CATONSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

Christmas Eve, 4:00 p.m. December 24, 2020

Music of the Season

Call to Worship

Come away, come away, come today to Bethlehem. We come to welcome Jesus!
We sing with joy, praising God, for the time of promise has come.
We come to welcome Jesus!
Sing the good news of Emmanuel:
God is with us! Christ has come!

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn 121, verses 1 & 2 – See page 5. "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

ST. LOUIS

The Christmas Story

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Hymn 122, verse 1 – See page 6. "Silent Night"



STILLE NACHT

Christmas Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Glory to you, O God, for good news of great joy that you give to all people. Thank you for Jesus Christ, and his light that shines in the places of darkness and shadow. With the angels, we sing praise to you, celebrating your glory in all the earth.

Although we are scattered and apart on this Christmas Eve, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we are your church. So hear us as we pray saying,

O Christ, our light, hear our prayer.

We pray for the church... with Mary, help us to treasure and ponder the gift that has been given to us, a gift of good news and great joy for all.

O Christ, our light, hear our prayer.

We pray for the world... with the prophets, help us work for your justice for all people. O Christ, our light, *hear our prayer*.

We pray for this community... with the shepherds, help us to keep watch over all who need protection this night. For healthcare providers and hospital workers caring for the sick and dying. For those lonely and alone this night whether in a hospital room or at home, in a prison cell, or in a shelter.

O Christ, our light, hear our prayer.

We pray for loved ones...with angels, help us to offer signs of hope, comfort, and joy for all who live in fear, for all who are sad, for all those missing loved ones on this holy night.

O Christ, our light, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, hope of the world, help us to share your light that shines all the brighter when the world is dark. Shine in our hearts and families and communities this night.

And hear us in the prayer our Savior taught us, 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.

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 power and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn 134, verses 1 & 4 – See page 7. "Joy to the World"

ANTIOCH

Benediction

Jesus Christ is born! This is good news.

Let us share this news. We will live with hope, peace, joy, and love.

Know that God's light shines.

God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

May the love of God surround you and the peace of Christ & the joy of the Holy Spirit be with you and all you love, now and always.

Postlude/Offering

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Christmas Joy Offering

This evening's offering will be given to the Christmas Joy Offering of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The offering aids the denomination's racial ethnic schools and the Board of Pensions, which assists retired ministers and mission workers in need.

Participants

- Dorothy Boulton, associate pastor
- Kenneth E. Kovacs, pastor
- Kathy and Keith Glennan, video production
- Greg Knauf, vocalist/pianist
- Jason Kissel, interim organist
- Vickie Lord, teleprompter
- Delaney Cech, piano, "Joy to the World"
- Lucy Virago, ukulele, "Joy to the World"
- Olivia Virago, cello, "All I Want for Christmas is You"
- Paige Peercy, vocalist
- Ellen Frank, American Sign Language
- The Gunderson, Nilsen, and Peercy Families, vocals
- Andrew Glennan, handbells

Sources

- *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013).
- The Christmas Story adapted from "The Christmas Scene Revisited" by Phyllis Vos Wezeman (EMI, 1990) shared with permission
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December 24, 2020 Christmas Eve – Nativity of the Lord Gifts of Remembrance Given to the Glory of God

POINSETTIAS

IN MEMORY OF GIVEN BY

Jack and Nancy Burger
 Your Loving Children and Grandchildren

• Judi and Ted Heun Their Family,

the Heuns and the Pates

• Jean and Harry Deppert Their Family,

Vera and Joel Hutton
 the Huttons and the Longs

• E. Theodore (Ted) Johnson, Jr. Glenda Kilgore Johnson

• Mr. and Mrs. E. Theodore Johnson, Sr.

• Mr. and Mrs. C. Randall Kilgore, Sr.

• Grace Morrow Kovacs Kenneth Kovacs

• Ann Kay Schmidl

• John and Patsy Jean Dunham

Louise and Everett Mullen The Oaks Family

• Grace and Irl Oaks

• Beloved Siblings

Our Parents Jim and Tina Pritchard

• Ernest and Daphne Pritchard

• Erling and Betty Hedin



Though he was famed during his lifetime as a great preacher, no sermon Phillips Brooks ever preached has been heard or read by as many people as have sung this carol he wrote in December 1868 for the Sunday School children of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.



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!

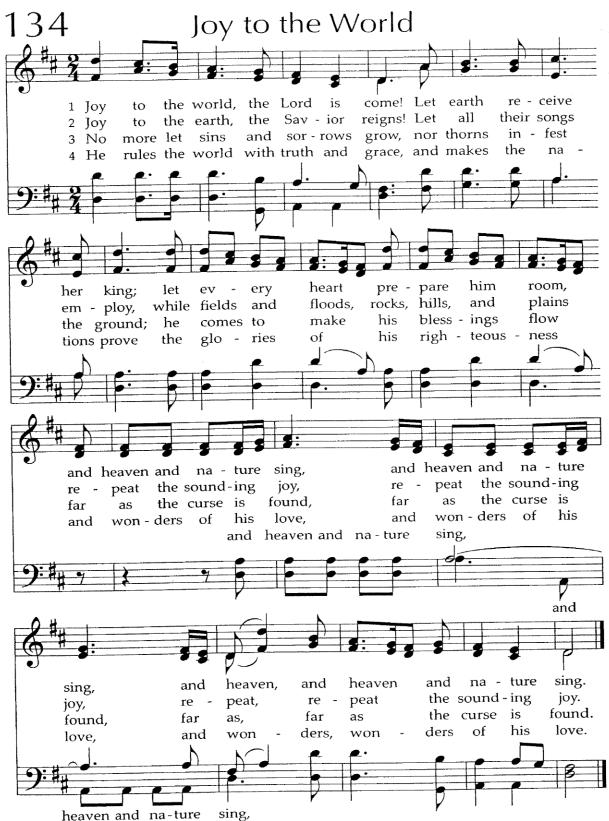
KOREAN

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

SPANISH

¡Noche de paz, noche de amor! Todo duerme en derredor, entre los astros que esparcen su luz, bella, anunciando al niñito 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.



While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4–9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.



Catonsville Presbyterian Church 1400 Frederick Road • Catonsville, MD 21228-5017

Church Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Church 410-747-6180 www.catonsvillepres.org Child Care Center 410-747-4581 www.cpcfccc.org

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