



THE FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL

Hangíng of the Greens

A Service of Decoration

SUNDAY EVENING

DECEMBER 3, 2023

SIX O'CLOCK

DECEMBER

Gary Johnson

*A little girl is singing for the faithful to come ye
Joyful and triumphant, a song she loves,
And also the partridge in a pear tree
And the golden rings and the turtle doves.
In the dark streets, red lights and green and blue
Where the faithful live, some joyful, some troubled,
Enduring the cold and also the flu,
Taking the garbage out and keeping the sidewalk shoveled.
Not much triumph going on here—and yet
There is much we do not understand.
And my hopes and fears are met
In this small singer holding onto my hand.
Onward we go, faithfully, into the dark
And are there angels hovering overhead? Hark.*

THE PRELUDE

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” — Gregory Hamilton, arr.

“Angels We Have Heard on High” — Canadian Brass, arr.

“In Dulci Jubilo” — Canadian Brass, arr.

“Il Est Né” — Jason Krug, arr.

“The First Noel”— Canadian Brass, arr.

“On Christmas Night” — Maureen Howell, arr.

THE INTROIT

“Carol of the Bells” Sanctuary Choir
Ukrainian traditional/Mykola Leontovych, arr.

THE PROCLAMATION

Christopher Chapman

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

REGENT SQUARE

Introduction

Verse 1 (All, *seated*)

**Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

Verse 2 (Sanctuary Choir)

Verse 3 (Evening Bells)

*Verse 4 (All, *standing*)

**All creation, join in praising
God – Creator, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to th' eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

Words: James Montgomery, 1816, alt.
Music: Henry T. Smart, 1866, John A. Behnke, arr.

THE PASTORAL GREETING

THE INVOCATION

THE MEANING OF THE SERVICE

Michael Hood

THE SANCTUARY GREENS

THE READING

Leah Reed

THE CAROLS

“Deck the Halls”

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,

Fa la la la la la la la la.

‘Tis the season to be jolly,

Fa la la la la la la la la.

Don we now our gay apparel,

Fa la la la la la la la la.

Troll the ancient Yuletide carol,

Fa la la la la la la la la.

Traditional English

“The Holly and the Ivy”

The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown,

of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown.

O the rising of the sun and the running of the deer,

the playing of the merry organ, sweet singing the choir.

Traditional English

“O Christmas Tree”

**O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Thy leaves are so unchanging.**

**O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Thy leaves are so unchanging.**

**Not only green when summer's here,
But also when it's cold and drear.**

**O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree
Thy leaves are so unchanging.**

**O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
Your boughs can teach a lesson.**

**O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
Your boughs can teach a lesson.**

**That constant faith and hope sublime
Give strength and comfort all the time.**

**O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
Your boughs can teach a lesson.**

Traditional German

THE PULPIT AND CHOIR LOFT GREENS

THE READING

Michael Hood

THE CAROLS

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

**Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild; God and sinners reconciled.”
Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”**

**Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord:
Late in time, behold him come, Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail th’incarnate Deity!
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”**

**Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, Ris’n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”**

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739 alt.

Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

“Oh Come, Little Children”

IHR KINDERLIEIN KOMMET

**Oh, come, little children, oh, come, one and all,
to Bethlehem's stable, in Bethlehem's stall,
and see with rejoicing this glorious sight,
Our Father in heaven has sent us this night.**

**Oh, there lies the Christ Child, on hay and on straw;
the shepherds are kneeling before Him with awe.
And Mary and Joseph smile on Him with love,
While angels are singing sweet songs from above.**

Words: Christoph von Schmid, 1794

Music: Johann Schulz, 1794

THE ANTHEMS

“Advent Candles”
Glen and Susan Eernisse

Pre-K/K Choir

“Everybody Sing, Jesus Is Born!”
Milton LeDoux

***THE ADVENT PRAYER** (responsive)

Leah Reed

LEADER: Almighty God, who, having created all worlds and humankind, has profoundly pitied us;

PEOPLE: **Who has come to us that we might be saved, not of our merit, but of your unquenchable love;**

LEADER: Look on us who worship in comfort, in light and warmth,

PEOPLE: **In health and prosperity,**

LEADER: In pride and in presumption.

PEOPLE: **For, having all glory,**

LEADER: You became incarnate in the dishonor of a defeated line of kings;

PEOPLE: **Having all riches,**

LEADER: You became incarnate in the poverty of the working class;

PEOPLE: **Having all illumination,**

LEADER: You became incarnate in the darkness of night and obscurity;

PEOPLE: **Having all wisdom,**

LEADER: You became incarnate in the confounding simplicity of a child. Help us to recognize our shame, our poverty, our darkness, our foolishness, that we may know our need of you.

PEOPLE: **And then, become incarnate in us.**

LEADER: Let your servants grow in peace, O Lord, full of the vision of your salvation, ready to make it plain before all the faces of the earth.

ALL: **We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE ANTHEMS

“Advent Celebration”
Mark Patterson

Elementary Choir

“Morning Star”
Moravian Hymn, John Kemp, arr.

Charlotte Phillips, solo
Elementary Choir
Sanctuary Choir

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

THE READING Michael Hood

THE MUSIC FOR REFLECTION “Gift in the Manger” Evening Bells
Karen Buckwalter, arr.

THE ANTHEM “Children, Let’s Wait for the Baby” Youth Choir
Thomas Keesecker Cady Mercer, solo

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

THE READING Leah Reed

THE ANTHEM “Peace, Peace” Youth and Sanctuary Choirs
Rick and Sylvia Powell

All: **“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!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!”**

**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.**

Words: Joseph Mohr, 1816
tr. John Freeman Young
Music: Franz Xaver Grüber, 1818

THE PROCLAMATION Michael Hood

THE PROCESSION INTO THE WORLD

*THE CAROL

“Joy to the World”

ANTIOCH

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns:
let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**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.**

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719
Music: Lowell Mason, 1848, after G.F. Handel

*THE BENEDICTION

Christopher Chapman

*THE POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World”
David Cherwien, arr.

Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

THE CHRISTMAS LIFE

Wendy Cope

*Bring in a tree, a young Norwegian spruce,
Bring hyacinths that rooted in the cold.
Bring winter jasmine as its buds unfold -
Bring the Christmas life into this house.*

*Bring red and green and gold, bring things that shine,
Bring candlesticks and music, food and wine.
Bring in your memories of Christmas past.
Bring in your tears for all that you have lost.*

*Bring in the shepherd boy, the ox and ass,
Bring in the stillness of an icy night,
Bring in the birth, of hope and love and light.
Bring the Christmas life into this house.*

PARTICIPANTS

Ministers: Christopher Chapman,
Michael Hood, Warren Howell, Leah Reed
Maureen Howell, organist
Carolyn Dickens, general director
Royce Willmschen, audio support
Chad Reed, lighting

Music Leaders:

Pre-K/K Choir Diane Ellis, Amy Galvan, Kimberly Taylor

Elementary Choir Ginger Graves, Rhonda Lowe,
Becky Mercer, Sarah Catherine Rhodes, Hollis Yelverton

Youth Choir Rhonda Lowe, Wyatt Yelverton

Evening Bells Anna Anderson

Instrumentalists:

Mark Beamish, trumpet	Mike Mole, trumpet
Maria Childrey, piano	Rachel Niketopoulus, horn
Sue Crocker, organ and piano	Wes Parker, trombone
Dennis Ellis, timpani	Chad Reed, percussion
Rhonda Lowe, percussion	

Banner Bearers Chase Helms, Jeff Mercer

Decorations CeCe Bissette, Jackson Bissette, Jennifer Bissette, Myra Brickell,
Sterling Brickell, Anne Bullard, Linda Carothers, Sam Carothers, Anne Cooke,
Ginger Graves, Tyson Graves, Chase Helms, Jess Helms, John Hobson, Shirley Hobson,
Wiley Jones, Alan Kinsey, Janet Kinsey, Jeff Mercer, Noel Morris, Jonathan Pegram,
Lacey Pegram, Bobby Phillips, Hope Phillips, Nancy Moore Phillips,
Mary Powell Rhodes, Ann Rollins, Jeanie Scott, Alan Taylor, Kimberly Taylor,
Members of the Wilderness Class, Hollis Yelverton, Wyatt Yelverton

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Advent and Christmas Worship

Sunday, December 10

- 9:45am Youth Christmas
- 11:00am Advent II worship service, including special music
Japanese Baptist Church worship service

Sunday, December 17

- 11:00am Advent III worship service
Japanese Baptist Church worship service/luncheon

Sunday, December 24

- 9:45am Intergenerational breakfast
- 11:00am Advent IV worship service
Japanese Baptist Church worship service
- 5:00pm Christmas Eve candlelight communion service

Sunday, December 31

- 11:00am Christmas II worship service