



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

1st Sunday of Christmas | December 27, 2020

PRELUDE

Love Has Come

arr. Howard Helvey

Janie King, piano (*Recorded on December 22, 2019*)

CALL TO WORSHIP/LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

(*All speak words in **boldface.***)

Good Christian friends, rejoice! Today your Lord comes
in love and power, in grace and truth, offering hope and peace.

Christ is born today! Alleluia!

This promised one, mighty, though small,
is our hope and strength, our light, our life.

Christ is born to save! Alleluia!

Let us worship God.

CAROL

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 hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!***

PRAYER

“There is a Time to Be Born, and it is Now”

(*This prayer is printed that it may be carried into the new week and the new year.*)

God of the Christ child,
There is a time to be born and a time to die.

And this is a time to be born.

So we turn to you,
God of our life,
God of all our years,

God of our beginning.

Our times are in your hand.

Hear us as we pray:

For those of us too much into obedience,
 birth us to the freedom of the gospel.
For those of us too much into self-indulgence,
 birth us to discipleship in your ministry.
For those too much into cynicism,
 birth us to the innocence of the Christ child,
For those of us too much into cowardice,
 birth us to the courage to stand before principalities and powers.
For those of us too much into guilt,
 birth us into forgiveness worked in your generosity.
For those of us too much into despair,
 birth us into the promises you make to your people.
For those of us too much into control,
 birth us into the vulnerability of the cross.
For those of us too much into victimization,
 birth us into the power of Easter.
For those of us too much into fatigue,
 birth us into the energy of Pentecost.

**We dare pray that you will do for us
and among us and through us
what is needful for newness.**

Give us the power to be receptive,
 to take the newness you give,
 to move from womb warmth to real life.

We make this prayer not only for ourselves,
 but for our neighborhoods at the brink of birth,
 for the church at the edge of life,
 for our city waiting for newness,
 for your whole creation,
 with which we yearn in eager longing.

There is a time to be born, and it is now.

We sense the pangs and groans of your newness.

Like Simeon, bring us to salvation now in the name of Jesus. Amen.

From, Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth: Prayers of Walter Brueggemann, p. 150, edited by Edwin Searcy, published by Fortress Press.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Like the Babe of Bethlehem, we are born anew.
God's forgiveness cradles us;
God's love is poured out on us.

**God's forgiveness fills us with the light of hope and new life.
Let us sing our praise!**

RESPONSE OF PRAISE (*verse three*)

**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 the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

TEXT: Medieval Latin; trans. and para. John Mason Neale, 1853, alt.. TUNE: German folk melody, 14th cent. P.D.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:21-38

Song of Simeon *Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace* LAND OF REST

Sue Anderson, Laura Viau, vocal duetwith; Lynn Auman, violin

*Lord, bid your servant go in peace; your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, this child so long foretold.*

*This is the Savior of the world, the Gentiles' promised light,
God's glory dwelling in our midst, the joy of Israel.*

TEXT: James Quinn, SJ, 1969 Text © 1969 James Quinn SJ Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-732613



CAROLS, READINGS, AND PRAYERS

*(Readings only slightly adapted from Celebrating Abundance: Devotions for
Advent, by Walter Brueggemann)*

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!

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

TEXT: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, alt. TUNE: John Francis Wade, c. 1743 P.D.

Reading

“Come and Behold Him”



Carol

Away in the Manger

MUELLER

***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.***

TEXT: Little Children's Book for Schools and Families, c. 1885 TUNE: James R. Murray, 1887 P.D.

Reading

“No Room!”



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!***

TEXT: William Chatterton Dix, 1871 TUNE: English ballad, 16th cent P.D.

Reading

“What Child is This?”



Carol

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!
Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

Reading

“Tongue and Feet”

Carol

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

TEXT: African American spiritual; stanzas, John W. Work II, 1940 TUNE: African American spiritual P.D.

PRAYER FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

(both sung and responsive)

***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.***

.....

Shine your light in us, O God, **that we might shine for others.**

***Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight:
glories stream from heaven afar, heav’nly hosts sing, “Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!”***

.....

Shine your light in us, O God, **that we might shine for others.**

***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!***

.....

Shine your light in us, O God, **that we might shine for others.**

***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.”***

Hear us, O God,
for our eyes have seen your salvation.
Child in the manger, Promise in the temple, Light for the nations.
And now we pray the prayer
that your son taught his disciples to pray, 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;
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.**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

(Sing along with us! 😊)

Jasmine Braxton, acolyte

*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.*

Rev. Laura Viau, Interim Pastor (laurabviau@gmail.com)

Randy Warner, Liturgy and Music Associate and Accompanist;

Kathy Sasso, Church Secretary; **Linda Rowell**, Church Treasurer;

Joyce Winkler, Qualified Ruling Elder; **Crystal Braxton**, Nursery;

Hery Ramambasoa, Regional Liaison for Southeast Asia and the Pacific



Shallotte Presbyterian Church

5070 M.H. Rourk Drive, P.O. Box 3256 Shallotte, NC 28459 | (910) 754-6929

church@atmc.net, www.shallottechurch.org

PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL. ☺