



ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DENTON, TEXAS

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION

December 24, 2021

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Jessie, Will, Kacen, and Karson Hooper

SUNG RESPONSE

Hymn 84, v. 3, *Creator of the Stars of Night*

At your great name, O Jesus, now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow: all things on earth with one accord, like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lisa Patterson

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN 144

In the Bleak Midwinter

CRANHAM

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2: 8-16

See Insert

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

MEDITATION

Going to Beth lehem

Richard B. Culp

SEALING GOD'S WORD

HYMN 129

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN' ROS'

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

(Sung to tune "Away in the Manger")

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to God.

Now let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

How good it is to give thanks and praise!

...who forever sing to the glory of your name

(Sing to tune of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might adored,
Heaven and earth are shining bright with the glory of your light.
Loud hosannas now we sing! In the highest may they ring!
Blessed is the Coming One, Christ, Emmanuel, your Son.
Glory in the highest! Holy God, your name be blessed!**

...Great is the mystery of faith (Sing to tune of "We Three Kings")

**Dying Christ destroyed our death.
Rising Christ restores our life
Christ will come again in glory, raising us all to life.
Oh – God of power, God of might, God of love, our heart's delight:
Feed us, guide us, walk beside us, bless us with your gentle light.**

...send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

(Sing to tune of "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly")

**God above us, Christ among us, Spirit in these gifts you vow:
By your giving, in our living, we become your Body now.
Bread is broken, light revealing; Word is spoken for our healing.
Make us all your Body now. A-men. A-men.**

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.

Words of Institution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

HYMN 122

Silent Night

STILLE NACHT

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

WELCOME!

We proclaim that ALL people are created in the image of God and affirm that each person is a beloved child of God, worthy of God's love and grace. We welcome all, celebrating our differences while finding unity in Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Thanks to Jim White, Adam LaSpata, Michelle LaSpata, and Kirsten Brown for their worship leadership.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

As we celebrate the birth of the Savior, let us remember the poor and hungry, the homeless and dispossessed, and let us answer the call of Christ to be his ambassadors of love. Tonight's offering will be split between the Denton Community Food Center, the Pastors' Discretionary Fund and the Presbyterian Disaster Tornado Relief Fund.

84 Creator of the Stars of Night



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -
2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in
3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all
4 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,
splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child
hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,
Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you, hear us when we call.
of Mar - y, blame - less moth - er mild.
like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

TEXT: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851; as in *The Hymnal 1940*, alt.
MUSIC: Sarum plainsong, Mode IV, 9th cent.; harm. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011
Text Alt. © 1940 Church Pension Fund
Music Harm. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM
LM
(alternate tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR)

In the Bleak Midwinter 144

1 In the bleak mid-winter, frost-y wind made moan;
 2 Our God, heaven can-not hold him, nor earth sus-tain;
 3 An-gels and arch-an-gels may have gath-ered there;
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i-ron, wa-ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a-way when he comes to reign:
 cher-u-bim and ser-a-phim thronged the air;
 If I were a shep-herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall-en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid-win-ter a sta-ble place suf-ficed
 but his moth-er on-ly, in her maid-en bliss,
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

in the bleak mid-win-ter, long a-go.
 the Lord God in-car-nate, Je-sus Christ.
 wor-shipped the be-lov-ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Though this text describes winter weather in England rather than in Palestine, the poet is using familiar surroundings as a means of making the Nativity more immediate and personal. The tune name honors a Gloucestershire village near the composer's birthplace in Cheltenham.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 129

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung,
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in mind;
 3 This flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,

of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing, by faith - ful proph - ets sung.
 with Mar - y we be - hold it, the vir - gin moth - er kind.
 dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the dark-ness ev - ery-where.

It came, a flower - et bright, a - mid the cold of
 To show God's love a - right she bore for us a
 En - fleshed, yet ver - y God, from sin and death he

win - ter, when half spent was the night.
 Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.
 saves us and light - ens ev - ery load.

Although the early copies of this 15th-century German text include many more stanzas than are printed here, this simpler, shorter form has much to commend it. This early 17th-century harmonization of the traditional chorale melody invites and rewards singing in parts.

Silent Night, Holy Night! 122

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
 4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - enly hosts sing "Al - le - lu - ra -
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing
 with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"
 grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
 King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

GERMAN

1 *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!*
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

KOREAN

1 고요한밤 기록한밤
 어둠에 묻힌밤
 주의부모 앉아서
 감사기도 드릴때
 아기잘도 잔다
 아기잘도 잔다

SPANISH

1 *¡Noche de paz, noche de amor!*
Todo duerme en derredor,
entre los astros que esparcen su luz,
bella, anunciando al niño Jesús,
brilla la estrella de paz,
brilla la estrella de paz.

The tradition that this carol's tune was created for guitar accompaniment at its first singing on Christmas Eve 1818 seems reliable, though a recent find shows that the text was about two years old. But there is no question that this is now a favorite Christmas carol worldwide.

Scripture Lesson

Luke 2: 8-16

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

ST. ANDREW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

300 W. Oak Street Denton, TX 76201

Phone (940) 387-3897 Fax (940) 381-2404

www.standrewdenton.com

info@standrewdenton.com

Richard B. Culp, Senior Pastor

Lisa Patterson, Associate Pastor

Jeff Snider, Director of Music

Parker Hinnenkamp, Organist

Stephanie Raesz, Youth Director

Kirsten Trachsel, Children & Youth Choir Director

C.J. Prater, Seminary Intern



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Stephen Ministry Congregation.**

Stephen Ministers are trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing situations such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. Please contact Richard Culp or Lisa Patterson to connect with Stephen Ministry.

ADVENT MUSIC AND FLOWERS

In Memory of

Jim Chaplin	Ray Janes
Aileen Lowry-Allison	Deborah Kilgore
Marvin & Ouida Henderson	John, Ruth, & Ron Madaras
Bob & Jane Kain	Marjorie & John Hatmaker
Jordan Dodson	Maxine & Sterling Ramsey
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Donna Jones	Helen Culp Schutts
Wanda & VW Martin	Lewis & Kevin Sims
Coy Fagan	Hundley Families
Willis Mitchell	Wallis Families
Jack & Nettie Cornelius	Dan & Jean Wilson
Brad & Margaret Gilbert	George Heilig
David Ramey Gilbert	Barbara Smith

In Honor of

Connor Eberhart
Joan Groom
Suan Fagan
Catherine Mitchell
Children & Grandchildren of A.W. & Rea Oliver
Daughters & Grandchildren of David & Eileen Duffield
Children & Grandchildren of Betty Culp
Robyn & Matt Heilig
Sid and Julie Wells
Jeff Snider
The children and grandchildren of Gayle Strange
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