

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Aisquith Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2011

11:00 PM

Prelude (10:30 PM)

Sonata No. 208

D. Scarlatti

Andrew Oswinkle, guitar

Branle L'officiel

16th century French Dance

Branle Gai

16th century French Dance

The Sick Tune

16th century English

Pavaniglia

A. de Cabezon

Minuet in G

J. S. Bach

A Gigg

Byrd

Greensleeves

16 century English Carol

Mary Ann Brandli, flute and Gloria Hague, harpsichord

Sussex Carol

English traditional

Coventry Carol

16th century English

I Saw Three Ships

English traditional

Hannah Delventhal, Bobbie Rastall,
David Rastall and Kathy Fleming, recorders

Pavane

Byrd

Belle qui tiens ma vie

16th century French

In dulci jubilo

14th century German

Sonata No. 1 (Giga)

Vivaldi

Bring a Torch Jeannette Isabella

16th century French

Once in Royal David's City

Gauntlett

Call to Worship (11:00 AM)

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let earth receive her king! Let every heart prepare him room!
And heaven and nature sing!*

This Christmas Eve, we light this white candle as a visible sign that Jesus Christ is at the center of our lives and at the heart of this church. And we confess together...

We believe in “one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of Gods, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.”

The Nicene Creed

Processional

Once in Royal David's City

H. J. Gauntlett

Angelo Cicone, boy soprano

(Hymn No. 225 – The congregation will *stand* and join in on verses 4 & 5)

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall:
With the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

And through all his wondrous childhood he would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
We shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

*Invocation

The Nine Lessons of Christmastide

The First Lesson

Genesis 3:1-15

God declares in the Garden of Eden that the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir

Christmas Madrigal

Jon Paige

The Second Lesson

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir

Advent Cry

Joseph Martin

*Carol No. 196 (vv. 1, 4) *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Hyfrydol

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-14; 9:2, 6, 7

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by the prophet.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir

The Holy Child Will Come Patrick Liebergen

The Fourth Lesson

Micah 5:2-4

The prophet foretells the glory of Bethlehem.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

*Carol No. 201 (vv. 1, 2) *O Little Town of Bethlehem* St. Louis

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by:
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

The Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel visits the Virgin Mary.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir

Breath of Heaven arr. Lloyd Larson

The Sixth Lesson

Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 2:1-7

The Evangelists tell of the birth of Jesus.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

*Carol No. 200 *It Came Upon a 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, good will to men, from heav'n's all gracious King";
the world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world:
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend n' hovering wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed 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 hast'ning 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.

The Seventh Lesson Luke 2:8-16
The shepherds go to the manger.
Reader: The Word of the Lord.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir *While by My Sheep* arr. Hugo Jüngst

The Eighth Lesson Matthew 2:1-11
The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.
Reader: The Word of the Lord.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

The Offering of Our Gifts

The Offertory *Quittez Pasteurs* (French Noel) Roqués

The Ninth Lesson John 1:1-14
St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.
Reader: The Word of the Lord.
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir *Glory to God in the Highest* G. B. Pergolesi

*Carol No. 210 *Silent Night, Holy Night* No. 210

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

Now may He who by His Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and good will; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the

Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

(Please carefully extinguish all candles before you leave!)

Postlude *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* arr. Mansfield

A special thanks to all our guest musicians: Mary Ann Brandli, Angela St. Pierre, Hannah Delventhal, Bobbie Rastall, David Rastall & Kathy Fleming. And a special thanks to Mrs. Gloria Hague our Director of Music.

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

There will be only one service at 11 AM tomorrow. *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.