



ST. PAUL'S
PRESBYTERIAN

For The Glory of God & The Joy of All Peoples

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

On the Lord's Day Evening
Christmas Eve
December 24, 2021, at 6:00



Instrumental Prelude

(Please remain seated)

Christmas Medley

Welcome and Prayer

Rev. Justin Borger

Introit

(Please remain seated)

Light the Advent Candles

Words & Music by Mark Clark
Arr. by Brad Nix

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Call to Worship

(Please remain seated)

From Psalm 104 and Luke 2

Minister: Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, you are very great!

People: You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent.

Minister: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!

Carol

Hymn • Trinity Hymnal #162

(Please stand) *Verses 1, 2, & 5*

Of the Father's Love Begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, he the Source, the Ending he,
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;
And the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
Evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore!

Prayer of Adoration for Christmas Eve

Unison: O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Carol

Hymn • Trinity Hymnal #200

(Please stand) *Verses 1, 3, & 4*

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

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 heav’n’s all-gracious King”;
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

And ye, beneath life’s crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hast’ning on, by prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

Giving to God & Vocal Offertory

(Please be seated)

Tonight’s offering will go to the PCA Ministerial Relief Fund

Sweet Little Jesus Boy

Traditional Spiritual

Carol

Hymn • Trinity Hymnal #216

(Please stand)

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

W ZLOBIE LEZY

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping: shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new,
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

Old Testament Lesson

(Please remain standing)

Isaiah 9:1-7

Pew Bible, page 573

Minister: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

Carol

Hymn • Trinity Hymnal #213

(Please be seated)

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.

Christmas Eve Homily

(Please remain seated)

Rev. Justin Borger

ADVENT 2021:
Christmas Light

Carol of Response

Hymn • Trinity Hymnal #193

(Please stand)

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY

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.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood;
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!"

Benediction

(Please remain standing)

Rev. Justin Borger

Silent Meditation

(Please be seated)

Dismissal Carol

Hymn • Trinity Hymnal #210

(Please remain seated and light your candle from the usher's candle)

Silent Night, Holy Night!

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.

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!

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!

“Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” Isaiah 7:1

Let us today go down to Bethlehem, and in company with wondering shepherds and adoring Magi, let us see him who was born King of the Jews, for we by faith can claim an interest in him, and can sing, “Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.” Jesus is Jehovah incarnate, our Lord and our God, and yet our brother and friend; let us adore and admire. Let us notice at the very first glance his miraculous conception. It was a thing unheard of before, and unparalleled since, that a virgin should conceive and bear a Son. The first promise ran thus, “The seed of the woman,” not the offspring of the man. Since venturous woman led the way in the sin which brought forth Paradise lost, she, and she alone, ushers in the Regainer of Paradise. Our Saviour, although truly man, was as to his human nature the Holy One of God. Let us reverently bow before the holy Child whose innocence restores to manhood its ancient glory; and let us pray that he may be formed in us, the hope of glory. Fail not to note his humble parentage. His mother has been described simply as “a virgin,” not a princess, or prophetess, nor a matron of large estate. True the blood of kings ran in her veins; nor was her mind a weak and untaught one, for she could sing most sweetly a song of praise; but yet how humble her position, how poor the man to whom she stood affianced, and how miserable the accommodation afforded to the newborn King!

Immanuel, God with us in our nature, in our sorrow, in our lifework, in our punishment, in our grave, and now with us, or rather we with him, in resurrection, ascension, triumph, and Second Advent splendour.

Morning and Evening: Daily Readings by C. H. Spurgeon; December 25th.



Join us for our Advent Events

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, December 26, 9:00 am

Christmas Service

Sunday, December 26, 10:30 am

ST. PAUL'S
PRESBYTERIAN

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