

# PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## *Order of Worship*

DECEMBER 10, 2023

### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP\*

*adapted from Isaiah 9*

Minister: Come and worship! Worship Jesus Christ the Incarnate King!

**All:** His Name is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,  
the Prince of Peace. Worthy is He of all praise and honor and glory  
and blessing!

### PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND ADORATION\*

### HYMN\*

*Hark, the Herald Angels Sing* | No. 203

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!"

*Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."*

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. *Refrain*

Hail the heav'nborn Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth. *Refrain*

### CONFESSION OF FAITH

*adapted from Numbers 24.15-19*

Minister: In what ways does the vision of a ruler from Jacob foreshadow the advent of Christ?

**All:** The prophecy of one who hears the words of God, who has knowledge from the Most High, who sees a vision from the Almighty, who bows down, and whose eyes are opened. I see him, but not now. I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob. A scepter will rise out of Israel. It will crush Moab, but Israel will grow strong. A ruler will come from Jacob.

## SONG OF PRAISE

### *Joy Has Dawned*

Getty, Townend

Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation:  
God's salvation now unfurled, hope for ev'ry nation.  
Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory,  
But a humble gift of love: Jesus born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels,  
As the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable.  
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness,  
Cling now to a mother's breast, vuln'erable and helpless.

Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory,  
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story.  
Gold, a King is born today; incense, God is with us,  
Myrrh, His death will make a way, and by His blood He'll win us.

Son of Adam, Son of Heaven, given as a ransom,  
Reconciling God and man, Christ, our mighty champion!  
What a Savior! What a Friend! What a glorious myst'ry!  
Once a babe in Bethlehem, now the Lord of hist'ry.

## PUBLIC CONFESSION OF SIN

Minister: Let us confess our sins before our righteous and holy God.

**All:     Dear Lord, we have other gods before us.  
          We desire many things more than You.  
          We do not worship Your name as we ought to.  
          We do not fully cherish our Sabbath rest in Christ.  
          We do not honor our father and our mother.  
          We have murder on our tongues and in our hearts.  
          We are not faithful.  
          We take what is not ours.  
          We do not always tell the truth.  
          We sinfully want what other people have.**

## PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER

### *Children's Time*

*After the intercessory prayer, children in kindergarten through 3rd grade and their teachers may exit the sanctuary through the north doors of the sanctuary. Teachers will return with the children after the sermon. Parents may meet them by the north entrance, or children may join their parents at their seats.*

SCRIPTURE READING\*

*Matthew 1.1,17*

<sup>1</sup> The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

<sup>17</sup> So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

SERMON

**From Eden to Bethlehem**

*Rev. David Rea*

HYMN OF RESPONSE\*

***The First Noel***

*Stanzas 1, 2 and 6*

FIRST NOEL

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*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S TABLE

*All those who trust in Christ alone for their salvation, are baptized, and belong to a Bible believing church are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper together, feeding on the grace of God by faith. If you have not put your trust in Christ, please allow the elements to pass you by and take this opportunity to meditate on the meaning of the Gospel.*

**A word to parents:** *Baptized children are invited to the table after they have made a profession of faith and been received as communing members by the Session of the church to which their parents belong. Please hold the bread, and we will partake together. Please drink the cup as you receive it.*

***The outer ring is grape juice and the inner rings are wine.***

*During the bread*

**Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence** | No. 193

PICARDY

*Stanzas 1, 2 and 4*

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.

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!"

*During the cup*

*Instrumental*

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

#### CLOSING HYMN\*

**On Christmas Night All Christians Sing** | No. 227

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.

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.

## SERMON NOTES

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ***Sunday School Break***

We are taking a Sunday School break for the Christmas season, and classes will resume in early January. More details will be coming after the holidays!

### ***Christmas Eve Children's Choirs: Pre-K and Elementary***

All PPC children, ages 4 – kindergarten and 1st – 5th grades, are invited to sing in our Christmas Eve service! Rehearsals will immediately follow worship today as well as December 17. If possible, we encourage you to try to attend at least two rehearsals. Please register so we can have materials prepared for you kiddos. Pre-K will be led by Stefani Rea, and they will meet in the children's wing in the Giraffes room #113; and the elementary choir will be led by Jill Smith, and they will meet in room #135 near the offices. To register, please email Kristi Breed at [childrensministry@providencedallas.com](mailto:childrensministry@providencedallas.com). Thank you for helping lead our Christmas Eve service!

### ***Christmas Eve Services***

Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year! We will have our normal Lord's Day worship service that morning at 10:10. Childcare for infants to pre-K will be provided as usual, as well as a lesson for kindergarteners – 3<sup>rd</sup> graders during the sermon. We will have our Christmas Eve service later that day at 4 p.m. Childcare will not be provided for that service, as it is a family service. We look forward to this wonderful Sunday and worshipping together!

### ***Weekly Update***

If you would like to receive our weekly email that includes announcements, information about Bible studies, and details about upcoming events, please email [office@providencedallas.com](mailto:office@providencedallas.com). We would be happy to include you!

### ***Year-End Giving***

If you are considering a year-end gift to the church, there are several ways that you can do that:

- You can give online. Visit our website: [www.providencedallas.com](http://www.providencedallas.com), and then click on the "giving" tab. You can set up a one-time or a recurring gift. If you would like to consider covering the processing fee for your gift, you can check the box on that page to do so.
- You can use one of white offering boxes in the lobby just outside the sanctuary on the gray tables. Sunday, December 31 would be the last day to bring a giving check for 2023 tax purposes.
- You can mail a check to the church office. Please make sure it is postmarked on or before December 31 for 2023 tax purposes.  
(10727 Midway Road, Dallas, TX 75229)
- If you would like to donate a gift of stock, you can contact Dorothy Edwards ([dorothy.edwards@providencedallas.com](mailto:dorothy.edwards@providencedallas.com)), and she can provide the necessary information.
- You can scan the QR code below, and it will take you directly to the giving page on our website.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *Carols and Cocoa*

We hope you will plan to join us for a special time of worship and fellowship this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. We will meet in the sanctuary to sing Christmas hymns together, and then we will enjoy a time of fellowship with hot chocolate afterwards in the lobby. All are welcome! Childcare will not be provided, as this will be a time for families to sing and enjoy fellowship together.

### *PPC's Christmas Giving Tree*

This year, for our PPC Christmas Giving Tree, we are going to send gifts of support to Grace and Knowledge Academy, a Christian school in Nigeria. (You may remember Jackson and Blessing, missionaries at GKA, from their visit to our church this summer). Nigeria has more children not in school than any other country in the world. GKA provides education, meals, and medical care for children who otherwise would not have access to school. On the Christmas tree, you can find tags that give information about how to give a Christmas gift towards GKA. For more information, you can go to: <https://www.childrensrelief.org/gka>.

### *An Advent Resource for You: "Christmas Uncut"*

We would like to provide you with a wonderful resource to prepare your heart this Advent season: "Christmas Uncut" by Carl Laferton, a faithful read written in a creative fashion with insightful perspectives on the Christmas story. You may pick up your free copy from the foyer table this morning.

*Yesenia Campos, violin*

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PROVIDENCE  
*Presbyterian Church*

#### **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	