

◆BENEDICTION

◆CAROL RESPONSE

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.

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.

Please extinguish your candles and place them in the baskets in the narthex as you depart.

◆Please stand, if able

Acolytes are Macie Long and Sumner Long.

Tonight's offering supports the Thornwell Home for Children in Clinton, SC. Founded as a Presbyterian ministry in 1875, Thornwell is a joyful Christian community, offering hope and wholeness to children and families. Its goals are to provide loving homes for abused, abandoned, and neglected children, to offer an opportunity for healing by providing proper healthcare and mental health counseling for every Thornwell child, and to offer Thornwell's children hope for a successful future by providing educational support and teaching self-advocacy.

We make our gift to Thornwell in memory of Mrs. Ella Boyer, who provided loving care to the children of Westminster for over 25 years. Please make checks to *Westminster Presbyterian* and mark them *Thornwell Offering*.

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WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

December 24, 2019

7:00 pm

PRELUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

J. S. BACH

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Sue and Jerry Smoak

◆CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shone.

People: **You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest.**

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his
shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting
Father, Prince of Peace.

People: **Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!**

Leader: Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness. Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth
rejoice; let the sea roar and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it!

People: **HOPE is in the LORD. PEACE is through the LORD.
JOY is because of the LORD. LOVE is from the LORD.**

◆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!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created;
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; sing,
all ye citizens of heaven 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 given;
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!

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

◆CAROL

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply; echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see, him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee, Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-20

◆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 the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun 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!"

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 34:14

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

Seek Peace and Pursue It

Pastor Daniel

◆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 Christian, 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, one and all, 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!

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-2, 10-11

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Ding! Dong! Merrily on High
Sanctuary Choir

HAL HOPSON

◆AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

FROM THE NICENE CREED (381)

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

◆CANDLE LIGHTING

Lights will be dimmed, and the Pastors will light the candle of the first person in each pew. Once your candle is lit, please pass the light to the person beside you. We sing Silent Night, Holy Night as we light our candles.

◆CAROL

Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT

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.