



ORDER FOR THE  
**PUBLIC WORSHIP** *of* **GOD**

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**CHRISTMAS EVE**

DECEMBER 24, 2019

5:30 & 8:00 P.M.



# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

ORGAN PRELUDE: "From Heav'n Above I Come to You" . . . . . arr. Johann Pachelbel

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "Pastoral Symphony" from *Messiah* . . . . . G.F. Handel

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Chip, Dina, Quinn, and Emma Peebles (5:30)  
Mary and Orin Davidson (8:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP . . . . . Barton Kimbro (5:30)  
Dan Burns (8:00)

✦PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 140 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" . . . . . ADESTE FIDELES

✦FIRST GOSPEL LESSON . . . . . Luke 2:15-20  
(page 857 in pew Bible)

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE . . . . . VENI EMMANUEL

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

✦INVOCATION (*please raise hands*)

## WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE GIFTS OF GOD

*Our offering this evening will benefit the Caring Ministry Fund, unless otherwise designated for the General Fund. The Caring Ministry Fund assists those in need among our members and in our community. In addition to placing cash or checks in the offering plate, you may visit [2pc.org/caringfund](http://2pc.org/caringfund) to give online or text CARINGFUND followed by the gift amount to (901) 410-9500.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: "As the Dark Awaits the Dawn" . . . . . Christopher Aspaas

As the dark awaits the dawn, so we await Your light.  
O Star of promise, scatter night, loving bright, loving bright,  
'Til shades of fear are gone.

As the blue expectant hour before the silvering skies,  
We long to see Your day arise, whole and wise, whole and wise,  
O lucent Morning Star.

As the moon reflects the sun until night's decrease,  
May we Your healing light release, living peace, living peace,  
Unto Your holy dawn.

Shine Your future on ev'ry guest, that through us stream Your holiness.  
Bright and blest, bright and blest, bright and blest:  
Sun of grace. We await Your light.

*The Chancel Choir  
Calvin Ellis, director*

✦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING. . . . . Tim Russell (5:30)  
David Bowen (8:00)

✦GREETINGS

✦PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

✦HYMN OF PREPARATION: No. 176  
"Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor" . . . . . QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR AGREABLE

The grass withers, the flower fades,  
**but the Word of our God will stand forever.** (Isaiah 40:8)

SERMON: The Ordinary People of Christmas: Anna. . . . . George Robertson

## THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

*This is the Lord's table. All who profess their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are invited to receive communion. If this is not your faith, we would still encourage you to walk forward, knowing that no one will make you take the elements. Any of our elders or pastors will be happy to talk to you about questions or doubts you have about faith in Christ. We encourage children not to take communion until they have joined the church but do welcome them to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. If you are unable to come forward, please raise your hand and an elder will serve you in your seat. For those in the balcony, please remain seated, and the elements will be served to you in your pew. All communion wafers are gluten free.*

### ✦PROFESSION OF OUR FAITH. . . . . The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth;  
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord;  
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead and buried;  
He descended into hell;  
The third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead;  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### ✦GLORIA PATRI . . . . . GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen, Amen!**

### CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy Father, who sent Your one and only Son  
to bear the sin of the world  
and to bring life and light to sinners far and wide,  
we confess our need of Your gracious and forgiving love,  
for we have violated Your commandments  
by our thoughts, words, and deeds,  
and we are without excuse.  
On this holy night, we cast our sins upon Jesus  
and pray that You would heal us of our guilt and shame  
and of our wandering hearts,  
that we may serve You with glad obedience,  
to the everlasting glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

### INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON. . . . . Galatians 4:4-5

*But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son,  
born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law,  
so that we might receive adoption as sons.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND 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.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

*During this time, we invite you to join in singing the hymn printed in bold below.*

“Love Came Down at Christmas” . . . . . John Rutter

Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas, star and angels gave the sign.  
Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine;  
Worship we our Jesus: but wherewith for sacred sign?  
Love shall be our token, love shall be yours and love be mine,  
Love to God and to all men, love for plea and gift and sign.

“What Child Is This” . . . . . GREENSLEEVES

**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, 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.**

“O Holy Night” . . . . . Adolphe Charles Adam, Placide Cappeau, and John S. Dwight

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of our dear Savior’s birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
Till He appear’d and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born;  
O night divine, O night, O night divine.

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,  
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.  
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,  
Here come the wise men from the Orient land.  
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger;  
In all our trials born to be our friend.

He knows our need, to our weaknesses no stranger,  
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!  
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and His gospel is peace.  
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother;  
And in His name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
Let all within us praise His holy name.

Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever,  
His power and glory evermore proclaim.  
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

*Jauna Ellis, soloist*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LIGHTING OF THE CHURCH

HYMN OF CHRIST'S BIRTH: "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, heav'nly hosts sings 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!**

♠HYMN OF JOY: "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come" . . . . . ANTIOCH

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**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.**

♠BENEDICTION

♠CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE . . . . . GLORIA

**Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE: Toccata on "Joy to the World" . . . . . Michael Dell

♠Indicates congregation standing

CCLI License #252778

*Instrumentalists: Diane Cohen and Lori Gilbert, violin; Greg Morris, viola;  
Alissa Horn, cello; Claire Learned and Molly O'Roark, harp; Samuel Metzger, organ*

**Worship with Us on Sundays**

Thank you for worshiping with us tonight. We invite you to join us  
each Sunday at 8:15 or 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Visit [2pc.org](http://2pc.org) for more information about our church. Merry Christmas!