



FAMILY

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

4:00 p.m. | December 24, 2023

# MUSIC OF THE SEASON

— *We Three Kings* —

Deacon Flis and Wendy Johnston, piano

— *Sleigh Ride* —

David Walther, piano

— *It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas* —

Katie Walther, piano

— *O Holy Night* —

Rosie Symms, violin, and Charre Symms, piano

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## MUSIC OF THE SEASON

### † CALL TO WORSHIP

### † HYMN # 121

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### THE CHRISTMAS STORY: MARY’S SONG

Daphna Flegal, adapted

#### SONG

Tune: *London Bridge*

Leader: Mary, God has chosen you, chosen you, chosen you.  
Mary, God has chosen you, so sing your praise to God.

**All: Mary, God has chosen you, chosen you, chosen you.  
Mary, God has chosen you, so sing your praise to God.**

#### SONG

Tune: *Did You Ever See a Lassie?*

Leader: You will name the baby Jesus, an angel told Joseph.  
You will name the baby Jesus, for he is God’s son.

**All: You will name the baby Jesus, an angel told Joseph.  
You will name the baby Jesus, for he is God’s son.**

#### SONG

Tune: *The Farmer in the Dell*

Leader: The donkey walked like this, the donkey walked like this,  
On the way to Bethlehem, the donkey walked like this.

**All: The donkey walked like this, the donkey walked like this,  
On the way to Bethlehem, the donkey walked like this.**

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† Please rise in body or in spirit

## HYMN

“Away In a Manger”

### Children’s Choir:

1. Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.

### Soloists:

2. The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

### Congregation:

3. **Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

## HYMN

“The First Nowell”

**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.**

## HYMN

“What Child is This?”

**What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are  
keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!**

Leader: "What??"

All: **"What??"**

Leader: "What are you saying??"

All: **"What are you saying??"**

*Children are invited to come forward as the congregation sings. Parents may wish to accompany very young children.*

## HYMN

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

**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!"**

## HYMN

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!  
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

## UNISON PRAYER

**Living God on this holy night we gather –  
To stand with shepherds, amazed at your glory;  
To sing with angels, rejoicing in your work  
To wait with Joseph, trusting in your promise;  
To sit with Mary, cradling your love.  
May the good news of this night inspire us to tell the world of our great joy;  
For to us is born a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.  
Glory and praise to you forever! Amen.**

*Children return to their seats as the congregation sings hymn #136, "Go, Tell it on the Mountain"*

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† Please rise in body or in spirit

**HYMN # 136**

*“Go, Tell it on the Mountain”*

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING**

This evening’s offering will be given to the Christmas Joy Offering of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). This offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The offering is equally distributed between the denomination’s Assistance Program for church workers and colleges that equip communities of color.

In recognition of our commitment to God and our gratitude for all God has given to us, we present our gifts, our offerings, and our tithes. In response to this good news of great joy, we offer songs of praise, our offerings, these gifts, our lives.

**OFFERTORY**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

*“Sing We Now of Christmas”  
arr. Mark Patterson*

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here.  
Hear our grateful praises, to the Child so dear.  
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!  
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all Noel!

Angels called to shepherds, “Leave your flocks at rest;  
Journey to the manger, find the Child so blest.”  
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!  
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all Noel!

Come sing! Sing we all Noel!

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**HYMN # 122 (REMAIN SEATED)**

*“Silent Night”*

## SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:8-20

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

† HYMN # 134

“Joy to the World”

† BENEDICTION

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

† POSTLUDE

*Bring a Torch*, setting by Wayne Wold

## ABOUT OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

Educational ministries are currently held on the second week of each month. These Second Sundays include childcare and youth programming beginning at 10:00 a.m. and multi-age church school for those in kindergarten through fifth grade. Visit [catonsvillepres.org/ministries/families](http://catonsvillepres.org/ministries/families) to learn more.

During all services, you can find children's bulletins, books, and activities in the back of the sanctuary. The Fellowship Hall is available for families to use if desired. The service can be heard in the room and there's plenty of space for active children.

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† Please rise in body or in spirit

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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## YOU BELONG, IN YOUR FAITH AND IN YOUR DOUBT

On this sacred evening of great joy and peace, we profess that God is truly with us, abundantly present in every corner of the world and our lives. To welcome each other is to welcome the light of God in this world; it is to become a community where Christ may be born anew.

If you are joining us for the first time, we invite you to share your information by scanning the QR code or by visiting [catonsvillepres.org/subscribe](https://catonsvillepres.org/subscribe). We'll send a welcome message and help connect you to our dynamic church programming.

But whether you're a long-time member or a first-time visitor, know this: you belong. In your faith, and in your doubt.

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### First Sunday of Christmas Carol Sing

December 31 | 10:30 a.m.

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COVENANT NETWORK  
OF PRESBYTERIANS

### Catonsville Presbyterian Church

1400 Frederick Rd., Catonsville MD 21228

catonsvillepres.org • (410) 747-6180

@CatonsvillePres on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube

*Please note that today's service is streamed.*



## 121 O Little Town of Bethlehem



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y and, gath - ered all a - bove,  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by.  
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;  
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.  
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 O come to us; a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!



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.

# Silent Night, Holy Night! 122

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright  
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;  
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light  
 4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and  
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -  
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing  
 with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"  
 grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.  
 King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

## 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

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

## 134

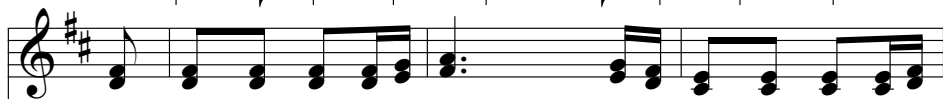
## Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -



her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness



and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
 and heaven and na - ture sing,



sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.



heaven and na - ture sing,

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.