

# Everybody's Church



First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2021, 5:00pm

## Vision Statement

As Everybody's Church we commit ourselves to serving Christ by cultivating mission, inclusion and community.

## Inclusion Statement

As Everybody's Church we strive to be a faithful, open and inclusive community. We welcome the full participation of all people of any ability, gender identity, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or any other life circumstance.

## Congregational Carol Singing

CAROL 119 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"  
CAROL 121 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"  
CAROL 147 "The First Nowell" (vs. 1,2,6)

Hymntune: MENDELSSOHN  
Hymntune: ST. LOUIS  
Hymntune: THE FIRST NOWELL

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE "We Three Kings" Susi

WELCOME Dr. John Judson

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 9:2-7

GATHERING "O Holy Night" Davis

CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Cindy Judson

One: During Advent we have encountered God's Hope, Peace, Joy and Love!

Many: **But tonight we remember God's presence coming into the world.**

One: For tonight we remember the moment in which God became one of us.

Many: **Tonight we will open our hearts to the amazing presence of God with us, in a child who came to save the world. Let us worship God!**

†CAROL 133 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

†When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or in spirit.

Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

Hymntune: ADESTE FIDELES

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Reading from Luke 2:20 "The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them."

One: As Christmas approaches, we become obsessed with buying the perfect gifts.

All: **We push through crowds and shop online.**

One: But scripture reminds us that the birth of the Savior is the reason for the season.

All: **The Shepherds remind us of the reason for our praise.**

One: As we light this candle, let us not be afraid to celebrate the birth of the savior of the world.

Unison Prayer: **God of time and space, we celebrate tonight because of the amazing gift of your son Jesus whom you sent to save the world.**

†OUR RESPONSE 113 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Hymntune: GLORIA

†EXCHANGING THE CHRISTMAS PEACE

*Please exchange a sign of peace with those near you.*

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

All: Loving God, your light has come into the world.  
Allow the words we read this evening  
to shine that light upon our broken world.  
In Jesus’ name, Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 62:10-12

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

“Lo, How a Rose”  
*FPC Ringers*

Mocklebust

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:1-20

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

MEDITATION

“In-bodying Christmas” Rev. Bethany Peerbolte

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Away in a Manager”

Kidd

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

†CANDLELIGHTING

†CAROL 122

“Silent Night, Holy 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, 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.

TEXT your contribution to 248.600.4919, or contribute online through the giving tab on the website. You can specify if you would like your contribution to go the Christmas Joy Offering.

Hymntune: STILLE NACHT

†BLESSING

†CAROL 134

“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 world, the Savior reigns! Let us our songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow, far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

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.

POSTLUDE

“Adeste Fideles”

Hayes

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Andrew Herbruck, Director of Music Ministries, is playing the service this evening.

*This coming Sunday, December 26 there will be no in-person worship.  
We will be offering worship via a prerecorded service on our website.*

*Beginning in January we will offer weekly worship Sundays  
at 8:30 am and 10:00am.  
(In person or 10:00 livestreamed on YouTube)*

Hymntune: ANTIOCH

Please see our website for  
more information about the  
church:



[www.everybodyschurch.org](http://www.everybodyschurch.org)

## 119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king.  
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
 3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
 late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the vir-gin's womb.  
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car - nate de - i - ty,  
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
 pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.  
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

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.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

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

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Hark! The herald angels sing." It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the staves. The music features a mix of chords and single notes, with a prominent use of chords in the bass line. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

## 121 O Little Town of Bethlehem



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y and, gath - ered all a - bove,  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by.  
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;  
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.  
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 O come to us; a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!



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.

## 147

## The First Nowell



1 The first Now-ell the an-gel did say was to cer-tain poor  
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the  
 3 And by the light of that same star three wise men  
 4 This star drew nigh to the north-west; o'er Beth - le -



shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing  
 east be - yond them far; and to the earth it gave  
 came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was their  
 hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop



their sheep, on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.  
 great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
 in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.  
 and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.



## Refrain



Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,



"Nowell" is the English form of the French "noel," a shout of joy formerly used at Christmas (as in Chaucer's "Franklin's Tale"), a clue that the word is older than its first printing. It may have Latin and French roots related to "born" (*natus / nē*) as well to "news" (*nova / nouvelle*).

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

A musical score for the phrase "born is the King of Israel." It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics "born is the King of Israel." are written below the treble staff. The music features a mix of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together and some held over from the previous measure.

5 Then entered in those wise men three,  
full reverently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence  
their gold, and myrrh, and  
frankincense.

*Refrain*

6 Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
and with his blood our life hath bought.

*Refrain*



# O Come, All Ye Faithful 133

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come  
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,  
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -  
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all  
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

*Refrain*

born the King of an - gels!  
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let  
 glo - ry in the high - est!  
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

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.

# 113 Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heaven - ly song?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo -

This French carol probably dates from the 1700s, though it was not printed until the following century. Because it uses a vernacular language for the narrative stanzas and Latin for the refrain, it belongs to a special category called "macaronic" or mixed-language texts.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

The image shows a musical score for a vocal piece. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the staves. The top staff contains a vocal line with a melodic line and a lower line of accompaniment. The bottom staff contains a bass line with a lower line of accompaniment. The lyrics are: - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

- - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!