

Light from Light



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2020

*Second Presbyterian Church
Louisville, Kentucky*

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2020 - 8:00 p.m.

THE GATHERING

(7:45 p.m.) PRELUDE

Short Fantasy on a Catalan Carol
Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella
Louisa Woodson, harp

arr Carlos Salzedo
arr. Wood/McDonald

+*Schliesse, mein Herze* from Cantata III, *Christmas Oratorio*
Laura Atkinson, mezzo soprano
Gabriel Lefkowitz, violin; Guy Younce, organ

J.S. Bach

He Whom Shepherds Once Came Praising (QUEM PASTORES)
Guy Younce, organ

arr. Helmut Walcha

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen
The Octet

arr. Alice Parker

WELCOME and CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Steve Jester

*CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

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!

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo! He abhors not the virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created.
O come, let us adore Him, ...

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, ...

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, ...

*OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Nathan Sautter

THE WORD

A Service of Lessons and Carols

*CAROL

Once in Royal David's City
Stanza 1: Isabella Recktenwald, solo
Stanza 2: Choir
Stanzas 3 & 4: Congregation

IRBY

ANTHEM

Unto Us Is Born a Son

arr. David Willcocks

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

Music during Communion

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

Christina Bouras Recktenwald, soprano

Prayer after Communion

Rev. Jordan Akin

*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*CAROL

Silent 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, 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.

THE SENDING

BENEDICTION

Rev. Steve Jester

* *Hymn can be found in the booklet included in the Advent-In-A-Bag.* +See texts and translations on page 5

PARTICIPANTS

Rev. Steve Jester, Pastor

Rev. Nathan Sautter, Assoc. Pastor for Community Life

Rev. Jordan Akin, Assoc. Pastor for Youth

The Burrice Family

The Octet of the Sanctuary Choir

Laura Atkinson, alto

Ricky Case, tenor

Russ Dunlap, bass

Krista Heckmann, alto

Kenneth Oeth, tenor

Christina Bouras Recktenwald, soprano

Erin Shina, soprano

Jason Steigerwalt, bass

Soloist: Isabella Recktenwald, soprano

Harp: Louisa Woodson

Organ: Guy Younce, Interim Organist

Symphonic Arts String Quartet

Gabriel Lefkowitz, violin

Steve Kinnamon, violin

Melinda Odle, viola

April Dannelly, violoncello

Audiovisual Team:

Evan Vicic, Sound/Video

Elder Nicholas Moloney, Camera

Virginia Fortner, Worship & Music Asst., Video

Conductor: Jim Rittenhouse, Dir. of Worship and Music Ministries

TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

Schliesse mein Herze (from *Christmas Oratorio*, Cantata 3, J.S. Bach)

Enclose, my heart, this blessed wonder firmly in your faith!
Let this wonder, this work of God, always serve to strengthen your weak faith!

This Little Babe (from *A Ceremony of Carols*, Benjamin Britten; text: Robert Southwell, 1561-1595)

This little Babe so few days old
is come to rifle Satan's fold;
all hell doth at his presence quake
though he himself for cold do shake;
for in this weak unarmèd wise
the gates of hell he will surprise.

With tears he fights and wins the field,
his naked breast stands for a shield;
his battering shot are babish cries,
his arrows looks of weeping eyes,
his martial ensigns Cold and Need
and feeble Flesh his warrior's steed.

His camp is pitchèd in a stall,
his bulwark but a broken wall;
the crib his trench, haystacks his stakes;
of shepherds he his muster makes;
and thus, as sure his foe to wound,
the angels' trump alarum sound.

My soul, with Christ join thou in fight,
stick to the tents that he hath pight.
Within his crib is surest ward,
this little Babe will be thy guard.
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,
then flit not from this heavenly Boy.

Ecce Novum (Ola Gjeilo; ancient text)

Behold! A new joy!
Behold! A new wonder!
A Virgin, who knew not a man, bears a son.

She knew not a man, but
as the pear-tree bears the pear, the
flourishing papyrus brings the lily from the soil.

What Sweeter Music (John Rutter; Text: Robert Herrick (1591-1674))

What sweeter music can we bring
Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?
Awake the voice! Awake the string!
Dark and dull night, fly hence away,
And give the honour to this day
That sees December turn to May.
Why does the chilling winter's morn
Smile, like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly shorn
Thus on the sudden? Come and see
The cause, why things thus fragrant be:
'Tis he is born, whose quickening birth

Gives life and lustre, public mirth,
To heaven and the underearth.
We see him come, and know him ours,
Who, with his sunshine and his showers,
Turns all the patient ground to flowers.
The darling of the world is come,
And fit it is, we find a room
To welcome him. The nobler part
Of all the house here, is the heart,
Which we will give him; and bequeath
This holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do him honour; who's our King,
And Lord of all this revelling.

My Lord Has Come (Will Todd)

Shepherds, called by angels, called by love and angels: No place for them but a stable.
My Lord has come.
Sages, searching for stars, searching for love in heaven; No place for them but a stable.
My Lord has come.
His love will hold me, his love will cherish me, love will cradle me.
Lead me, lead me to see him, sages and shepherds and angels; No place for me but a stable.
My Lord has come.

SHARING GRACE THROUGH GIVING: We welcome you to visit our Giving page on our website, www.2ndpreslou.org/giving to fulfill your pledges and offer your financial support for the ongoing ministries of Second Presbyterian Church. You can also give toward the COVID-19 Relief Fund. Giving by text message is also available: Text 844-584-2059 and enter the amount you wish to donate. Thank you for your faithful support!

A DEBT OF GRATITUDE both to those who provided the decorations for Advent and Christmas through their gifts of wreaths, poinsettias, and luminaria and to **Kenneth Oeth** who gave his time and devotion to preparing and placing our decorations. You helped adorn our church home beautifully!

UPDATE FROM STEWARDSHIP AND MISSION: As we continue our journey through the Covid-19 changed world, Second Presbyterian Church continues to show its compassion and love for others. With the generosity of our time, talents, and wealth, we are truly making a difference to ourselves and communities around us both locally and abroad. To continue our wonderful church endeavors, please everyone remember to honor your 2020 pledge commitment, make a 2021 pledge, and continue your contributions to the Covid-19 fund. We thank you all for your continued compassion and generosity as we serve others to serve God.

John Hubbard Larry Sloan
Stewardship Chair Mission Chair

PLEASE JOIN US for our livestreaming service this Sunday, December 27, at 11 a.m. as we celebrate the First Sunday after Christmas.

A REMINDER ABOUT OUR OFFICE HOURS - The office and building will be closed for the Christmas Holiday from Friday, December 25 through Monday, December 28. We will re-open on Tuesday, December 29 at 9:00 a.m. Merry Christmas to all of you from your Ministry, Program, and Facilities Staffs!



Flowers & Decoration for Advent & Christmas Services

OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO DONATED WREATHS,
FLOWERS, AND LUMINARIES FOR THE SEASON.

The poinsettias in the Sanctuary were given ...

In memory of J.D., Angelina, and Carletta Buckman by Ann Buckman.
In loving memory of Frederick C. Ehrman, M.D. by his family.
In memory of our dear mother, and Nana, Betty Reuther by Rob, Betsy, and Will Reuther
In memory of Peyton Wells, Caroline and Jim Mapother,
Marian and Peyton Wells by their family.

The wreaths decorating the building ...

Two wreaths at the chapel entrance are given in loving memory of their parents, Robert and Marilynn Smith and Ruth Conway by Peter and Lorrie Conway.
Two wreaths are given in loving memory of her parent, Mr. H. Lyle Duerson, Jr., and Jane Duerson Potter, by Mrs. W.T. Scovil and family.
One wreath on the minister's entrance door is given in loving memory of Dr. Jerry Flowers by his family.
The wreaths on the chapel doors are given in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Ben W. Kilgore, Jr., by their daughter, Betty Kilgore Gibbs, and their grandchildren, Gwinn and Jack Moss.
Two wreaths at the office entry are given in loving memory of Barbara Hancock by her family.
One wreath on the Sanctuary Door is given in loving memory of William Hancock, Jr., by Mary Collis Hancock and family.
The wreaths on the two side doors to the Sanctuary Hall are given in loving memory of Lucy Scott O'Brien and E.J. O'Brien III, by their family.

The luminaria for the outdoor service were given ...

In memory of Charles and Jerry Pence by their daughter, Sallye Pence.



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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,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

- 5 Then entered in those wise men three, 6 Then let us all with one accord
 full reverently upon their knee, sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
 and offered there in his presence that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
 their gold, and myrrh, and and with his blood our life hath bought.
 frankincense. *Refrain*

Refrain

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.

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