

Welcome to Derry Presbyterian Church

We proclaim God's Word, share God's love, and practice God's justice.



December 24, 2020

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Service for Christmas Eve

Online Worship

PRELUDE

Ding Dong Merrily on High
Derry Ringers

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

WELCOME

Rev. Stephen McKinney-Whitaker

INTROIT

Mary Had a Baby
Joyful Noise Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES (*read responsively*)

We are here because we have heard a whisper of hope
and we have faith its day will come.

We have heard a promise of peace
and we have faith its day will come.

We have heard a song of joy
and we have faith its day will come.

We have heard a hint of love
and we have faith its day will come.

We have heard of the birth of the Christ-child
and we have faith his day is here.

Welcome to Christmas O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

CAROL 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

**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!**

**Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! REFRAIN**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! REFRAIN**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

**God of tenderness and love, breathe your grace into our lives.
Forgive our wandering ways, and guide us along your paths of peace.
When we lose our way, and forget the reason and purpose of this season, carry us back to you.
Lead us up to that high mountain of faith and hope,
that we might truly proclaim: "Here is our God!"
In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

“Comfort, O comfort my people,” says our God.
You have served your term. Your penalty is paid.
Remember your baptism and believe the good news of the Gospel.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven

CAROL RESPONSE 121

O Little Town of Bethlehem (Verse 4)

ST. LOUIS

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18-24

NT p. 1

ANTHEM

Joseph, *Better You Than Me*
Ryan Yingst

Flowers, John, Tennent

*Well your eyes just haven't been the same, Joseph
Are you bad at dealing with the fame, Joseph
There's a pale moonshine, above you
Do you see both sides, do they shove you, around*

*Is the touchstone forcing you to hide, Joseph
Are the rumors eating you alive, Joseph*

*When the holy night is upon you
Will you do what's right, the position is yours*

*From the temple walls to the New York night
Our decisions rest on a child
When she took her stand
Did she hold your hand
Will your faith stand still or run away*

*When they've driven you so far
That you think you're gonna drop
Do you wish you were back there
at the carpenter shop*

*With the plane and the lathe
The work never drove you mad
You're a maker, a creator
Not just somebody's dad*

*From the temple walls to the New York night
Our decisions rest on a man
When I take the stand*

*Will he hold my hand
Will my faith stand still or run away*

*And the desert
It's a hell of a place to find heaven
Forty years lost in the wilderness looking for God
And you climb to the top of the mountain
Looking down on the city
Where you were born*

*Better you than me (better you than me)
Yes*

*Well the Holy night is upon you (better you than me)
Do you see both sides, do they shove you, around
Better you than me, Joseph (better you than me)
Joseph, Joseph, Joseph, Joseph
Than me*

*Better you than me (better you, better you)
Than me
Well your eyes just haven't been the same, Joseph*

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-7

NT p. 58

CAROL 115

Away in a Manger

MUELLER

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

**The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus I ask thee to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray,
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:8-20

NT p. 58

CAROL 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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 the-angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, 'Glory to the newborn King!'**

**Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, off-spring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the-incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, 'Glory to the newborn King!'**

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings,
Mild He lays his glory by, Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, 'Glory to the newborn King!'**

MEDITATION

Rev. McKinney-Whitaker

ANTHEM

O Holy Night
Julie and Gillian Miller

Adolphe Adam, arr. Alan Bullard

*O holy night! The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appear'd and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn*

*He knows our need, to our weaknesses no stranger
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King, Before Him lowly bend!*

*Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born;
O night divine, O night, O night Divine*

*Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother;
And in His name all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we
Let all within us praise His holy name*

*Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming
Here come the wise men from the Orient land
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger;
In all our trials born to be our friend*

*Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever
His power and glory evermore proclaim
His power and glory evermore proclaim*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Unison*)

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-14

NT p. 91

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST (*please turn on your LED candles*)

The light of God has come into the world
and the darkness cannot overcome it.

The light of God shines for us and in us.

It is the true light that is for everyone: the light of love.

The deeper the darkness the brighter the light shines.

God's love and light refuses to be extinguished by despair.

Hope, peace, joy, and love cannot be quenched

while the light of love burns steadily within each of us.

Love has come a light in the darkness, Christ has come Lord Emmanuel.

We hold our lights, we fuel our inner flames, and we share the good news of great joy.

*CAROL 122

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.

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Go Tell it On the Mountain
Derry Brass

arr. Sammy Nestico