

PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

DECEMBER 24, 2022

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Away in a Manger

James Murray

PPC Children's Choir (4 year olds - kindergarten)

Stefani Rea, director

Hannah Clarke, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Luke 1:68-72; 2:10-11, 14

Minister: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David,

All: As he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant,

Minister: For behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

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

PRAYER OF INVOCATION*

ANTHEM

Sing We Now of Christmas

*French carol
Arr. Kyle Pederson*

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here.
Hearts in expectation, Noel drawing near.
Sing we now Noel.

In stillness lays the world in silent reverie;
Longing for the birth of love and mercy,
Yearning for hope, good news to fill our souls;
Turning to the manger that grounds all mystery.

Angels bending low, shepherds bend their knee,
Wise men from the east, all have come the child to see.
All of creation where love has come to dwell;
Sing we now of Christmas, the good news that we tell.
Sing Noel!

1 ²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

2 ⁸ And the LORD planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹ And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

3 ¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'" ² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will surely not die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹² The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me the fruit of the tree, and I ate." ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel | No. 194
Stanzas 1, 3 and 5

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Chorus: Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel 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 vict'ry o'er the grave. *Chorus*

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. *Chorus*

SECOND READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

The prophet foretells the coming Messiah.

Stephanie Robertson &
Levi Robertson

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.
³ You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴ For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.
⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

ANTHEM

For Unto Us a Child is Born

G. F. Handel
arr. Hal H. Hopson

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given;
And the government shall be upon his shoulder;
And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
The Mighty God, the Everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.

THIRD READING

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel visits Mary.

Corrie & Christopher Norfleet

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

THIRD READING (CONT.)

³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy -- the Son of God. ³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

CAROL

African Noel

arr. Aden G. Lewis

PPC Children's Choir (1st - 5th grade)

Sing Noel, Sing Noel,
Noel, Noel.
Sing we all Noel!

FOURTH READING

Matthew 1:18-23

Tory & Bobby Cardone

Mary and Joseph prepare for Jesus' birth.

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

CAROL

The First Nowell

The First Noel

Stanzas 1-3

The First Noel, the Angels 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.

*Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel!*

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made Heaven and earth of naught
And with his blood mankind has bought. *Refrain*

¹ In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register. ⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." ¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

ANTHEM

Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain

Carolyn Jennings

text adapted from Isaiah 40

Climb to the top of the highest mountain,
 Joyous tidings proclaim to the world,
 Lift up your voice, shout the good news:
 Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd,
 He will carry the lambs in his arms,
 He will ever keep them safe from harm.
 Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He who made the stars in the heaven,
 He who fashioned the earth and the sea,
 From time eternal he was God,
 The Alpha and Omega, He,
 Behold, your Lord!

He will come in power and glory,
 He will rule with mercy and truth,
 Hope of the nations, Light of all the world.

He will love the little children,
 He will hold them in his arms.
 Love him and trust him as a little child,
 Your Lord comes to you.

Peace, peace, peace on earth and good will to all.
 This is a time for joy, this is a time for love.
 Now let us all sing together of peace, peace, peace on earth.

Please remain seated as the ushers light the candles and join in singing on cue.

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright, STILLE NACHT
 '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.

SIXTH READING***John 1:1-14***

Joshua Abaya &

The apostle John unfolds the mystery of the incarnation.

Micah Abaya

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Following the reading, please extinguish your candles when indicated.

*CAROL | No. 227

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

SUSSEX CAROL

Stanzas 1, 2 and 4

On Christmas night all Christians sing
 to hear the news the angels bring;
 On Christmas night all Christians sing
 to hear the news the angels bring:
 News of great joy, news of great mirth,
 news of our merciful King's birth.

***CAROL (CONT.)**

Then why should men on earth be sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad?
Then why should men on earth be sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
When from our sin he set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?

All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night;
All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
“Glory to God and peace to men,”
now and forevermore. Amen.

BENEDICTION*

Numbers 6:24-26

Minister: The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Musicians:

Marco Jerez, Flute	Rachel McClarty, Violin
Gina Ford, Oboe	Dan Sigale, Viola
Brent Buemi, Clarinet	Matt Epperson, Cello
Shea Kells, Horn	Alanna Harris, Harp
Pei-Pei Betz, Violin	Brandon Kelly, Percussion

David Rea	<i>Pastor</i>	214.270.1222 david.rea@providencedallas.com
Chris Bennett	<i>Pastor to Young Adults</i>	214.270.1220 chris.bennett@providencedallas.com
Nate Libby	<i>Youth Pastor</i>	214.270.1224 nate.libby@providencedallas.com
Alyson Averitt	<i>Women’s Ministry</i>	214.270.1223 alyson.averitt@providencedallas.com
Kristi Breed	<i>Children’s Ministry</i>	214.270.1226 childrensministry@providencedallas.com
Allyson Crow	<i>Ministry Coordinator</i>	214.270.1221 office@providencedallas.com
Dorothy Edwards	<i>Church Accountant</i>	214.270.1225 dorothy.edwards@providencedallas.com
Jonathan Smith	<i>Worship Coordinator</i>	214.270.1221 jsmith@cplalaw.com
Jill Smith	<i>Pianist</i>	214.270.1221 jilljonathan1@sbcglobal.net
Dave Clelland	<i>Minister in Residence</i>	214.270.1221 david.clelland@sbcglobal.net
Olivia Costanza	<i>Ministry Intern</i>	214.270.1221 olivia.costanza@providencedallas.com
Chris Coleman	<i>Ministry Intern</i>	214.270.1221 chris.coleman@providencedallas.com



Ruling Elders

Graham Averitt	Jeff Crow	Tom McCabe
Wes Boyd	John Heath	
Michael Breed	Joshua Kipp	

Deacons

Dan Bowers	Jack Mechem	David Sibley
Teddy Chu	Casey Plummer	
T.J. Edwards	Will Schoellkopf	