FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Second Sunday After Christmas
Contemporary Service
January 2, 2022

CONGREGATIONAL SONGS OF PRAISE

Hark the Herald Angels Sing!/King of Heaven **arr. Jason Ingram**

Verse 1
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 angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Verse 2
Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace
Hail the Son 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

Chorus
King of Heaven come down
King of Heaven come now
Let Your glory reign shining like the day
King of Heaven come
King of Heaven rise up
Who can stand against us
You are strong to save
In Your mighty name King of Heaven come

Interlude
Oh oh

Verse 3
Christ by highest heaven adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell
Jesus our Immanuel
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Ending
King of Heaven come King of Heaven come
King of Heaven come King of Heaven come
King of Heaven come down
King of Heaven come now
Let Your glory reign shining like the day
King of Heaven come

In the Bleak Midwinter **Gustav Holst**

1 In the bleak midwinter,
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter,
Long ago.

2 Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him,
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When He comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter
A stable place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate,
Jesus Christ.

3 Angels and archangels
May have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim
Thronged the air;
But His mother only,
In her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the beloved
With a kiss.

4 What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man,
I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give Him:
Give my heart.

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PASSING THE PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE

O Come All ye Faithful **arr. Chris Tomli**

Verse 1
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

Chorus 1
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

Verse 2
Sing choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
O sing all ye citizens of heav'n above
Glory to God
All glory in the highest

Interlude
Christ the Lord
You are the Lord

Verse 3
Yea Lord we greet Thee
Born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be all glory giv'n
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing

Interlude
You are the Lord
You are the Lord
You are the Lord
Yeah

Chorus 2
We'll praise Your name forever
We'll praise Your name forever
We'll praise Your name forever
Christ the Lord

Interlude
Glory in the highest

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, at the start of this new year, we confess that in some ways it doesn't feel like the beginning of anything. Facing yet another wave of illness, and political division, and a host of other worries, we're tempted to draw back and shut down; and closer to home, we find that bad habits and negative attitudes don't simply expire with the turning of a calendar page. We confess that, like the wise men trudging their way across the desert to follow the star of Bethlehem, we find hope to be hard work. Yet your light still shines in the darkness, reminding us that nothing can separate us from your love, and that your Spirit continues to do its quiet work in us and in our world. Open our eyes, open our hearts, and draw us ever closer to you, that we may tell and show the Good News of Immanuel, God with us, in this and every new day. In your holy name we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

INTERLUDE Glory in the Highest Chris Toml

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 1: 3-14 Joanne Turcotte

SERMON "*Here It Is!*" The Rev. Dr. Stephen Simmons

SONG OF PRAISE

What Child is This **Traditional Carol**

1 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?

Refrain:
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

2 Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come one and all, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving
Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give thanks and praise.
Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise…
As our Savior Christ has taught us, so now we pray:

The Lord's Prayer
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.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

SONG OF PRAISE

Starlight **Bobby Strand**

Verse 1
You're like starlight in the dark
Endless miles can't conceal You
Every glimmer is a spark
Catching fire as You break through

Chorus
Oh You're not far away
You come in close
Oh even as I wait
You come in close

Verse 2
You're like summer in the night
The sun goes down but still I feel You
Every shadow's turning bright
Every broken heart is made new

Bridge
There's no heart unseen there's no space between
You and I You and I
You are closer than the very oxygen
I'm breathing in I breathe You in

Bridge
You are God with us You are here with us
Immanuel Immanuel
You are infinite Your glory has no end
Jesus Jesus

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Worship Note: Portions of this morning's communion liturgy were written by the Rev. Shelli Latham, pastor at Druid Hills Presbyterian Church in Atlanta.

Announcements:

- The church building, office, and Preschool will re-open for regular hours tomorrow, January 3.
- Looking ahead: The church building, office, and Preschool will close in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday on Monday, January 17.
- On Sunday, January 30 we will gather for a Combined Worship Service at 10 a.m., followed by the annual Congregational Meeting