

# Family Christmas Eve Service

## Aisquith Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2011

6:00 PM

*You are to give him the name Jesus,  
because he will save his people from their sins.*

**Matthew 1:21**

Prelude                      *What Child Is This?*                      Greensleeves  
Mrs. Gloria Hague, harpsichord

### Call to Worship

The Advent wreath is a circle with no beginning and no end. It is a symbol of God's unending love and faithfulness.

**Jesus Christ is the brightest revelation of God's love. "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation"** (Col. 1:15).

"Christ Jesus, who being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped" (Phil. 2:6).

**"But made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness"** (Phil. 2:7).

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory. The glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14).

**We light this candle to remind us, to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus Christ.**

### Invocation

Special Music              *Il est né (He Is Born)*                      arr. Woods  
*Carol of the Bells*                      Ukrainian carol  
Amelia Wickham, harp

### The Word Foretold

\*Carol No. 208 (vv. 1-3)    *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.***

God of God, Light of Light;  
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb:  
very God, begotten, not created;

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of hea'v above;  
glory to God in the highest;

The Old Testament Reading (selected passages)

\*Carol No. 203     *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*     Mendelssohn

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 th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

***Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."***

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel.

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.

### **The Word Welcomed**

The Gospel Reading     Luke 2:1-16

Special Music     *Christmas Medley*     Daniel Zhu-Gainer, piano

The Offering of Our Thanks

Offertory     *Good Christian Men Rejoice*     In Dulci Jubilo

A Story of Christmas     [The Lightlings](#)     R. C. Sproul

***All the children are invited to join Pastor Bell  
at the front of the sanctuary.***

\*Carol No. 214     *Angels We Have Heard on High*     Gloria

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.

***Gloria in excelsis Deo.***

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord the newborn King.

### **The Word Embraced**

The Epistle Reading

Philippians 2:1-11

\*Carol No. 210

*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, heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;  
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.

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!

\*Benediction

Postlude

*Go Tell It on the Mountain*

Spiritual

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**We thank** all of our musicians for their participation tonight.

**Daniel Zhu-Gainer** lives near Washington D.C. He studies at the Levine School of Music, and has played at the Kennedy Center and in many foreign embassies in DC.

**Our Christmas Offering** will go to the *PCA Ministerial Relief Fund*.

**Please do not take your poinsettias** home until after the 11:00 PM service. If you would like to leave them for worship tomorrow it would be much appreciated.

**There will** be only one service tomorrow at 11 AM. *RockHouse* will **not** meet that evening.

**The 2012 offering envelopes** are in the narthex. If you would like to begin using envelopes for your giving, please sign up on the narthex table.

**The 2012 Flower Chart** is in the narthex. If you would like to dedicate a bouquet on a particular Sunday, please sign up now.