

## Christmas Day

*The Kerr Chapel*

### The Words of Preparation

We might think that God wanted simply obedience to a set of rules; whereas He really wants people of a particular sort. *C. S. Lewis*

### The Prelude

Gretchen Wagner, pianist

### The Welcome and Call to Worship

The good news on Christmas Day is captured by one Hebrew word:

**Emmanuel:**

“God with us! God in Christ – right here among us – reconciling the world to Himself!”

**Emmanuel!**

It’s great good news for the lost, the sad, the lonely, the poor – for the whole world:

**Emmanuel!**

God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself! So come, join me in this Christmas joy. Let’s adore Him! We have reason to sing our gladness!

**Alleluia! AMEN.**

### ◆ The Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

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.*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heav’n above: “Glory to God, all glory in the highest!” *Refrain*

True God of true God, Light of light eternal, He came into our world  
to save and redeem! Born of a woman, knowing every hardship.

*Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning: Jesus, to Thee be  
all glory giv'n; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

## The Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you; **and also with you!**

## ◆ The Carols

It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

CAROL

It came upon the midnight clear that glorious song of old, from angels  
bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on  
the earth, goodwill to men, from heaven's all-gracious King." The world  
in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing!

And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,  
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow: look  
now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing. O rest  
beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

For lo!, the days are hastening on by prophet bards foretold, when  
with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold. When  
peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the  
whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!

IN DULCI JUBILO

Good Christian friends rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye  
heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today! Ox and ass before  
him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is  
born today!

Good Christian friends rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye  
need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one

and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall. Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!

## ◆ **The Prayer of Adoration**

**The First Reading** Psalm 18:1-6

Mr. Jonathan Scheiper

### **The Litany for the Sad**

Tender Lord of Christmas, we acknowledge the mixture of both joy and sadness that meets us here today. You know every detail of our lives, and how scrambled our emotions can be. And you know that for some of us this is a very hard day. None of this surprises you, good Lord. So hear us now as we lift those with broken hearts to you. Cause your all-sufficient grace to uphold the sad, the lonely, the bereaved. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.... *(in silence)*

**The Carol** Silent Night, Holy 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 Al-le-lu-ia! Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior 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.

**The Second Reading** Luke 2:1-7

Mr. David Scheiper

**The Carol** What Child Is This?

GREENSLEEVES

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!*

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh, come peasant king to own  
him. The King of Kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone  
him! *Refrain.*

**The Third Reading** Galatians 4:4-5; Psalm 98:1-6 Mr. William Scheiper

**The Homily** What Kind of Song are You Singing? Dr. Jim Miller

*O sing to the Lord a new song –for He has done marvelous things! Ps. 98:1*

**The Invitation to the Lord's Table**

**The Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

**The Remembrance of our Blessings**

**The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

◆ **The Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and  
in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy  
Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was  
crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he  
rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on  
the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come  
to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy  
catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the  
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.

◆ **The Hymn 40** 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!

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground. He  
comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the  
curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

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.

◆ **The Benediction**

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*Thank you for sharing in the joy of worship this Christmas Day,  
and may the Lord of Christmas strengthen your witness  
and sustain your every need, now and always.*

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Our Christmas Day Ushers and Greeters:  
Laura, Caleb, Josh, Victoria Tham