



EMMANUEL

DECEMBER 24, 2023
+ CHRISTMAS EVE +

DECEMBER 24, 2023
+ CHRISTMAS EVE +

PRELUDE

In Dulci Jubilo
J.S. Bach
Sunwoo Lee, Organ

WELCOME AND PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter

* HYMNS OF CELEBRATION

162 Angels We Have Heard on High

164 Away in the Manger

* THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Robert and Cheyenne Johnson and family

To a people longing for hope and yearning for deliverance, the prophet Isaiah declared: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined... For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:2, 6)

Tonight, we come seeking hope, peace, joy, and love, and we find these things in a child. God made flesh as a baby in a manger. A baby who is both the beginning and the end of our salvation, who dwells with us even now, our Emmanuel, God with us.

We live as people in the in-between who celebrate the arrival of the Light that shines in lost and broken places as we wait for the day when we will live in the fullness of God's kin-dom.

Let us pray: These candles are lit as signs of our shocking hope, our just peace, our fierce joy, the love that transforms us, and Jesus Christ, our wondrous Light. May the Light burning in our hearts guide us, comfort us, protect us, and tend us in all seasons and circumstances, reminding us that day and night, in the light and in the darkness, God is with us. Our salvation has come! Amen.

The Christ Candle is lit.

We sing verse 5 of "One Candle is Lit", found on an insert.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Still, Still, Still

Austrian Carol, arr. Norman Luboff

Chancel Choir, Dominic German, Director

Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow.
For all is hushed, the world is sleeping, Holy Star its vigil keeping.
Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of our Savior's birth.
The night is peaceful all around you, close your eyes, let sleep surround you.
Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of our Savior's birth.

Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come.
While guardian angels without number watch you as you sweetly slumber.
Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Loving God, by the gift of your Spirit, teach us, like Mary, to treasure your words and ponder them in our hearts; through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, the One who taught us all to pray saying, 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

New Testament Reading

* Gospel Reading

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Krista Dawson, Reader

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14

* HYMN 184

God's Love Made Visible

A CHRISTMAS STORY

Lullaby for the King

Written by Nikki Grimes

Illustrated by Michelle Carlos

Read by Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter

RESPONSIVE CAROL 174

Of the Father's Love Begotten

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Generosity

*The Trustees will come around at this time to receive physical offerings.
Giving online at any time is also an option at www.npcovenant.org/give*

Offertory

Noël

Henri Mulet

* Responsive Hymn 151, verse 4

In the Bleak Midwinter

* Prayer of Dedication

LIGHTING OUR CANDLES

What Child Is This? (171)

*The candles we light and hold serve as symbols of Christ's light that shines
in our lives, as well as the light we carry into the dark places of the world.*

* HYMN 172

Silent Night, Holy Night
accomp. Chancel Handbell Choir,
Dominic German, Director

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Glory to the New-born King
Franklin Ritter

** Please rise, in body or in spirit.*

Angels We Have Heard on High

Descant

3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

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;

come a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
 Say what may the ti - dings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song.
 come a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo ri - a

Glo ri - a

CHRISTMAS: BIRTH

in ex-cel-sis De - o, glo

in ex-cel-sis De - o, glo

The first system consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major with lyrics 'in ex-cel-sis De - o, glo'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in G major with lyrics 'in ex-cel-sis De - o, glo'. The bottom staff is a bass line in G major with lyrics 'in ex-cel-sis De - o, glo'. The music is in 4/4 time and features a simple harmonic structure with a clear melodic line in the voice and piano.

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

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

The second system consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major with lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in G major with lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.'. The bottom staff is a bass line in G major with lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.'. The music is in 4/4 time and features a simple harmonic structure with a clear melodic line in the voice and piano.

Away in a Manger

In unison

1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, the lit - tle Lord
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus! I ask thee to stay close by me for -

Je - sus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked
 Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love thee, Lord Je - sus! look
 ev - er, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky, and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 thy ten - der care, and fit us for heav - en, to live with thee there.

WORDS: Sts. 1, 2, anonymous, st. 3, John Thomas McFarland, 1851-1913
 MUSIC: James R. Murray, 1841-1905

11.11.11.11.
 AWAY IN A MANGER

One Candle is Lit

Mary Anne Parrott

William J. Kirkpatrick

Allegro (♩ = 120)



Come, lis - ten, the sounds of God - with - in ring clear, and



signs of a cross in the dis - tance ap - pear. The



Word once made flesh, yet the Word ev - er near. One



can - dle is lit for the Christ - birth - day here.

Permission to print and podcast/stream the music in this service partially obtained from CCLI with License #2875232.

Permission to print and podcast/stream the music in this service partially obtained from One License with license #A-730954.

Permission to reprint and stream hymns copyrighted by Covenant Publications obtained from the Evangelical Covenant Church.

All rights reserved.

God's Love Made Visible!

1 God's love made vis-i-ble! In-com-pre-hen-si-ble!
 2 God gave his Son to us to dwell as one of us—

Play small notes in absence of string bass.

Claves
Maracas

He is in-vin-ci-ble! His love shall reign! From love so boun-ti-ful,
 his bless-ing un-to us! His love shall reign! To him all hon-or bring,

bless-ings un-count-a-ble make death sur-mount-a-ble! His love shall reign!
 heav-en and earth will sing, prais-ing our Lord and King! His love shall reign!

CHRISTMAS: BIRTH

Ab Eb/Ab Ab Eb/Ab Ab Eb/Ab

Joy - ful - ly pray for peace and good will! All of our yearn - ing
O - pen all doors this day of his birth, all of good will in -

Ab G7 C F

he will ful - fill. Live in a lov - ing way!
her - it the earth. His star will al - ways be

G C C7 F Dm C/G G7 C

Praise him for ev - 'ry day! O - pen your hearts and pray. His love shall reign!
guid - ing hu - man - i - ty through - out e - ter - ni - ty! His love shall reign!

Of the Father's Love Begotten

174

In unison

1 Of the Fa-ther's love be-got-ten, ere the world be-gan to be,
 2 O that birth for-ev-er bless-ed, when a vir-gin, blest with grace,
 3 Let the heights of heav'n a-dore him; an-gel hosts his prais-es sing:
 4 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa-ther, and, O Ho-ly Ghost to thee,

he is Al-pha and O-me-ga, he the source, the end-ing he,
 by the Ho-ly Ghost con-ceil-ing, bore the Sav-ior of our race;
 pow'rs, do-min-ions, bow be-fore him, and ex-tol our God and King;
 hymn and chant and high thanks-giv-ing and un-wea-ried prais-es be:

of the things that are, that have been, and that fu-ture
 and the babe, the world's Re-deem-er, first re-vealed his
 let no tongue on earth be si-lent, ev-'ry voice in
 hon-or, glo-ry, and do-min-ion, and e-ter-nal

years shall see, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 sa-cred face, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 con-cert ring, ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
 vic-to-ry, ev-er-more and ev-er-more! A-men.

WORDS: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-c. 410, tr. st. 1, John M. Neale, 1818-1866;
 st. 2, Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877
 MUSIC: Plainsong, mode V, thirteenth century

8.7.8.7.8.7.7.
 DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

In the Bleak Midwinter

151

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Our God, heav'n 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;
 heav'n 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 - shiped the Be - lov - ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Silent Night, Holy Night

172

B \flat F7

1 Si - lent night! ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night! ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night! ho - ly night! Son of God,
Stil - le Nacht! hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,

B \flat E \flat B \flat

all is bright 'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child,
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light, ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,
ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar,

E \flat B \flat F7

ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy
"Hol - der Kna - be im lock - i - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher

B \flat B \flat /F F F7 B \flat

peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh!"

**North Park Covenant
Church Staff**

Jeff Hunter, Co-pastor
jhunter@npcovenant.org
ext. 525

Libby Piotrowski, Co-pastor
lp Piotrowski@npcovenant.org
ext. 515

*To reach both Jeff and Libby, please use
copastors@npcovenant.org or ext. 510.*

Jeanette Mottl, Director of Youth Ministry
jmottl@npcovenant.org

Brian Ward, Music Ministry Coordinator/Organist
bward@npcovenant.org

Dominic German, Director, Chancel Choir and
Chancel Handbell Choir
dgerman@npcovenant.org

Joline Paska, Treasurer
treasurer@npcovenant.org, ext. 505

Christian Schuetz, Custodian
cschuetz@npcovenant.org

Ann-Marie O. Frisk, Church Administrator
afrisk@npcovenant.org, ext. 500

**North Park Church
Cooperative Preschool**

Becky Edwards
Administrative Director

Lyndsey Wellner
Head Teacher/Educational Director

Jennifer Glazier
Assistant Teacher

(773) 463-0055, ext. 520
preschool@npcovenant.org
www.npcovenant.org/npccp

The Friendship Center

2711 West Lawrence Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60625

Justin Block
Executive Director
justin@friendshipcenterchicago.org

(773) 907-6338
info@friendshipcenterchicago.org
www.friendshipcenterchicago.org

Missionaries We Support

Letha Kerl,
Field Representative for Europe

Peter and Anna Kim, Taiwan

James and Rachel Ventress, Alaska

Paul and Sheryl Noren, Congo

Eugenio and Pia Restrepo,
Latin America

Welcome Statement

We welcome all people to begin or deepen their relationship with Christ through worship and study. We invite all believers to fully participate in the life and ministry of our church as members, leaders, and lay staff. We celebrate the gifts and presence of diverse Christians among us—whether those differences be race, ethnicity, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, or socioeconomic status. We are blessed by our diversity and are unified in Christ.

5250 NORTH CHRISTIANA AVENUE • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60625
NPCC@NPCOVENANT.ORG • (773) 463-0055 • WWW.NPCOVENANT.ORG