



On the Road to Bethlehem

Grace Presbyterian Church

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The Rev. Dr. M. Jean Morris
Roberto DeSandoli, Young Adult Ministry Coordinator
Susan Woodward, Music Director
Donna Holoboff, Organist
Gabriel Berko, Guest Soloist

Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 2017 4:30 pm
(please stand as you are able)*

Prelude: Christmas Carols

Welcome

*Entry of the Bible

Ava Retzer

*Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Lighting of the Christ Candle (see bulletin back)

Darryl Burns, Heather Christie-Burns, William and Theodore Burns

Solo Star Carol

J. Rutter

Soloist: Gabriel Berko

***Oh Come, All Ye Faithful**

(Children go to front for costumes and return to their families)

Oh come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;

oh come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem.

Come and behold him, born the King of angels:

Oh come, let us adore him; oh come, let us adore him;

Oh come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of light,

Born unto Mary, the virgin blest,

very God, begotten, not created:

Oh come, let us adore him; oh come, let us adore him;

Oh come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,

leaving their flocks draw nigh with holy fear;

we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps:

Oh come, let us adore him; oh come, let us adore him;

Oh come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:

“Glory to God in the highest!”

*Oh come, let us adore him; oh come, let us adore him;
Oh come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
*Oh come, let us adore him; oh come, let us adore him;
Oh come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Luke 2:1-5 (page 50, New Testament)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

(Animals, no sheep)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by:
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering
love.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.

Luke 2:6-7 (page 50, New Testament)

Away in a Manger

(Mary and Joseph)

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Luke 2:8-14 (page 50, New Testament)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

(Angels)

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 the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn king.

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail the incarnate deity!
Pleased on earth with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn king.

Luke 2:15-20 (page 51, New Testament)

The First Noel

(Shepherds and Sheep)

The first nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell! Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far,
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell! Born is the King of Israel.

Matthew 2:1-11 (page 1, New Testament)

We Three Kings

(Kings and Stars)

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
*O star of wonder, star of light, star of royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.

*O star of wonder, star of light, star of royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

Christmas Story

***Joy to the World**

(Costumes off)

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive its 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 Saviour reigns: let us our 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.

Presentation of Offering

I Saw Three Ships

R. Proulx

Christmas Prayer

***Silent Night**

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 "Hallelujah,
Christ, the Saviour is born! Christ, the Saviour is born!"

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.

Charge

Benediction

Postlude

Holiday Medley

arr. D. Holoboff

We are delighted to have you share with us in worship on this happy Christmas Eve. May the joy and peace which came at the first Christmas be with you and all your loved ones at this season of the year and always.

2018 Offering Envelopes are available in the Family Room following today's worship service. If you require custom envelopes, please contact Cindi Banman in the church office at cindib@gracecalgary.org or 403.244.5861.

Grace Church is seeking a Nursery Caregiver Supervisor to ensure loving care for children through to age 3 on Sunday mornings. This is a paid position and interested candidates should contact Cindy Stephenson at cindys@gracecalgary.org.

Join us again . . .

Tonight, 8:00 pm

Preacher: Jean Morris

Lessons and Carols, Chancel Choir, Strings, and Brass

Sunday, December 31, 10:30 am

Preacher: Roberto DeSandoli

Trio: Mariko Johnson, Heather-Rose Locken, Dan Pyper

Christ is Born!

Even in the face of poverty, injustice and disaster, hope finds a way.

For 70 years, our church has been faithfully responding with Presbyterian World Service & Development to God's call to serve those in need. Together with our partners, we are making a positive difference in our global village.

Inspired by God's promise of abundant life, we are responding to hunger, poverty, injustice and disaster. We are responding to care for the poor, sick and vulnerable. Working together, we are helping restore human dignity, ease the pain of want and promote community cooperation that benefits all. As an expression of Christ's hope, peace, joy and love, we are working towards a sustainable, compassionate and just world.

As we celebrate the birth of Christ, let us remember our sisters and brothers around the world. Without you, this transformative work would not be possible. This Christmas, please support PWS&D.



WeRespond.ca



**Presbyterian
World Service
& Development**

*The development and relief agency
of The Presbyterian Church in Canada*

PWS&D responds to God's call to serve people in need.

Christmas Eve/ Christmas Day



*Produced by Presbyterian World Service & Development
Written by The Rev. Jeffrey Murray*

- L: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light!
- P: The grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all.**
- L: Lord, in your mercy, let your hope shine
in the night of oppression and turmoil.
- P: Our God, let your light shine in the darkness!**
- L: Lord, in your mercy, let your peace shine
for the families that wander across land, water and wilderness
to find refuge from war and persecution.
- P: Our God, let your light shine in the darkness!**
- L: Lord, in your mercy, let joy shine
on the homeless
who keep watch by night in the fields,
in stables,
in parks and in our streets.
- P: Our God, let your light shine in the darkness!**
- L: Lord, in your mercy, may your love shine for
the lowly mother and child,
for the marginalized and abandoned.
- P: Christ is born! Christ is our light that shines
in the darkness,
and the darkness will not overcome
the Light of the World.**

(Light the Christ candle.)



**Presbyterian
World Service
& Development**

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