CHRISTMAS 2018
THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

PEACHTREE ROAD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF ATLANTA
Christmas Eve
2018

Christmas Eve is a special time here at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church, and we are grateful for the opportunity to share in the wonder of Christmas with you.

On this night, we remember some stargazers who traveled from the East to worship Christ and offer their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Their offering has given rise to our tradition of giving gifts at this time of the year in honor of Christ. This is at the heart of the joy of Christmas.

Last year your gifts totaling more than $270,000 went toward the purchase of water filters for every household living in the Rongai region of Kenya. Let that sink in for a moment – you helped give the gift of clean water to over 12,000 families! You changed their lives! Three years into this initiative, we are now part of a global solution of bringing clean water to Kenya. Thanks to you, over a quarter of a million people now have access to clean water.

Tonight, you have an opportunity to participate in another Christmas miracle. This year’s Christmas Eve offering will be used to purchase water filters for families living in the Kabazi region of Kenya. Children are suffering and dying there at an alarming rate, and their parents cannot do anything to prevent it. But you can do something - you can provide them with a life-giving clean water!

Our goal this year is to partner with Start with One Kenya to raise enough money to buy a water filter for all 12,000 households (90,000 people) living in that area. The price of each filter (which has a life expectancy of 10 years) is $40, so we are participating in an effort to raise $480,000. Our goal is to raise half of that amount ($240,000) tonight. If every person worshiping with us buys at least one water filter, we can reach that goal. I can think of no better way to honor Christ on this holy night than to give the gift of life.

Please make your check payable to Peachtree Road and mark it for “Water for Kenya.” You also may place your cash or check in the envelope found in this program or give online through the church app or the church’s website (www.prumc.org). Thank you in advance for your gift.

On this Christmas Eve, we light candles in the midst of a dark world and remember the promise: “Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.” That is at the heart of the Christmas story, and I hope you will join us in spreading the light of Christ everywhere.

Merry Christmas!

Bill

Bill
THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

CHRISTMAS EVE 2018

The First Communion of Christmas
Twelve O’Clock

PEACHTREE ROAD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3180 PEACHTREE ROAD, N.E., ATLANTA, GEORGIA
TELEPHONE 404-266-2373
REV. BILL BRITT, SENIOR MINISTER

CARILLON PRELUDE

O come, O come, Emmanuel ................................................................. 13th Century Plainsong
Lo, how a rose e’re blooming................................................................. 16th Century Melody

Sally Westmoreland

THE GREETING

THE OPENING VOLUNTARY

Sussex Carol............................................................................................arr. Dale Wood
(1934-2003)

Nicole Marane, organist

THE CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all people;
People: For to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord who established a new covenant through his son Jesus Christ.
People: We come in spirit and in truth.
*The Carol of Praise, 234:

O Come, All Ye Faithful................................................................. Tune: Adeste Fideles

1. O come, all ye faithful,
   joyful and triumphant,
   O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
   Come and behold Him,
   born the King of angels;
   Refrain
   O come, let us adore him,
   O come, let us adore him,
   O come, let us adore him,
   Christ, the Lord.

2. Sing, choirs of angels,
   sing in exultation,
   O sing, all ye citizens
   of heav’n above.
   Glory to God,
   all glory in the highest;
   Refrain

3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
   born this happy morning,
   Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv’n.
   Word of the Father,
   now in flesh appearing:
   Refrain

---

The Invocation

Ministry of Music

Gesu Bambino ................................................................. Pietro Yon
(1886-1943)

Jeanné Brown, soloist

*The Carol, 238:

Angels We Have Heard on High................................................................. Tune: Gloria

1. Angels we have heard on high
   sweetly singing o’er the plains,
   and the mountains in reply
   echoing their joyous strains.
   Refrain
   Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
   Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
   Why your joyous strains prolong?
   What the gladsome tidings be
   which inspire your heavenly song?
   Refrain

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
   Christ whose birth the angels sing:
   come, adore on bended knee,
   Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
   Refrain

4. See him in a manger laid,
   whom the choirs of angels praise;
   Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
   while our hearts in love we raise.
   Refrain

---

Traditional French Carol
   Minister: The Gospel of the Lord.
   People: Thanks be to God!

THE MEDITATION .................................................................................................................................. Bill Britt, Senior Minister

THE SOLO:
   O Holy Night ......................................................................................................................................... Adolphe Adam
   (1803-1856)
   Jeanné Brown, soloist

† During the singing of the carol, Cody and Taylor Wilson will come forward to light the Christ Candle.

INVITATION TO GIVE

AT THE OFFERTORY
   THE PRAYER
   THE CAROL:
   See amid the winter’s snow ................................................................................................................. John Goss
   arr. David Willcocks

See amid the winter’s snow, born for us on earth below;
See the tender Lamb appears, promis’d from eternal years:

Refrain
Hail, thou everblessed morn; Hail, redemption’s happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Lo, within a manger lies He who built the starry skies;
He who, throned in height sublime, sits amid the cherubim:
Refrain

Say, ye holy shepherds, say what your joyful news today;
wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep?
Refrain

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child, by thy face so meek and mild,
teach us to resemble thee, in thy sweet humility:
Refrain

Edward Caswall
(1814-1878)

The Choir

*AT THE PRESENTATION, HYMN 95:
   DOXOLOGY ........................................................................................................................................... Tune: Old Hundredth
*The Great Thanksgiving*

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Your people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

† The people sit.

Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. We rejoice as your people, for to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder. His name shall be called “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” He was born to give himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify us for good deeds. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took the bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said, “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

**The Administration of Holy Communion**

**Congregational Carols:**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*................................................................. Tune: St. Louis

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

**Phillips Brooks**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*.................................................................Tune: Mendelssohn

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!” Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies, with th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!” Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

**Luke 2:8-14**
What Child Is This .................................................................................................................................Tune: 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.

Luke 2:6-20
Matthew 2:1-12

Away in a Manger .................................................................................................................................Tune: James R. Murray, 1887
Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Luke 2:7

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear .........................................................................................................Tune: Carol
It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold; “Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven’s all gracious king.” The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Luke 2:8-14

The First Noel .........................................................................................................................................Tune: Traditional English Carol
The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Luke 2:8-14
Matthew 2:1-12

*Prayer of Thanksgiving  Minister and People
Almighty God, we thank you for this holy place, for bringing us together at your table, surrounded by your love. We thank you for this holy meal, for asking us to taste and see how much Jesus loves us. We thank you for this holy night, for the glad songs we sing and the gifts of love we receive. Help us to give ourselves in love and joy. In the name of Christ Jesus our Lord we pray. Amen.

*The Carol:
Joy to the World ....................................................................................................................................Tune: Antioch
Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Isaac Watts

*Blessing and Dismissal

The Closing Voluntary:
Bring a torch, Jeannette, Isabella ......................................................................................................... Keith Chapman

(1945-1989)

Scott H. Atchison, organist

* Those who are able, please stand.
MUSIC FOR THIS FESTIVAL SERVICE

is provided by the
Christmas Eve Volunteer Choir.

WORSHIP LEADERS

PREACHING
Rev. Bill Britt, Senior Minister

CO-CeleBRANTS
Rev. Julie Schendel, Associate Minister
Rev. Carolyn Stephens, Associate Minister

LITURGISTS
Rev. Leslie Lyons Watkins, Associate Minister

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE
Cody and Taylor Wilson

MUSIC
Scott H. Atchison, Director of Music and Organist
Nicole Marane, Associate Director of Music and Associate Organist
THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

CHRISTMAS EVE, 2018

Family Candlelight Service and Christmas Pageant
...And The Word Became Flesh

Four and Six O’Clock

CARILLON PRELUDIE

Nesem vam noviny (Come, all ye shepherds) ................................................................. Anonymous (circa 1750)

Als ich bei meinen schafern wacht (While by my sheep) ................................................... Anonymous (circa 1625)

Ihr kindlein, kommet (O come, little children) .............................................................. Johann Schulz (1747-1800)

Sally Westmoreland

THE WELCOME

CAROL AT THE INTROIT

Advent Prayer ...................................................................................................................... Randy Edwards (Twentieth Century)

Hope, peace, joy and love! These are the gifts you bring from above, Jesus, Emmanuel, come to be light of your hope, reflected in me. Amen.

(4:00 pm) The Cherub Choir

Dance and sing ..................................................................................................................... arr. Nancy Gifford (Twentieth Century)

Sang the rooster, sang the chick-a-dee, sang the white dove on that morn’, “the Prince of Peace is born. Lift your head, get out of bed, singin’ a song of joy!” Dance and sing praises to the newborn King. Each and ev’ry Christmas morn’, Christ the Prince of Peace is born!

(6:00 pm) The Covenant Choir
**The Carol for Joyful Procession, Hymn 234:**

O Come, All Ye Faithful........................................................................................................................ Tune: Adeste Fideles

1. O come, all ye faithful,  
   joyful and triumphant,  
   O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
   Come and behold Him,  
   born the King of angels;  
   **Refrain**  
   O come, let us adore him,  
   O come, let us adore him,  
   O come, let us adore him,  
   Christ, the Lord.

2. Sing, choirs of angels,  
   sing in exultation,  
   O sing, all ye citizens of heav’n above.  
   Glory to God,  
   all glory in the highest;  
   **Refrain**

3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
   born this happy morning,  
   Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv’n.  
   Word of the Father,  
   now in flesh appearing:  
   **Refrain**

---

*The Invocation*

† The people sit.

**Ministry of Music**

The Carol:

(4:00 pm) Go tell it on the mountain............................................................................................................. Spiritual  
arr. Anna Laura Page,  
Jean Anne Shafferman

While shepherds told their story about that holy night. Behold throughout the country there shone a heav’nly light. Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere. Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

The Cherub Choir

(6:00 pm) Do you hear what I hear?............................................................................................................. Noel Regney, Gloria Shayne  
arr. Harry Simeone

Said the night wind to the little lamb, “Do you see what I see? Way up in the sky little lamb. A star dancing in the night with a tail as big as a kite.” Said the little lamb to the Shepherd boy, “Do you hear what I hear? Ringing through the sky Shepherd boy. A song, high above the trees with a voice as big as the sea.” Said the Shepherd boy to the mighty king, “Do you know what I know? In your palace wall mighty king. A child shivers in the cold. Let us bring him silver and gold.” Said the king to the people everywhere, “Listen to what I say; pray for peace people, everwhere! The Child sleeping in the night, He will bring us goodness and light.”

The Celebration Singers

**The Christmas Eve Message**............................................................................................................. Bill Britt, Senior Minister
**AT THE CANDLE LIGHTING, MOTET**

Veni Emmanuel (Fifteenth Century)

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. O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind. From dust thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Paul Sewell, soloist

† During the singing of the carol, Shawn and Tracy Ryan and Asher, Alden and Micah (4:00pm)
Victor and Lauren Borowsky and Lillian, Julia, and Anna (6:00 pm) will come forward to light the Christ Candle.

**INVITATION TO GIVE**

**AT THE OFFERTORY**

**THE PRAYER**

(4:00 pm) *A La Nanita Nana* .......................................................... Spanish Carol
arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

Ellen Daugherty, piano

(6:00 pm) *The little drummer boy* .......................................................... arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

Come they told me, a newborn king to see. Our finest gifts we bring to lay before the king. So to honor him when we come. Little baby I am a poor boy too. I have no gift to bring that's fit to give our king. Shall I play for you on my drum. Mary nodded the ox and lamb kept time. I played my drum for him, I played my best for him. Then he smiled at me, me and my drum.

Combined Children’s Choirs
Mary-Grace Kolb, soloist

*At the Presentation:*

**Angels We Have Heard on High** .......................................................... Tune: *Gloria*

1. Angels we have heard on high
   sweetly singing o'er the plains,
   and the mountains in reply
   echoing their joyous strains.
   Refrain
   Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
   Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

4. See him in a manger laid,
   whom the choirs of angels praise;
   Mary, Joseph, lend you aid,
   while our hearts in love we raise.
   Refrain

Tradational French Carol

† The people sit.

**THE LIVING NATIVITY**

**THE JOURNEY TO THE MANGER**

**The Carol, 250:**

*Once in Royal David’s City* .............................................................................................................. Tune: *Irby*

Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed; Mary, loving mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.

Cecil Frances Alexander
THE STABLE ANIMALS

**The Carol, 227:**

*The Friendly Beasts* ...................................................................................................................... Medieval French Melody

Jesus our brother, strong and good, was humbly born in a stable rude, and the friendly beasts around him stood, Jesus, our brother, strong and good.

*Anonymous*

THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS

**The Carol, 245:**

*The First Noel* ............................................................................................................................ Traditional English Carol

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

*Luke 2:8-14*

*Matthew 2:1-12*

WORSHIPPING THE CHRIST CHILD

**The Carol, 254:**

*We Three Kings* .......................................................................................................................... Tune: *Kings of Orient*

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star. O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

*John H. Hopkins, Jr.*

**The Carol, 230:**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem* ........................................................................................................ Tune: *St. Louis*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie, above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

*Phillips Brooks*

THE TRADITION OF THE CANDLE LIGHTING.................................................................................. (4:00 pm) Bennett Cummings

(6:00 pm) MacKenzie Ottinger

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

**The Carol, 239:**

Silent Night, Holy Night ....................................................................................................................... Tune: *Stille Nacht*

1. 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.

2. Silent night, holy night,
   shepherds quake at the sight;
   glories stream from heaven afar,
   heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
   Christ the Savior is born,
   Christ the Savior is born!

3. 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.

4. 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!

*Joseph Mohr*
**THE SOLO:**

*O Holy Night* ...........................................................................................................................................

Adolphe Adam  
(1803-1856)

Paul Sewell, *soloist*

† Please join the soloist on refrain:

Fall on your knees. Oh hear the angel voices. O night divine.  
O night when Christ was born, O night divine! O night, O night divine.


*THE CAROL, 246:*

*Joy to the World* ...........................................................................................................................................

Tune: *Antioch*

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come.  
   Let earth receive her King:  
   Let every heart, prepare him room  
   And heaven and nature sing,  
   And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns.  
   Let all their songs employ.  
   While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
   Repeat the sounding joy,  
   Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
   nor thorns infest the ground.  
   He comes to make his blessings flow  
   far as the curse is found,  
   far as, far as the curse is found.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace,  
   and makes the nations prove  
   the glories of his righteousness,  
   and wonders of his love,  
   and wonders, wonders of his love.

Isaac Watts

*THE BENEDICTION*

**THE CLOSING VOLUNTARY:**

*(4:00 pm)* *God rest you merry, gentlemen* ............................................................................................................. John Rutter  
(b. 1945)

Nicole Marane, *organist*

*(6:00 pm)* *Bring a torch, Jeannette, Isabella* ............................................................................................................. Keith Chapman  
(1945-1989)

Scott H. Atchison, *organist*

*Those who are able, please stand.*
MUSIC FOR THESE FESTIVAL SERVICES

(4:00 pm)
The Cherub Choir

(6:00 pm)
The Carol, Covenant and Celebration Choirs

WORSHIP LEADERS

SENIOR MINISTER
Rev. Bill Britt

LITURGISTS
Carolyn Stephens, Associate Minister
Martha Christopher, Director of Children’s and Family Ministries
Beth Spencer, Director of Local Outreach and Lay Volunteer Services

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE
(4:00 pm) Shawn and Tracy Ryan and Asher, Alden and Micah
(6:00 pm) Victor and Lauren Borowsky and Lillian, Julia, and Anna

MUSIC
Scott H. Atchison, Director of Music and Organist
Nicole Marane, Associate Director of Music and Associate Organist
Kathy Fletcher, Director of Youth and Children’s Music
Robin Hensley, Associate Musician
Amy Alford, Associate Musician
Nicole Lewis, Associate Musician
THE LIVING NATIVITY

4:00 pm

The Living Nativity Readers – Tessa Brinson, Bennett Cummings, Amelia Darden, Lily Hudson, Finlay Smith, Gabrielle Sullivan, Miller Wimberly

Mary – Grace Hawkins
Joseph – Jack Sullivan
Baby Jesus – Grace Upshaw

Shepherds – Baylor Alderman, Brooks Baer, Colter Blackstock, Hudson Cornett, Jack Garrison, Hill Hudson, Grayson Hughes, Matthew Irby, Will Irby, Will Kincheloe, Jackson Lumpkin, Graham Lumpkin, John Miller, Harrison Miller, Harrison Miner, Candler Smith, Charles Thomason, Tuttle Thorne, Henry Velarde

Angels – Sydney Ammons, Quinn Ammons, Lily Mack Brady, Anna Porter Brodnax, Samantha Buday, Winnie Burch, Blair Carter, Ashleigh Easter, Megan Hubbard, Louise Lovein, Mary Everett Miner, Izzy Moore, Anna Sheets, Huntley Hargraves, Grayson Hargraves, Mary Frost Osborne, Mae Stibbs, Maggie Thorne, Baisden Van, Lillian Westmoreland

Sheep – Camille Allen, Meredith Hughes, Caroline Kincheloe, William Moore, Crawford Smith, Hodgens Smith, Avery Westmoreland

Inn Keeper – George White

Wise Men – Bennett Buday, Griffin Moore, Jack Velarde

The Tradition of Candle Lighting – Bennett Cummings

THE LIVING NATIVITY

6:00 pm

The Living Nativity Readers – Harrison Chan, William Holmes, Davis Kennedy, Thomas Konradt, Ellen Milsaps, Mary Kathryn Noble, MacKenzie Ottinger

Mary – Martha Ross
Joseph – Trey Parikh
Baby Jesus – Abigail Johnson


Angels – Campbell Bartlett, Emma Bass, Julia Batchelor, Julia Borowsky, Lillian Borowsky, Charlotte Chan, Abby Chiock, Mackenzie Dickerson, Virginia Foster, Grayson Gardner, Grier Gardner, Leila Kotchen, Mary Brooks Massie, Olivia Parnell, Caroline Pennington, Eleanor Pennington, Sara Kate Revell, Lia Sinitiere, Chloe Stathopoulos, Emily Stathopoulos, Caroline Walts

Sheep – Charlotte Franklin, Brandsford Glenn, George Glenn, Jack McWhorter, Bea Sinitiere

Inn Keeper – Ben Carroll

Wise Men – Dylan Chiock, Guy Gardner, Carpenter Linneman

Tradition of the Candle Lighting – MacKenzie Ottinger
THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

CHRISTMAS EVE, 2018

Festival of Lessons and Carols
Eight O’Clock

CARILLON PRELUDE

*Ding! dong! merrily on high...........................................................................................................arr. David Christensen (Twentieth Century)

Sing we now of Christmas.................................................................French Carol

Il est ne (He is born)........................................................................French Carol

THE PRELUDE TO CHRISTMAS (7:45 pm)

*God, rest you merry gentlemen..........................................................John Rutter (b. 1945)

Nicole Marane, organist

Renaissance Dances from ‘The Danserye’........................................Tylman Susato (c. 1500-c.1560)

La Mourisque
Bransle Quatre Bransles
Ronde
Ronde-Mon Amy
Basse Danse Bergeret

The Atlanta Brassworks

THE WELCOME

THE INTROIT

Carol of the bells.............................................................................M. Leontovich

Hark how the bells; sweet silver bells, all seem to say “throw cares away”. Christmas is here bringing good cheer to young and old, meek and the bold. That is their song, with joyful ring, all caroling. Hark to the bells, high sounding bells, joyfully ring, born is the King. Oh how they pound, raising the sound, o’er hill and dale, telling their tale, gayly they ring, while people sing songs of good cheer, Christmas is here. Merry Christmas! On they send, on without end their joyful tone to every home. Born is the King.

Doxology Youth Choir and Alumni
The Call to Worship:

Minister:
Beloved in Christ, at this Christmastide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all His people; for unity within the Church He came to build, and especially in this our parish.

And because this would rejoice His heart, let us remember, in His name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love Him not, or who by sin have grieved His heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are one for evermore.

*At the Great Procession, Carol 234:

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem. Come and behold Him, born the King of angels; 
   Refrain
   O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

2. True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal, lo! He shuns not the Virgin’s womb; Son of the Father, begotten not created; 
   Refrain

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, O sing, all ye citizens of heav’n above. Glory to God, all glory in the highest; 
   Refrain

4. See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze; we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; 
   Refrain

5. Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger, we would embrace thee with love and awe. Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly? 
   Refrain

6. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv’n. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: 
   Refrain

*The Invocation

Minister: Behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all people;
People: For to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
Minister: Come, let us worship the Lord who established a new covenant through his son Jesus Christ.
People: We come in spirit and in truth.

† The people sit.
THE INVITATION TO GIVE

AT THE OFFERTORY

THE PRAYER

THE ANTHEM:

See amid the winter’s snow...............................................................David Ashley White
(b. 1944)

See, amid the winter’s snow, born for us on earth below, see the tender lamb appears, promised from eternal years! Lo within a manger He who built the starry skies, He who, throned in height sublime, sits amid the Cherubim. Say, ye holy shepherds say: what your joyful news today? Wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep? “As we watched at dead of night, Lo we saw a wondrous light; angels singing ‘Peace on earth,’ told us of the Saviour’s birth.” Sacred infant, all divine, what a tender love was thine thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this!

Edward Caswell, 1858

The Chancel Choir

*AT THE PRESENTATION:

Doxology with Alleluias.................................................................Tune: Lasst uns erfreuen
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts! Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

†The people sit.

PART I – THE PROMISE TO ISRAEL

SCRIPTURE: Micah 5:1-5a

PRAYER

Minister: Lord, who does not abandon your own people as we long for a good future, you gave us your hope and promise. In a world where promises are easily and quickly made but where many are not kept, we trust you to be faithful. Lord, we know you keep your promises.


THE CAROL, 230:

O Little Town of Bethlehem..........................................................Tune: St. Louis

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Phillips Brooks

PART II – THE PROMISE TO MARY

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:26-38

PRAYER

Minister: Lord of life, we are not used to having you break into our smooth routine. Open us and wake us to the possibility that you may speak to us at any time. As often as you speak to us, help us to listen. Help us to be ready for your unexpected entrances, thankful that you, Lord, catch us by surprise.

People: Surprise us with the future, Lord. Amen.

THE CAROL, 240:

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing.......................................................Tune: Mendelssohn

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!” Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies, with th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!” Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Luke 2:8-14
PART III – MARY’S SONG OF PRAISE

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:46-56
PRAYER
Minister: Living Lord, our hearts are overflowing on this night of wonder, full of thanks and praise for all you give us in your holy Son. Like Mary, we are overcome with joy, not sure where this great light will lead us, but eager to follow where the gift may lead. For this, good Lord, we thank and praise you.
People: Make our lives a celebration of your great and holy gift, Lord. Amen.

THE ANTHEM:

All bells in paradise

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Deep in the cold of winter, darkness and silence were ev’rywhere; softly and clearly, there came through the stillness a wonderful sound, a wonderful sound to hear: All bells in paradise I heard them ring, sounding in majesty the news that they bring; all bells in paradise I heard them ring, welcoming our Savior, born on earth a heavenly King. All bells in paradise I heard them ring: ‘Glory to God on high,’ the angel voices sing. Lost in awe and wonder, doubting, I asked what this sign might be: Christ our Messiah revealed in a stable, a marvelous sight, a marvelous sight to see. He comes down in peace, a child in humility, the keys to his kingdom belong to the poor, before him shall kneel the kings with their treasures, gold incense and myrrh.

The Chancel Choir

PART IV – THE NIGHT OF WONDER

PRAYER
Minister: Lord of mystery, in this holy night you have brought heaven down to earth. We see the child there, sleeping quietly, the animals surrounding him, the dusty rafters bending low to greet him. Lord, we wonder; was it worth the risk to give your only son for us this way? Try as we may, Lord, we do not comprehend the mystery of Jesus’ birth.
People: Implant the love that sent your Son within our hearts, Lord. Amen.

THE CAROL, 219:

What Child is This

Tune: 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.

Luke 2:6-20
Matthew 2:1-12
PART V – ANGELS OVER BETHLEHEM

Scripture: Luke 2:8-14

Prayer
Minister: Blessed Savior, how could we have missed the angels? In the rush to buy the last things on our list, in the confusion of the parties and the Christmas cards, how could we have missed the bright light of heaven, telling us to set aside the rest of it and focus on the promise from above? Help us with shining eyes to see again, with open hearts to know afresh that with your coming, Lord, your glory fills our world.

People: Help us to see and celebrate it, Lord. Amen.

The Carol, 218:

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Luke 2:8-14

PART VI – ADORATION OF THE SHEPHERDS

Scripture: Luke 2:15-20

Prayer
Minister: King of all creation, we are stunned by your rich gift. Your majesty unfolds before us as a king’s rich robes, but we stand dirty in the rags of our unworthiness. Lord, like those poor shepherds, we are not fit to stand in your presence.

People: Let us come before you with humility, Lord. Amen.

The Anthem:

The dream Isaiah saw

The Chancel Choir
Doxology Youth Choir
William Green, tenor

PART VII – THE WORD MADE FLESH

Scripture: John 1:14

The Christmas Message

Bill Britt, Senior Minister

At the Candle Lighting, Choir Motet

Veni Emmanuel

† During the singing of the carol, Sara and Yumi Koh come forward to light the Christ Candle.

The Lighting of the Candles
The Carol, 239:
Silent Night, Holy Night..........................................................................................................................

Tune: Stille Nacht

1. 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.

2. Silent night, holy night,
   shepherds quake at the sight;
   glories stream from heaven afar,
   heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
   Christ the Savior is born,
   Christ the Savior is born!

3. 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.

4. 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!

Joseph Mohr

The Solo:
O Holy Night..............................................................................................................................................

Tune: Adolphe Adam

† Please join the soloist on refrain:

O Holy Night

Melanie Burbules, soloist

Joseph Mohr

*At the Retiring Procession, Hymn 246:
Joy to the World..............................................................................................................................................

Tune: Isaac Watts

† Following the blessing, please extinguish your candles.

*The Blessing

The Blessing

† Following the blessing, please extinguish your candles.

The Closing Voluntary:
Bring a torch, Jeannette, Isabella..............................................................................................................

Tune: Keith Chapman

Scott H. Atchison, organist
The Atlanta Brassworks

* Those who are able, please stand.
MUSIC FOR THE FESTIVAL SERVICE

is provided by
Doxology Youth Choir, The Chancel Choir,
and The Festival Orchestra.

WORSHIP LEADERS IN TONIGHT’S SERVICE

PREACHING

Rev. Bill Britt, Senior Minister

LITURGISTS

Rev. Carolyn Stephens, Associate Minister
Rev. Julie Schendel, Associate Minister
Rev. Julie Wright, Associate Minister
Rev. Elizabeth Byrd, Associate Minister
Rev. Geoff Beakley, Associate Minister
Rev. Darren Hensley, Deacon

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Sara and Yumi Koh

MUSIC

Scott H. Atchison, Director of Music and Organist
Nicole Marane, Associate Director of Music and Associate Organist
Kathy Fletcher, Director of Youth and Children’s Music
Robin Hensley, Music Associate
THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

CHRISTMAS EVE, 2018

Festival Choral Eucharist
Ten-thirty O’Clock

CARILLON PRELUDE
Ding! dong! merrily on high.............................................................................................................David Christensen (Twentieth Century)

Irby (Once in royal David’s city).........................................................................................................Henry Gauntlett (1805-1876)

Nun komm, der heiden heiland (Savior of the nations, come). ........................................................Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

THE PRELUDE TO CHRISTMAS (10:15 pm)
God, rest you merry gentlemen .........................................................................................................John Rutter (b. 1945)

Nicole Marane, organist

Renaissance Dances from ‘The Danserye’............................................................................................Tylman Susato (circa 1500-1560)

La Moursique
Bransle Quatre Bransles
Ronde
Ronde-Mon Amy
Basse Danse Bergeret

The Atlanta Brassworks

THE WELCOME

CAROL AT THE INTROIT:
Lully, lulla, lullay..............................................................................................................................Philip Stopford (b. 1977)

Lully, lulla, lully, by, by, lully, lullay. O sisters too how many we do for to preserve this day? This poor youngling for whom we sing, thou little tiny Child. Herod, the king, in his raging, charged he hath this day. His men of might in his own sight all young children to slay. That woe is me, poor Child for Thee, and ever morn and day. For Thy parting neither say nor sing, by, by lully, lullay.

Traditional Carol

The Chamber Singers
Mary Allison Hamby, soprano
**The Call to Worship:**

Minister:

Beloved in Christ, at this Christmastide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all His people; for unity within the Church He came to build, and especially in this our parish.

And because this would rejoice His heart, let us remember, in His name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love Him not, or who by sin have grieved His heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are one for evermore.

---

*At the Great Procession, Carol 234:*

**O Come, All Ye Faithful...............................................................** Tune: *Adeste Fideles*

1. **O** come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him,  
born the King of angels;  
Refrain  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ, the Lord.

2. True God of true God,  
Light from Light Eternal,  
lo! He shuns not the Virgin’s womb;  
Son of the Father, begotten  
not created;  
Refrain

3. Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
O sing, all ye citizens of heav’n above.  
Glory to God,  
all glory in the highest;  
Refrain

4. See how the shepherds,  
summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
we too will thither  
bend our joyful footsteps;  
Refrain

5. Child, for us sinners  
poor and in the manger,  
we would embrace thee with love and awe.  
Who would not love thee,  
loving us so dearly?  
Refrain

6. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv’n.  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing:  
Refrain

---

*John F. Wade*
Minister: Behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all people;

People: For to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Minister: Come, let us worship the Lord who established a new covenant through his son Jesus Christ.

People: We come in spirit and in truth.

† The people sit.

The Anthem:

O come, O come, Immanuel

15th Century French Melody

arr. Roderick Elms

O come, O come, Immanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. O come, thou rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny; From depths of hell thy people save, and give them victory o'er the grave. O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here. Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. O come thou key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height, in ancient times did give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.

The Chancel Choir

Matthew Boatwright, tenor, André Peele, bass

The Old Testament Lesson

† The Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem:

All bells in paradise

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Deep in the cold of winter, darkness and silence were ev'rywhere; softly and clearly, there came through the stillness a wonderful sound, a wonderful sound to hear: All bells in paradise I heard them ring, sounding in majesty the news that they bring; all bells in paradise I heard them ring, welcoming our Savior, born on earth a heavenly King. All bells in paradise I heard them ring: ‘Glory to God on high,’ the angel voices sing. Lost in awe and wonder, doubting, I asked what this sign might be: Christ our Messiah revealed in a stable, a marvelous sight, a marvelous sight to see. He comes down in peace, a child in humility, the keys to his kingdom belong to the poor, before him shall kneel the kings with their treasures, gold incense and myrrh.

The Chancel Choir

† The people stand.
Angels We Have Heard on High ............................................................................................................................ Tune: Gloria

1. Angels we have heard on high
   sweetly singing o’er the plains,
   and the mountains in reply
   echoing their joyous strains.
   Refrain
   Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
   Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
   Why your joyous strains prolong?
   What the gladsome tidings be
   which inspire your heavenly song?
   Refrain

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
   Christ whose birth the angels sing:
   come, adore on bended knee,
   Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
   Refrain

4. See him in a manger laid,
   whom the choirs of angels praise;
   Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
   while our hearts in love we raise.
   Refrain

Traditional French Carol

*The Gospel Citation*

Cantor: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.
Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
People: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*The Gospel Lesson*

† The Reading: Luke 2:1-20

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 this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, 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; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

People: Thanks be to God.

† The Alleluia is repeated.

† The people sit.
The Christmas Message

Bill Britt, Senior Minister

At the Candle Lighting, Choir Motet

Veni Emmanuel (Fifteenth Century)

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. O come, desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind. From dust thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

† During the singing of the carol, Bruce and Rebecca Grant, and Caroline Carr, Elizabeth and Virginia come forward to light the Christ Candle.

Invitation to Give

At the Offertory

The Prayer

The Anthem: The dream Isaiah saw... (Twentieth Century) Glenn L. Rudolph

Lions and oxen will sleep in the hay, leopards will join with the lambs as they play, wolves will be pastured with cows in the glade, blood will not darken the earth that God made. Little child whose bed is straw, take new lodgings in my heart. Bring the dream Isaiah saw: Life redeemed from fang and claw. Peace will pervade more than forest and field: God will transfigure the violence concealed deep in the heart and in systems of gain, ripe for the judgment the Lord will ordain. Nature reordered to match God’s intent, nations obeying the call to repent, all of creation completely restored, filled with the knowledge and love of the Lord. Little child whose bed is straw, take new lodgings in my heart. Bring the dream Isaiah saw: knowledge, wisdom, worship, awe.

Thomas H. Troeger, (b. 1945)

The Chancel Choir

William Green, tenor

*At the Presentation:

Doxology with Alleluias... Tune: Lasst uns erfreuen

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts! Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. Your people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
† The people sit.

Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. We rejoice as your people, for to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder. His name shall be called “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” He was born to give himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify us for good deeds. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took the bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said, “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

THE SAINCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

† The people sit.
THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE MOTET:

See amid the winter’s snow....................................................................................................................David Ashley White
(b. 1944)

See, amid the winter’s snow, born for us on earth below, see the tender lamb appears, promised from eternal years!
Lo within a manger He who built the starry skies, He who, throned in height sublime, sits amid the Cherubim. Say,
ye holy shepherds say: what your joyful news today? Wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep?
“As we watched at dead of night, Lo we saw a wondrous light; angels singing ‘Peace on earth,’ told us of the Saviour’s birth.” Sacred infant, all divine, what a tender love was thine thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this!

Edward Caswell, 1858

The Chancel Choir

CONGREGATIONAL CAROLS:

O Little Town of Bethlehem...........................................................................................................Tune: St. Louis

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Phillips Brooks

Organ Noel: Grand Jeu et Duo...........................................................................................................Louis Claude D’Aquin
(1694-1772)

† Noel variations will be interspersed with the following carols; played from the gallery organ.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing............................................................................................................Tune: Mendelssohn
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!” Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies, with th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!” Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Luke 2:8-14
What Child Is This

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.

Luke 2:6-20
Matthew 2:1-12

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Luke 2:7

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold; “Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven’s all gracious king.” The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Luke 2:8-14

The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Luke 2:8-14
Matthew 2:1-12

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister and People

Almighty God, we thank you for this holy place, for bringing us together at your table, surrounded by your love. We thank you for this holy meal, for asking us to taste and see how much Jesus loves us. We thank you for this holy night, for the glad songs we sing and the gifts of love we receive. Help us to give ourselves in love and joy. In the name of Christ Jesus our Lord we pray. Amen

The Service of Light

The Carol, 239:

Silent Night, Holy Night

1. 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.

2. Silent night, holy night,
   shepherds quake at the sight;
   glories stream from heaven afar,
   heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
   Christ the Savior is born,
   Christ the Savior is born!

3. 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.

4. 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!

Joseph Mohr
**The Solo:**

*O Holy Night* ................................................................. Adolphe Adam (1803-1856)

Melanie Burbules, soloist

† Please join the soloist on refrain:

Fall on your knees. Oh hear the angel voices. O night divine. O night when Christ was born, O night divine! O night, O night divine.

**At the Retiring Procession, Hymn 246:**

*Joy to the World* ............................................................... Tune: Antioch

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come. 
   Let earth receive her King: 
   Let every heart, prepare him room 
   And heaven and nature sing, 
   And heaven and nature sing, 
   And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns. 
   Let all their songs employ. 
   While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains 
   Repeat the sounding joy, 
   Repeat the sounding joy, 
   Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow, 
   nor thorns infest the ground. 
   He comes to make his blessings flow 
   far as the curse is found, 
   far as, far as the curse is found.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace, 
   and makes the nations prove 
   the glories of his righteousness, 
   and wonders of his love, 
   and wonders, wonders of his love.

*Isaac Watts*

**The Blessing**

† Following the blessing, please extinguish your candles.

**The Closing Voluntary:**

*Bring a torch, Jeannette, Isabella* .................................................. Keith Chapman (1945-1989)

Scott H. Atchison, organist
The Atlanta Brassworks

* Those who are able, please stand.
MUSIC FOR THIS FESTIVAL SERVICE

The Chancel Choir, The Chamber Singers,
and The Festival Orchestra

THE ORDINARY OF THE MASS for this evening’s service is A Community Mass by Richard Proulx.

WORSHIP LEADERS IN TONIGHT’S SERVICE

PREACHING
Rev. Bill Britt, Senior Minister

CO-CELEBRANTS
Rev. Carolyn Stephens, Associate Minister
Rev. Julie Schendel, Associate Minister

LITURGISTS
Rev. Elizabeth Byrd, Associate Minister

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE
Bruce and Rebecca Grant, Caroline Carr, Elizabeth and Virginia

MUSIC
Scott H. Atchison, Director of Music and Organist
Nicole Marane, Associate Director of Music and Associate Organist