

**First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley Christmas Eve
Worship Bulletin—4 pm
December 24, 2021**

Welcome

Rev. Mark Stryker

Advent Candle Lighting

Raenelle Tauro and Khloe Ramirez

Carol: O Come, All Ye Faithful

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

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
O sing all ye bright
Hosts of heav'n above
Glory to God all
Glory in the highest

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

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

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

O Come All Ye Faithful
C. Frederick Oakeley | John Francis Wade
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The First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7
Rosemarie Eichner-Raja

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Choral carol: The Blessed Son of God

The blessed son of God only

In a crib full poor did lie;
With our poor flesh and our poor blood
Was clothed that everlasting good
Kyri'eleison

The Lord Christ Jesu, God's son dear,
Was a guest and a stranger here;
Us for to bring from misery,
That we might live eternally
Kyri'eleison

All this did he for us freely,
For to declare his great mercy;
All Christendom be merry therefore,
And give him thanks for evermore
Kyri'eleison

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The Second Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-6

Beth Thomsen

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

Carol: The First Noel

The first noel the angel 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

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

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord
who hath made heaven and earth of naught
and with his blood our life hath bought

The First Noel
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The Third Lesson: Luke 1:26-38 *Rev. Michelle Vecchio-Lyzenga*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 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 ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to 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 holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Carol: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

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 hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
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 us to dwell
Jesus our Emmanuel
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Hail the heav'n-born 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 we no more may die
Born to raise us from the earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Hark the Herald Angels Sing
Charles Wesley | Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
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The Fourth Lesson: John 1:6-14

Li-Wen Monk

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to

all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Band carol: Noel

Love incarnate, love divine
Star and angels gave the sign
Bow to babe on bended knee
The savior of humanity
Unto us a child is born
He shall reign forevermore
 Noel, Noel
 Come and see what God has done
 Noel, Noel
 The story of amazing love
 The light of the world, given for us
 Noel

Son of God and son of man
there before the world began
Born to suffer, born to save,
born to raise us from the grave
Christ the everlasting Lord
He shall reign forevermore

Noel

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, CCLI Song # 7050419 © 2015 Capitol CMG Paragon

The Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:1-7

Kathy Timpte

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Carol: What Child Is This?

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?
This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste, to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary

Why lies he in such mean estate,
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
the silent word is pleading
Nails spear shall pierce him through
the cross be borne for me, for you
Hail, hail the word made flesh,
the babe the son of Mary

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
come peasant, king to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary

What Child Is This
William Chatterton Dix, CCLI Song # 30983 © Public Domain

The Sixth Lesson: Luke 2:8-20

Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and 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 heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!'

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Homily

Musical Reflection: Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
laden with fruit and always green:
The tree of life my soul hath seen,
laden with fruit and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be
compared with Christ the apple tree

His beauty doth all things excel:
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell
His beauty doth all things excel:
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see
in Jesus Christ the apple tree

For happiness I long have sought,
and pleasure dearly I have bought:
For happiness I long have sought,
and pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all; but now I see
'tis found in Christ the apple tree

I'm weary with my former toil,
here I will sit and rest awhile:
I'm weary with my former toil,
here I will sit and rest awhile:
Under the shadow I will be,
of Jesus Christ the apple tree

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,

it keeps my dying faith alive;
This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
it keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
with Jesus Christ the apple tree

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree
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Call to Give / Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Tom Elson

The Seventh Lesson: John 1:1-5

Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Litany

Light looked down and saw darkness. "I will go there," said Light.
Peace looked down and saw war. "I will go there," said Peace.
Love looked down and saw hatred. "I will go there," said Love.
So he, the Lord of Light, the Prince of Peace, the King of Love, came down and crept in beside us.

Carol: Silent Night

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
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Benediction

Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell

Choral Benediction / Postlude: Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is-a born.

When I was a seeker,
I sought both night and day;
I asked the Lord to help me
And he showed me the way.

He made me a watchman
Upon a city wall;
And if I am a Christian,
I am the least of all.

Shepherds lay a-watching
Their flock that starry night.
An angel of the Lord came
And shone a holy light.

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