



— WELCOME TO —

*Christmas
Eve*

— AT RIVER ROAD CHURCH —

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND COMMUNION

December 24, 2021

Eight o'clock in the evening

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

David Cipolletti and Alexander Macturk

VOLUNTARIES

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

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

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

INTROIT

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Plainsong

Of the Father's love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before Him,
And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert ring,
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

ADESTE FIDELES

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

* Please stand, if you are able.

Refrain

born the King of an - gels!
got - ten, not cre - at - ed!
glo - ry in the high - est! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

***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

2. Now the holly bears a berry as green as the grass,
And Mary bore Jesus, who died on the cross:

Chorus

3. Now the holly bears a berry as black as the coal,
And Mary bore Jesus, who died for us all:

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

Rev. Dr. David Breckenridge

The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God.**

*HYMN 23

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

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.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

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.

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:1-14

Rev. Dr. David Breckenridge

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

ANTHEM

Still, Still, Still

Arr. by Norman Luboff
Transcribed by Eric F. Timerding

Chancel Bell Choir, Charles Todd, director

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:15-20

Rev. Dr. David Breckenridge

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

ANTHEM

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

French Folk Song
Arr. Mark Schweizer

Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella,
Bring a torch and quickly run.
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,
Quiet all and whisper low.
Silence all and gather around him,
Talk and noise might waken Jesus;
Hush, hush, quietly now he slumbers,
Hush, hush, quietly now he sleeps.

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.

CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION

Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

*HYMN OF PREPARATION 28

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 hath opened heaven's door,
And we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

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

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 sweet,
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

Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

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.

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

STILLE NACHT

1. 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.
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

Joy to the World! (stanzas 1, 2, and 4)

ANTIOCH

1. 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.
2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns:
Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. 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

Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

*VOLUNTARY AND RECESSIONAL

Noël Suisse

Louis-Claude Daquin

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.

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.



*Our prayer is that the hope,
peace, joy, and love of the
Christ Child will reign in your
homes and hearts this Christmas.*

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



RIVER ROAD CHURCH

BAPTIST

+ thoughtful faith +

Thank you for worshipping 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.

Worshipping 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*