

# Emmanuel



joy

hope

peace

love

DECEMBER 24, 2025  
+ CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE +

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PRELUDE

Joy to the World/Away in a Manger  
arr. Kenneth Knowles  
Ayden Hunt, French Horn  
Erik Ward, French Horn

WELCOME AND PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter



CHORAL INTROIT

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly  
arr. David Wilcocks  
Chancel Choir, Brian Ward, Director

\* HYMNS OF CELEBRATION

147

157

O Come, All Ye Faithful  
Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Mary and Keith Chase-Ziolek

As we gather for worship this evening, we celebrate the arrival of the long-promised, long hoped-for Christ Child. As a people who have walked in darkness, we join with the many throughout the centuries who welcome the greatest light!

**We rejoice in the arrival of the Christ Child.**

This evening, we are reminded that Christ comes to break the yoke of burden, the rod of the oppressor, the bar across the shoulders of those who suffer under the weight of great oppression.

**We rejoice in the arrival of the Christ Child.**

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.**

As we light the Christ Candle, we are reminded that the Christ Child has come and is coming again. Let us rejoice!

*The Christ Candle is lit.*

Prayer: **God, who chose to send his one and only Son to live among your people, fully human and fully divine, we rejoice in this greatest gift of God with us! We pray for your continuing authority in the world, with justice and righteousness, and we pray that you might use us in your coming kingdom. Amen.**

*\* We stand to sing Hymn 136, Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers!*

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Emily Cody

The Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

CHORAL ANTHEM

Let Heaven and Nature Sing

Larry Shackley

Listen, all you people of the earth,  
the time has come for our Messiah's birth.  
Let ev'ry heart prepare a place to dwell  
for Jesus Christ, our Lord, Emmanuel.

*Chorus:* Let heaven and nature sing.  
Let earth receive her King.

The earth will soon resound with joyful song.  
The heavens and the sea will sing along.  
And children of the Lord who hear that sound  
will spread the joy to ev'ryone around. *Chorus*

Repeat the sounding joy! Sing!  
Repeat the sounding joy to the world!

The grace of God is known in ev'ry land. (Joy to the world!)  
Christ rules the nations with a loving hand. (Joy to the world!)  
His righteousness shines out for all to see. (Joy to the world!)  
The Prince of Peace will reign eternally! (Joy to the world!) *Chorus*

Sing! Joy to the world!

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Cheyenne Johnson, Reader

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

New Testament Reading

Titus 2:11-14

\* Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1-20

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\* Hymn of Response 184

God's Love Made Visible

## A CHRISTMAS STORYBOOK

*What Gift Will Elizabeth Give?*

Written by Susan E. Dawson

Illustrated by Karis Ayers

Read by Libby Piotrowski and Jeff Hunter

## SPECIAL MUSIC

The Birthday of a King

William Harold Neidlinger, arr. Sam Parnin

Robert Johnson, Baritone

## 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](http://www.npcovenant.org/give).*

Offertory

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

Tracey Craig McKibben

Brian Ward, Piano

Come, Lord Jesus

\* Song of Presentation 141

\* Prayer of Dedication

## LIGHTING OUR CANDLES

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Hymnal Selection 159

*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

\* BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

O Come All Ye Faithful

Alexandre Guilmant

Sam Parnin, Organ

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

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

147

*Alternate harmonization and descant for stanza 3 on next pages.*

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 2 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, O  
 3 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, O

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove;  
 Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n;

come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
 glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

*Refrain*  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

WORDS: John F. Wade, 1711-1786, tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880

MUSIC: John F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751;

alt. arr. and desc. David Willcocks, 1919-, © 1961 Oxford University Press

Irregular  
ADESTE FIDELES

## Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

*Descant*

3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!  
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!  
 3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!

Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal-ing in his wings.

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, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glo-ry by, born that we no more may die,

Joy - ful, all ye na-tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see: hail th'in-car-nate De - i - ty,  
 Mild he lays his glo-ry by, born that we no more may die,

CHRISTMAS: BIRTH



born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

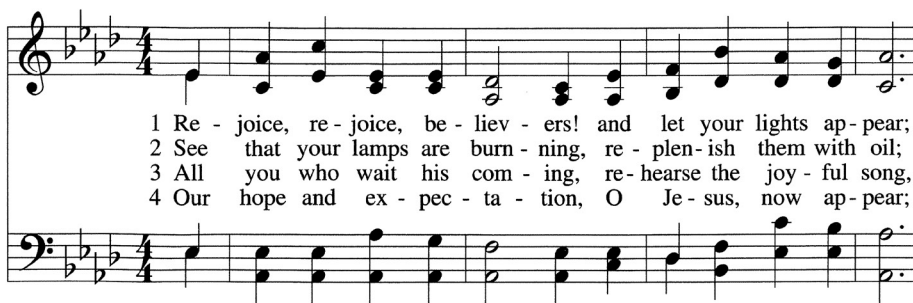
with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



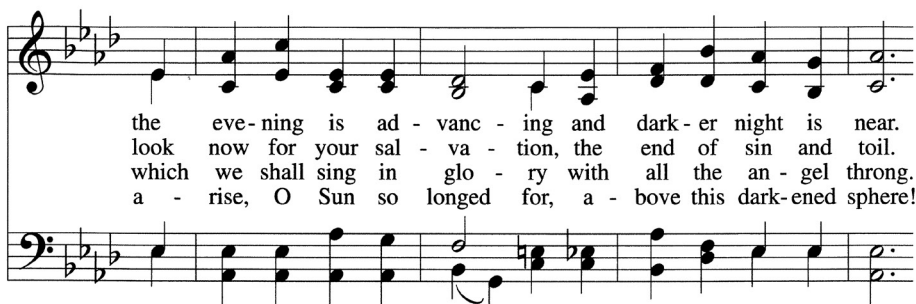
Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

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

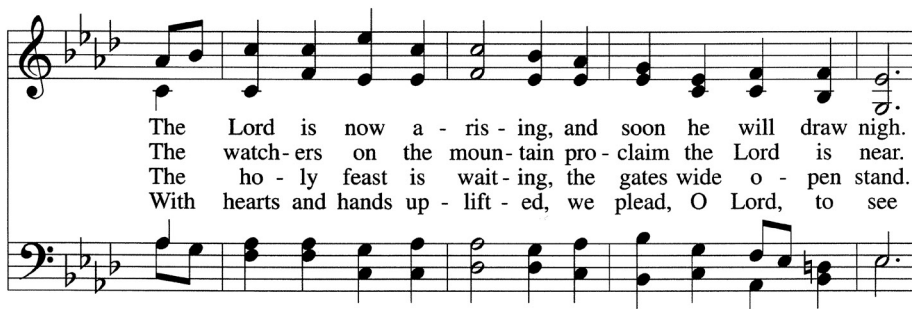
## Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers!



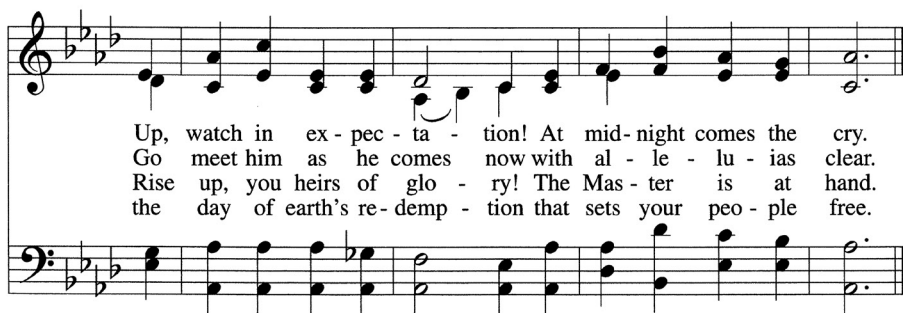
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers! and let your lights ap - pear;  
2 See that your lamps are burn - ning, re - plen - ish them with oil;  
3 All you who wait his com - ing, re - hearse the joy - ful song,  
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing and dark - er night is near.  
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.  
which we shall sing in glo - ry with all the an - gel throng.  
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!



The Lord is now a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh.  
The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the Lord is near.  
The ho - ly feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand.  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! At mid - night comes the cry.  
Go meet him as he comes now with al - le - lu - ias clear.  
Rise up, you heirs of glo - ry! The Mas - ter is at hand.  
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free.



## God's Love Made Visible!

The musical score is written for a vocal ensemble and instrumental accompaniment. It is in 5/4 time and consists of four systems of music. The first system includes a vocal melody with two parts (1 and 2) and a bass line. The second system continues the vocal melody and adds a bass line. The third system continues the vocal melody and adds a bass line. The fourth system continues the vocal melody and adds a bass line. The instrumental accompaniment includes a bass line and a percussion part (Claves and Maracas). The score is written in 5/4 time and includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and accidentals. The lyrics are written below the vocal parts.

**System 1:**

Chords: C, F, G, C

Vocal 1: 1 God's love made vis - i - ble! In - com - pre - hen - si - ble!

Vocal 2: 2 God gave his Son to us to dwell as one of us—

*Play small notes in absence of string bass.*

**System 2:**

Chords: C, F, D7, G, C, F

Vocal 1: He is in - vin - ci - ble! His love shall reign! From love so boun - ti - ful,

Vocal 2: his bless - ing un - to us! His love shall reign! To him all hon - or bring,

**System 3:**

Chords: G, C, C7, F, Dm, C/G, G7, C

Vocal 1: bless - ings un - count - a - ble make death sur - mount - a - ble! His love shall reign!

Vocal 2: 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!

# Come, Lord Jesus

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*In unison*

1 Come, Lord Je - sus; come, Lord Je - sus;  
2 Come, O Prince of Peace; come, O Prince of Peace;  
3 Come, Em - man - u - el; come, Em - man - u - el;

come, Lord Je - sus; come and be born in our hearts.  
come, O Prince of Peace; come, and be born in our hearts.  
come, Em - man - u - el; come, and be born in our hearts.

WORDS: Carey Landry, twentieth century, © 1976 North American Liturgy Resources, 1955-

MUSIC: Carey Landry, twentieth century, © 1976 North American Liturgy Resources; arr. Jonathan D. Larson, 1955-  
© 1989 Jonathan Larson

# Silent Night, Holy Night

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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,*

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,*

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*

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**

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## **North Park Church Cooperative Preschool**

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Jennifer Glazier,  
Assistant Teacher

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## **The Friendship Center**

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## **Missionaries We Support**

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Chris Peterson,  
Regional Coordinator for Europe

Peter and Anna Kim, Taiwan

James and Rachel Ventress, Alaska

Paul and Sheryl Noren, Congo

Eugenio and Pia Restrepo,  
Regional Coordinators for Latin America

## **Welcome Statement**

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*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.*

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