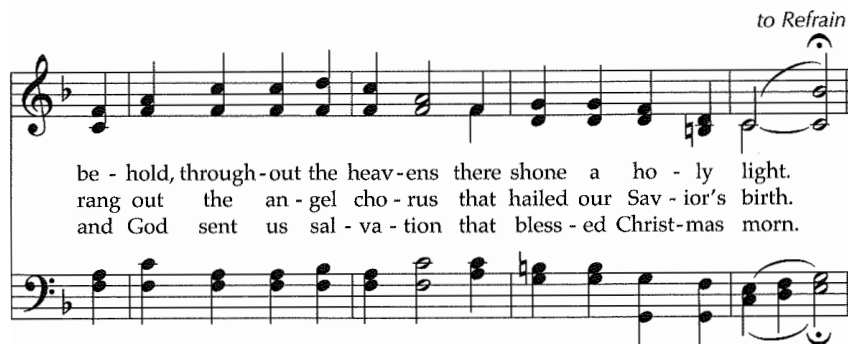

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;



go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,



be - hold, through - out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.