Westminster
Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2021
Christmas Eve Pageant

Prelude "What Child is This?" MARK HAYES

Words of Welcome **"**The Coming of God" **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**
By Ann Weems

Our God is the One who comes to us,
In a burning bush,
In an angel's song,
In a newborn child.

Our God is the One who cannot be found,
Locked in the church,
Not even in the sanctuary.

Our God will be where God will be,
With no constraints, no predictability.

Our God lives where our God lives,
And destruction has no power
And even death cannot stop the living.

Hymn No. 88 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**"** VENI EMMANUEL
Verses 1 and 2

Reading **Joel Chupp**

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, everyone 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.

Hymn No. 121 "O Little town of Bethlehem**"** ST. LOUIS
Verses 1 and 2

Reading **Dhanashree Lokesh**

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.

Hymn No. 115 "Away in a Manger**"** MUELLER
Verses 1 and 2

Reading **Joshua Amimo**

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 so afraid.

Hymn No. 117 "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks**"** WINCHESTER OLD
All Verses

Reading **Sherry Hatter-Miller**

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:
You 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 people."

Hymn No. 119 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**"** MENDELSSOHN
Verses 1 and 2

Reading **Eric Miller**

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 God has made known unto us."

Hymn No. 133 "O Come, All Ye Faithful**"** ADESTE FIDELES
Verses 1 and 2

Reading **Eric Miller**

And they came with haste,
and found Mary, and Joseph,
and the babe lying in a manger.

Hymn No. 128 "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**"** W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY
All Verses

Reading **Candy Relle**

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea
in the days of Herod the king,
behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,
Saying, "where is he that is born King of the Jews?

For we have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him."

Special Music "Un Flambeau, Jeannette, Isabelle" FRENCH TRADITIONAL CAROL
("Come with Torches, Jeanette, Isabella!")

Reading **Ferenc Relle**

When Herod the king had heard these things,
he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together,
he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

And they said unto him, "In Bethlehem of Judea:
for thus it is written by the prophet…"

Then Herod, when he had privately called the magi,
enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

And he sent them to Bethlehem,
and said, “Go and search diligently for the young child,
and when you have found him, bring me word again,
that I may come and worship him also.”

Special Music “King Herod and the Cock” ENGLISH TRADITIONAL CAROL

Reading **Candy Relle**

When they had heard the king, they departed.
And, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them,
till it came and stood over where the young child was.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

And when they had come into the house,
they saw the young child with Mary, his mother,
and fell down and worshipped him.
And when they had opened their treasures,
they presented unto him gifts: gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

Special Music “O, Holy Night” A.C. ADAM/ARR. PAUL SHIN

Reading **Dhanashree Lokesh**

And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod,
they departed into their own country another way.

But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

Hymn No. 122 “Silent Night” STILLE NACHT
Verses 1, 3, 4

Closing Prayer **"**The Work of Christmas" **Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy**
By Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star of the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among the people,
To make music in the heart. Amen.

Hymn No. 110 "Love Has Come" BRING A TORCH
All Verses

Music for the Christmas Pageant led by Dr. Divine Gbagbo

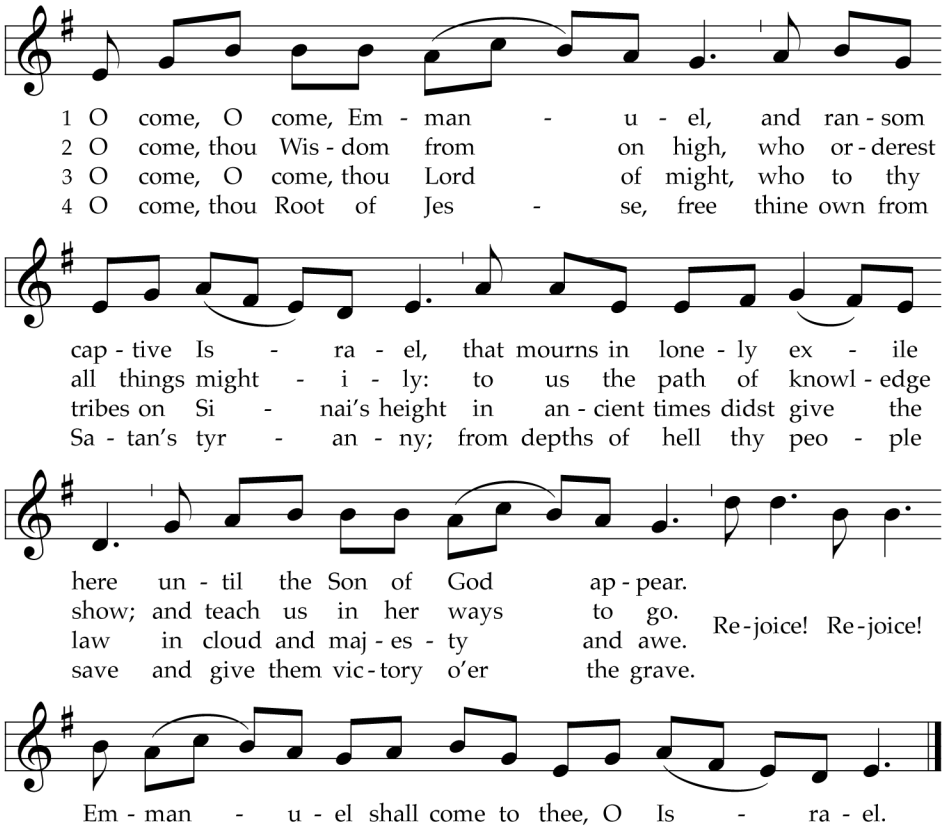
Music:	Piano	Mary-Marie Deauclaire
	Vocals	Juli Douglass-Gillespie
	Drums, Organ	Divine Gbagbo
	Flute	Yasmine Spangler
	Vocals, Guitar	Pong Thiemmedh
Tech. Assistant/Event Steward		Tony Mendiola
		Jack Veney

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Pastor Rev. Dr. Enikő Ferenczy
Office Administrator Judy Mowrer
Minister of Music and Worship Arts Dr. Divine Gbagbo
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Westminster Presbyterian Church strives to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of ethnicity, creed, age, cultural background, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



5 O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

6 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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)
Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)
Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4)
Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)
Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)
Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)
Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

TEXT: Latin prose, pre-9th cent.; trans. composite
MUSIC: Plainsong; adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1852; arr. John Weaver, 1988
Music Arr. © 1990 John Weaver

VENI EMMANUEL
LM with refrain

121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

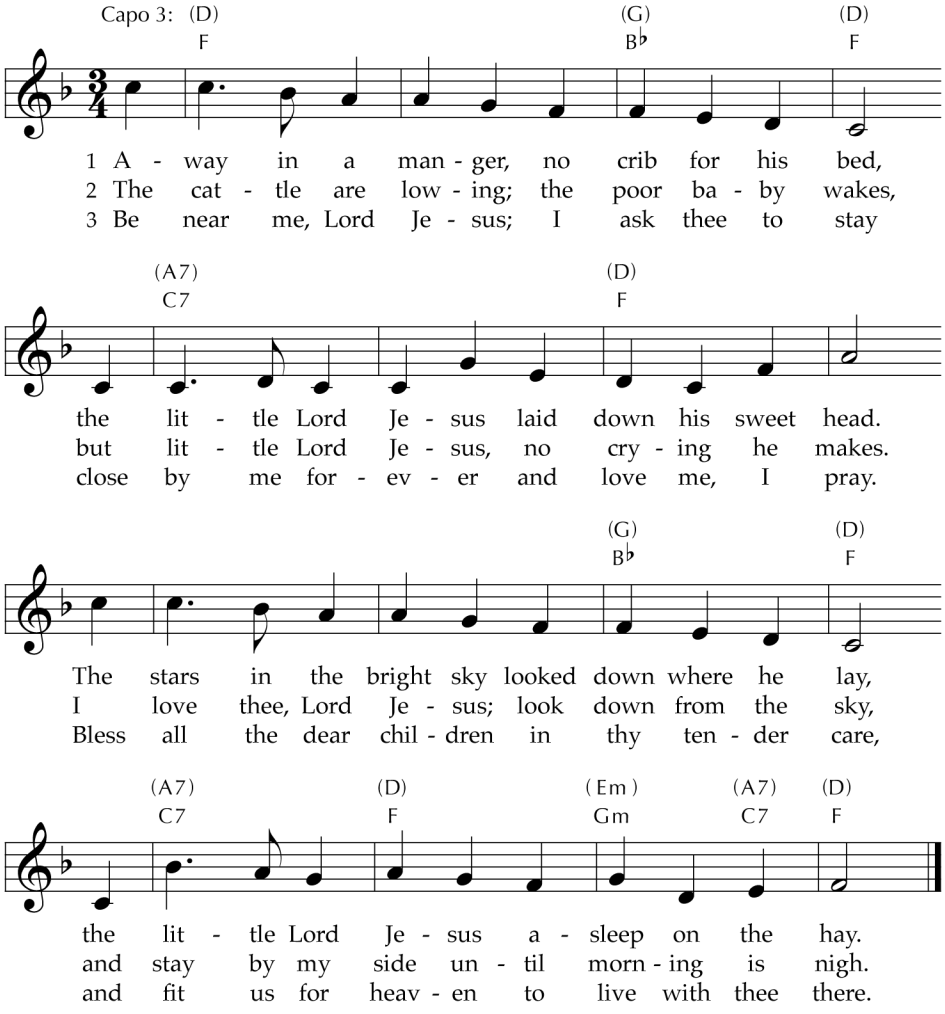


Though he was famed during his lifetime as a great preacher, no sermon Phillips Brooks ever preached has been heard or read by as many people as have sung this carol he wrote in December 1868 for the Sunday School children of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.

TEXT: Phillips Brooks, 1868
MUSIC: Lewis Henry Redner, 1868

ST. LOUIS
8.6.8.6.7.6.8.6
(alternate tune: FOREST GREEN)

115 Away in a Manger



Though erroneously attributed to Martin Luther, this anonymous carol has North American roots, probably originating among Pennsylvania Lutherans. Although more than forty melodies have been connected with these words, this tune was among the earliest written for them.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–2, *Little Children's Book for Schools and Families,* c. 1885;
stanza 3, Gabriel's *Vineyard Songs,* 1892
MUSIC: James R. Murray, 1887

MUELLER
11.11.11.11
(alternate tune: CRADLE SONG, 114)

117 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks



5 Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

6 "All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will to all from highest heaven
begin and never cease!"

This was one of the first metrical texts to deal with a New Testament narrative rather than paraphrase one of the Psalms. It is set here to a psalm tune that is more than a century older than the words, though the two were not firmly joined until the mid-19th century.

TEXT: Nahum Tate, 1700, alt.
MUSIC: Este's *Psalmes,* 1592; harm. George Kirby, 1592

WINCHESTER OLD
CM
(alternate tune: CHRISTMAS, 118)

119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



Brought together in the mid-19th century, the text and tune of this familiar carol began in quite different forms. The text had ten stanzas and began, "Hark, how all the welkin rings." The tune was created for a festival celebrating Gutenberg's introduction of moveable type.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.
MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; arr. William Hayman Cummings, 1855

MENDELSSOHN
7.7.7.7.D with refrain


Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

O Come, All Ye Faithful 133



From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

TEXT: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, alt.
MUSIC: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; harm. *The English Hymnal,* 1906

ADESTE FIDELES
Irregular

128 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



The English text of this 13th- or 14th-century Polish carol does not try to tell a story but to offer verbal snapshots of the well-known Nativity narrative of Luke 2:6–20. The tune name quotes the opening of the Polish text and means "He lies in a cradle" or "In manger lying."

TEXT: Polish carol; trans. Edith M. G. Reed, 1920; rev. 1921
MUSIC: Polish folk melody; harm. Arthur E. Rusbridge, 1962

W ŻŁOBIE ŁEŻY
8.7.8.7.8.8.7.7
(this tune in a lower key, 410)

Silent Night, Holy Night! 122



GERMAN

1 *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!*
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

KOREAN

1 고요한밤 거룩한밤
어둠에 묻힌밤
주의부모 앉아서
감사기도 드릴때
아기잘도 잔다
아기잘도 잔다

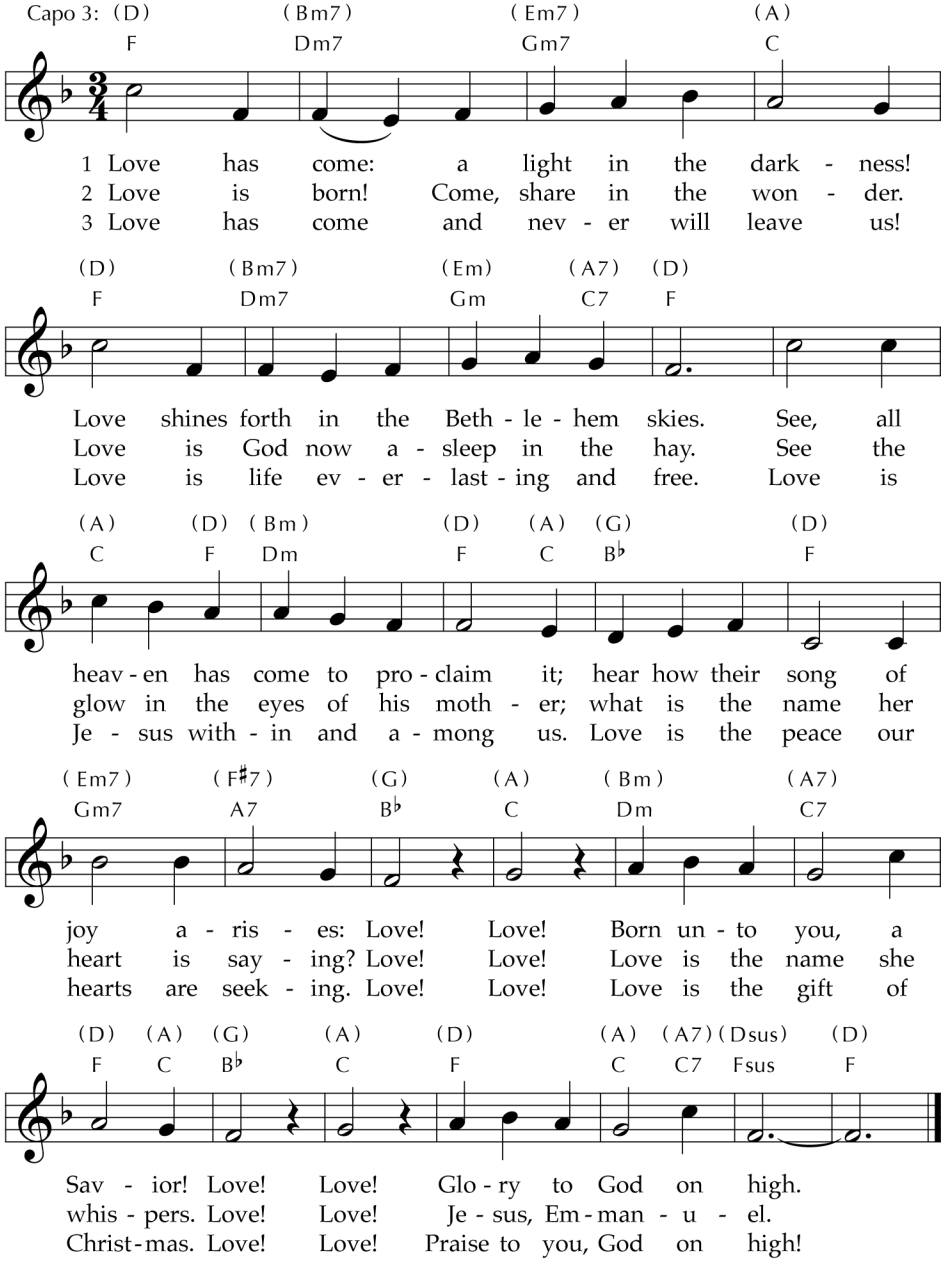
SPANISH

1 *¡Noche de paz, noche de amor!*
Todo duerme en derredor,
entre los astros que esparcen su luz,
bella, anunciando al niñito Jesús,
brilla la estrella de paz,
brilla la estrella de paz.

The tradition that this carol's tune was created for guitar accompaniment at its first singing on Christmas Eve 1818 seems reliable, though a recent find shows that the text was about two years old. But there is no question that this is now a favorite Christmas carol worldwide.

TEXT: Joseph Mohr, 1816; stanzas 1–3, English trans. John Freeman Young, 1863; stanza 4, English trans. Jane Montgomery Campbell, 1863, alt.
MUSIC: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1818
STILLE NACHT
Irregular
Korean Trans. © The Christian Literature Society of Korea

Love Has Come 110



Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."

TEXT: Ken Bible, 1996
MUSIC: French melody; arr. Eric T. Myers, 2012
Text © 1996 LNWhymns.com (admin. Music Services)
Music Arr. © 2012 Eric T. Myers

BRING A TORCH
9.9.10.9.9.8