

How Great Our Joy



*An Evening of
Lessons & Carols*

December 6, 2023

Important Reminders:

Turn off all cellular devices during the worship service.
Do not bring food or drink into the sanctuary.

Prclude

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

Welcome

Rev. Hunter Stevenson

Carol

Once in Royal David's City

Children:

*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.*

Congregation:

*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.*

Ella Goff, soloist

First Lesson
Genesis 3:8-15

*Carol

#196-Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Second Lesson
Genesis 22:15-18

Carol

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Third Lesson
Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Carol

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

*Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.*

*Flocks were sleeping: shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.*

* those who are able please stand

Carol

Thou Who Wast Rich
Arr. Molly Ijames

*Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor;
Thrones for a manger did surrender sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor.*

*Thou who art God beyond all praising all for love's sake becamest man.
Stooping so low, but sinners raising; heav'nwards by Thine eternal plan.
Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man.*

*Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship Thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling, make us what Thou would have us be.
Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship Thee.*

Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9

*Carol

#207-Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Fifth Lesson

Micah 5:2-4; Luke 1:26-38

Carol

#201-O Little Town of Bethlehem
vs. 1 all, vs. 2 women, vs. 3 men, vs. 4 all

Sixth Lesson

Matthew 1:18-23

*Carol

#203-Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Carol

Sing We Now of Christmas
Arr. Lloyd Larson

*Sing we now of Christmas, Noel, sing we here! Hear our grateful praises to the Babe so dear.
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel! Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!*

*Angels called to shepherds, "Leave your flocks at rest,
journey forth to Beth'hem, find the lamkin blest."
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel! Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!*

*In Bethlehem they found him; Joseph and Mary mild,
seated by the manger, watching the holy child.
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel! Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!*

*This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary! Sing we now Noel!*

Seventh Lesson
Luke 2:8-16

*Carol Medley

#214-*Angels We Have Heard on High*
#215- *While by the Sheep We Watched at Night*

Carol

How Great Our Joy!

*While by the sheep we watched at night, Glad tidings brought an angel bright.
How great our joy, how great our joy.
There shall be born, so did he say, in Bethlehem a child today.
How great our joy, how great our joy.
There shall a child lie in a stall, this child who shall redeem us all.
This gift of God we'll cherish well, that ever joy our hearts shall fill.
Praise we the Lord, praise we the Lord in heaven on high!
How great our joy, how great our joy.*

Eighth Lesson
Matthew 2:1-11

Carol

Fum, Fum, Fum

Dr. Melanie Buckner & Mrs. Monni Parrish

Ninth Lesson
John 1:1-14

Carol

Joy to the World
Arr. Dan Forrest

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing!*

*No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found!*

*Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy!*

*He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love!
Joy to the world! the Lord is come!*

*Carol

#208-O Come, All Ye Faithful

*Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

*Postlude

Ensemble

Sopranos

Claire Chastain
Cheryl Willis
Donna Anderson
Donna Dyc
Erin Kelly
Holly Shepley
Kaleigh Freel
Kristen Vaughn
Mary Clare Freel
Nina Fleming
Robin Henning
Tina Davies

Tenors

Bob Brunson
Eric Hornick
Greg Nix
Paul McCommon
Tommy James

Altos

Amy Drummond
Amy Peed
Angie McGukin
Debbie McCommon
Donna Rohn
Liz Ream
Lydia Johnson
Lynn Leverette
Murray Todd
Sally Lee
Tricia Barton

Basses

Caleb Henning
Daniel Jones
George Lee
Lonnie Dyc
Ron Henning

Instrumentalists

Mrs. Monni Parrish, piano
Mr. Keith Fitzgerald, trombone
Dr. Ken Trimmings, trumpet
Mr. Paul McCommon, trumpet
Mr. Virgil Moore, violin
Ms. Hanami Froom, violin
Mr. Isaac Lopez, viola
Mr. Brelan Jenkins, cello

Leaders

Rev. Hunter Stevenson, Senior Pastor
Dr. Melanic Buckner, Music Director
Mrs. Megan Cathey, Children's Ministry
Director

• Announcements •

Poinsettias - Please help us decorate the sanctuary for Christmas by purchasing a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone. Forms are available on the coffee bar in the narthex, or you can email Kathy the information (kathy@nmmpc.net). The deadline is December 8th.

Strong Tower - Strong Tower Fellowship is collecting coats, socks, sleeping bags, hoodies, scarfs, gloves and mittens to give to people in the Pleasant Hill community. There is a box in the narthex for you to place your donation.

Women's Christmas Dinner - Our ladies will gather this Tuesday, December 12th at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall for their annual Christmas Dinner. One of our newest members, Laura Adams, will be speaking. Please register on Realm.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - We will have a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service on Sunday, December 24th at 5:00 PM. A nursery for 0-3 year olds will be provided.

Also, we will take up a special offering at the Christmas Eve Service for the PCA Ministerial Relief Fund, which is used to provide financial assistance for the widows and orphans of PCA ministers & missionaries. If you would like to make a donation, you can give on Realm or with cash or check (please put "PCA Relief Fund" on the memo line).



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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH