

December 24, 2021

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

VOLUNTARIES

Christmas Pastorale Gloria (Angels We Have Heard on High) Noël Mâconnais, Op. 26, No. 2 In dulci jubilo Cradle Song Berceuse (Lullaby)

> Hannah Hammel, flute Dr. Robert Gallagher, organ Chancel Bell Choir, Charles Todd, director

INTROIT

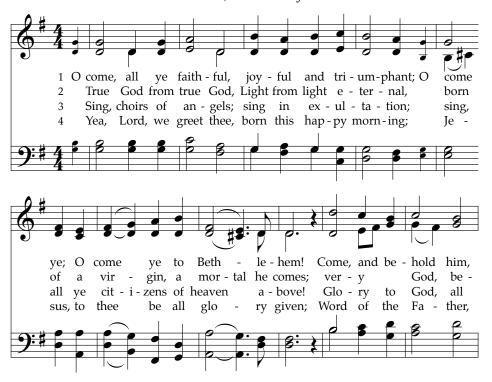
Of the Father's Love Begotten

Of the Father's love begottenO ye heights of heaven adore Him;Ere the worlds began to be,Angel hosts, His praises sing;He is Alpha and Omega,Powers, dominions, bow before Him,He the source, the ending HeAnd extol our God and King;Of the things that are, that have been,Let no tongue on earth be silent,And that future years shall see,Every voice in concert ring,Evermore and evermore!Evermore and evermore!

Christ, to Thee with God the Father, And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee, Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, And unwearied praises be; Honor, glory, and dominion, And eternal victory, Evermore and evermore!

*HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful



* Please stand, if you are able.

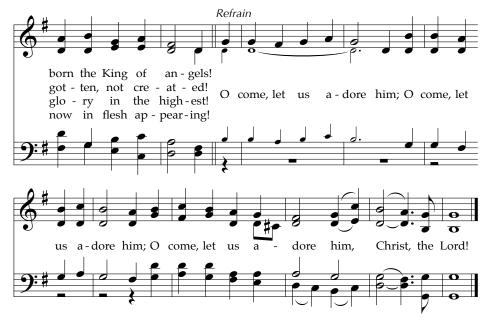
Eight o'clock in the evening

David Cipolletti and Alexander Macturk

James H. Rogers Frances Callahan Charles Quef Dietrich Buxtehude Frank Bridge Edwin H. Lemare

Plainsong

ADESTE FIDELES



*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. David Breckenridge

In the darkness, even in the darkest places, a great Light has dawned!

Joy has multiplied among God's children because they are living in God's loving favor.

As God's will is done, burdens are lifted,

hardship ends, and the tools of war are burned away.

For a child has been born, to lift up God's people, bringing deliverance and new life.

God's child is the wise counselor, filled with mighty power.

Ushering in endless peace and true justice, the Everlasting One comes.

We celebrate and welcome the Christ child, who has come to save.

*WELCOME, INVOCATION, AND OUR 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 trespasses As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

Sans Day Carol

Traditional Cornish Carol Arr. Ian Higginson

- 1. Now the holly bears a berry as white as the milk, And Mary bore Jesus, who was wrapped up in silk. *Chorus*
- 3. Now the holly bears a berry as black as the coal, And Mary bore Jesus, who died for us all: *Chorus*
- 2. Now the holly bears a berry as green as the grass, And Mary bore Jesus, who died on the cross: *Chorus*
- 4. Now the holly bears a berry, as blood as it red, Then trust we our Saviour, who rose from the dead" *Chorus*

Chorus: And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be, And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly. Holly! Holly! And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!

***OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

Isaiah 9:2-7

Angels We Have Heard on High

Why your joyous strains prolong?

Which inspire your heavenly song?

Shepherds, why this jubilee?

What the gladsome tidings be

Gloria in excelsis Deo:

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Rev. Dr. David Breckenridge

The Word of the Lord; Thanks be to God.

*HYMN 23

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains. *Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*GOSPEL LESSON

The Gospel of our Lord; Praise be to you, O Christ.

ANTHEM

Still, Still, Still

Luke 2:1-14

Chancel Bell Choir, Charles Todd, director

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:15-20

The Gospel of our Lord; Praise be to you, O Christ.

ANTHEM

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella,
Bring a torch and quickly run.Quiet all, nor waken Jesus,
Quiet all and whisper low.Christ is born, good folk of the village,
Christ is born, and Mary's calling;
Ah, ah, beautiful is the mother,
Ah, ah, beautiful is the son.Quiet all, nor waken Jesus,
Silence all and gather around him,
Talk and noise might waken Jesus;
Hush, hush, quietly now he slumbers,
Hush, hush, quietly now he sleeps.

CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION

*HYMN OF PREPARATION 28

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

Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart, and soul, and voice; Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this! He hath opened heaven's door, And we are blest forevermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this! French Folk Song Arr. Mark Schweizer

Come and look within the stable, Come and see the holy one. Come and see the lovely Jesus, White his brow, his cheeks are rosy; Hush, hush, quietly now he slumbers, Hush, hush, quietly now he sleeps.

Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

IN DULCI JUBILO

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!

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Holy One, enter into our lives and repair the divisions we have created. Enter into our world and lead us out of the ways of violence and into the ways of peace. Enter into our heart and heal our wounds of hatred and bitterness, and fill us again with hope. Come into our lives, Lord Jesus. Come and be born in us today. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. *Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Rev. Dr. David Breckenridge

Arr. by Norman Luboff Transcribed by Eric F. Timerding

Rev. Dr. David Breckenridge

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

God's true light has come into the world.

Emmanuel, God is with us!

The light has dawned for all creation.

Joy to the world!

We receive Christ, and are children of God.

May Christ's light within us shine for all the world to see.

Joy to the world, the Lord has come.

Joy to the world! Thanks be to God, for this indescribable gift!

SOLO

Balulalow

Peter Warlock

O my deir hert, young Jesus sweit, Prepare thy creddil in my spreit, And I sall rock thee in my hert And never mair from thee depart.

Now I sall praise thee evermore With sangis sweet unto Thy gloir! The knees of my hert sall I bow, And sing that richt Balulalow.

Lauren Clay, soprano

THE BLESSING AND BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

SOLO

I Wonder as I Wander

John Jacob Niles

I wonder as I wander out under the sky, How Jesus the Savior did come for to die For poor on'ry people like you and like I... I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall, With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all. But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, And the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing, A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing, Or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing, He surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.

Christopher Ahart, tenor

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

We light the Christ candle, for in Christ we find light and life, and the courage to be like him, answering his call and following in his footsteps. Come to us, Lord Jesus; be born in us this night—in our hearts, our minds, our lives. May the light of Christ's life be kindled in us.

PASSING OF THE LIGHT

As you receive the light from a minister or deacon, may you reflect on God's gift of light in Jesus Christ.

Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

HYMN OF MEDITATION 60 *Silent Night, Holy Night* (stanzas 1, 3, and 4)

STILLE NACHT

Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

Louis-Claude Daquin

1.	Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright, Round yon virgin mother Holy Infant, so tender and Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.		2.	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.	
	 3. 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. 				
*HYMN 40	Joj	y to the World! (stanz	as 1	, 2, and 4)	ANTIOCH
1.	Joy to the world! the Lord is come:2.Let earth receive her King;2.Let every heart prepare Him room,And heaven and nature sing,And heaven and nature sing,And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.		Joy to the world! the Savior reigns: Let us our songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, a Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.	and plains	
 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. 					
Please keep your candles lit until altar candles are extinguished.					

*BENEDICTION

*VOLUNTARY AND RECESSIONAL

Please remain standing until after the recessional.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

You may extinguish your candle and return it to the basket as you exit.

Noël Suisse

THE CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

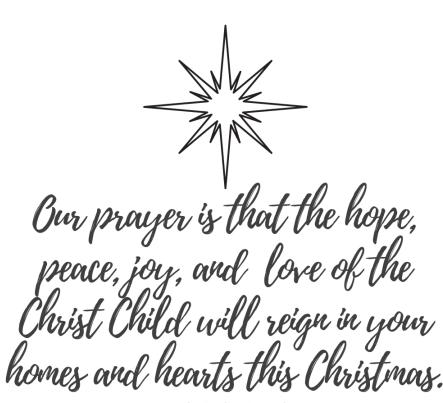
are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Carol's sister, Kay Hiers, by Lou and Carol Moelchert.

THE CHRISTMAS WREATHS

are given to the glory of God and in honor of healthcare workers everywhere by Dr. and Mrs. Hilton R. Almond.

WE WELCOME HANNAH HAMMEL, FLAUTIST

to our service this evening. Ms. Hammel is the Principal Flute of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.



Daniel, Bob, Sandy, David, Daniel, Marnie, Anna, Beth, Jim, Mike, Carl, and Chester



Thank you for worshiping with us! At River Road Church, we are...

A community of believers coming from many faith traditions to worship and grow together in Christian fellowship, focusing on those aspects of faith on which we can agree rather than disagree as we journey together.

Baptist in heritage, espousing core Baptist truths as foundational to our faith journey: the centrality of Christ, the priesthood of all believers, the commitment to theological education, and the autonomy of the local church.

Encouraging of intellectual freedom—in pursuit of a thoughtful faith, seeking always to learn about God's nature and ways in the world, supporting a free pulpit and welcoming intellectually challenging sermons and educational programs.

Worshiping in reverence and beauty a transcendent God, following the liturgical style and augmented by the performance of traditional sacred music.

Serving God in our church, our community and the world by investing our energy and resources in ways that reflect the character and likeness of Christ and follow his teachings.

River Road Church

Baptist

8000 River Road Richmond, Virginia 23229 804.288.1131 rrcb.org

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

Daniel E. Glaze, D.Min., *Pastor* F. David Breckenridge, D.Min., *Minister of Pastoral Care* Marnie L. Fisher-Ingram, M.Div., *Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families* Robert P. Gallagher, D.M.A., *Minister of Music* Daniel H. Ingram, M.Div., *Minister of Administration* Anna Perry Miller, M.A.C.E., *Associate Pastor for Adult Discipleship* Sandy K. Rooney, M.Ed., *Minister to Children and Their Families* Beth Bailey, M.T., *Seminary Intern for Young Adult Ministry*

James H. Slatton, Th.D., *Pastor Emeritus* Michael J. Clingenpeel, Ph.D., *Pastor Emeritus* E. Carl Freeman, Jr., Mus.B., *Minister of Music Emeritus* Chester L. Phelps, Jr., M.A., *Minister of Youth Emeritus*