

# First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley Worship Bulletin December 26, 2021

## Welcome

*Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell*

## Call to Worship

Jesus said,  
"This is my Father's house."  
So come into this space  
just as you are  
Come into this space  
speaking your truth.  
Come into this space  
with your authentic self.  
This is God's home.  
This is our home.  
Let us worship God.

## Song: Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
let earth receive her King  
let every heart prepare him room  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;  
let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love

Joy To the World  
George Frideric Handel, Isaac Watts  
CCLI Song # 24016 © Public Domain

### **Song: Angels We Have Heard on High**

Angels we have heard on high  
sweetly singing o'er the plains  
and the mountains in reply  
echo back their joyous strains

Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say, what may the tidings be  
which inspire your heavenly song?

Come to Bethlehem, and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King

Angels We Have Heard on High  
Edward S. Barnes  
CCLI Song # 27721 © Public Domain

### **Prayer of Confession**

*Rev. Tom Elson*

God our Maker, we confess that we are not ready to meet you.  
We study the trends of our times and ignore the signs of your reign.  
We trust in things that pass away and forget your eternal promise.  
Forgive us, God of grace.  
Strengthen us, by your hand,  
so that we may be ready for that day when you come to reign in glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Assurance of Pardon**

One: Friends, believe the good news.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and are being made whole. Amen.**

## **Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## **Song: 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

## **Scripture: Luke 2:1-20**

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.

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.

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon: Go, Tell It!**

*Rosemarie Eichner-Raja*

**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 exaltation,  
sing all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God,  
all glory in the highest

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 All Ye Faithful  
C. Frederick Oakley, John Francis Wade  
CCLI Song # 31054 © Public Domain

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Rev. Mark Stryker*

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.

### **Call to Give**

*Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell*

### **Song: Go Tell It on the Mountain**

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born

While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light

The shepherds feared and trembled  
when, lo! above the earth

rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth

Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn

Go Tell It on the Mountain  
John W. Work  
CCLI Song # 29080 © Public Domain

**Benediction**

*Rosemarie Eichner-Raja*