

Service for the Lord's Day

Pre-Service Music Improvisation on *Veni Emmanuel*
Andrew Hackett, Organist

Concerns of the Congregation

Call to Worship Advent Candle Lighting Randy and Darlene Page
One: Today we light the third candle of Advent. This is the candle of joy. This candle is pink, reminding us of the joy of Jesus in our life. As the coming of Jesus, our Savior, draws nearer, our joy builds with our anticipation of his birth.

All: We joyfully praise you, O Lord, for the fulfillment of your promise of a Savior and what that means in our lives. Thank you for the gift of salvation through the birth of your son, Jesus. Create us anew as we wait, and help us to see your glory as you fill our lives with your living Spirit. Amen.

Prelude Partita on *Freu dich sehr, O meine Seele*, var. 1 and 9 Georg Böhm
Andrew Hackett, Organist

Ringing of the Revere Tower Bell

Let the ringing of the bell call our attention away from ourselves and onto the living Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

***Hymn #110** Angels, From the Realms of Glory

*Invocation

*Prayer of Confession

All: Our gracious God of forgiveness and new beginnings, we come humbly to you confessing our sin. You are our good shepherd and always care for us. But we confess to you our pride, our faithlessness, and our reluctance to accept your grace. Through the work of the Lord Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit, forgive us, heal us, correct us, and transform us. Then enable us to be still, to know your presence, and to praise you. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*Moments of Silent Confession

***Assurance of Pardon**

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

One: The prophets of old have declared, "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God. For he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robes of righteousness. Friends, believe the good news; in Jesus Christ your sin is forgiven and forgotten. This is our good news!"

All: Thanks be to God!

***Gloria Patri #575**

Glory Be to the Father

Anthem

Prepare the Way of the Lord!

Lloyd Larson

Covenant Choir

Refrain: A voice cries out, "Prepare the way! Prepare the way of the Lord!"
The prophet cries out, "Prepare the way! Prepare the way of the Lord!"

Every valley shall be lifted up; every mountain and hill made low.
Every crooked path shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.
The glory of the Lord shall be revealed. (refrain)

So comfort, comfort my people, says the Lord God who reigns on high.
To Jerusalem say, "Your night is gone, for the Lord has heard your cry. (refrain)

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offertory

In Dulci Jubilo

German Melody

Covenant Ringers

Arr. Gary R. Smoke

Matt Bell, Evelina Konaniah, Linda Meier, Marjeane Sallada

Director: Becky Bell

***Doxology #572**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn #119**

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Scripture Lesson

Rev. Dr. Robert Anderson

Old Testament

Isaiah 40:11

He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

New Testament

John 10: 11-15

‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.’

One: This is God’s Word for God’s People.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Wonders of His Love:
Jesus is Our Good Shepherd

Rev. Dr. Robert Anderson

***Hymn #113**

Angels We Have Heard on High

***Benediction**

Postlude

Organ Sonata no. 2 in C Minor, mvt. iii
Hayden Glasgow, Organ Scholar Allegro Maestoso

Felix Mendelssohn

*Those who are able, please stand.

The flowers on the communion table are given to the glory of God
by Charlotte Goering in loving memory of her parents,
Robert and Mary Ann Williamson

110 Angels from the Realms of Glory

We . . . are come to worship Him. Matt. 2:2

REGENT SQUARE 8 7 8 7 8 7

James Montgomery, 1816

Henry T. Smart, 1867



1. An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2. Shep-herds in the fields a - bid - ing, Watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
3. Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch-ing long in hope and fear,



Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, Now pro-claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with man is now re - sid - ing, Yon - der shines the in - fant Light:
Seek the great De - sire of na - tions, Ye have seen His na - tal star:
Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, In His tem - ple shall ap - pear:



Refrain



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, Wor-ship Christ, the new-born King. A-men.



This tune in a lower key. No. 185

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks 119

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks . . . Luke 2:8

CHRISTMAS C.M. Repeats

George Frederick Handel, 1728

Arr. in Weyman's *Melodia Sacra*, 1815

Nahum Tate, 1700

1. While shep-herds watched their flocks by night, All seat-ed on the
 2. "Fear not!" said he; for might-y dread Had seized their troub-led
 3. "To you, in Da-vid's town this day, Is born of Da-vid's
 4. "The heav'n-ly Babe you there shall find To hu-man view dis-
 5. "All glo-ry be to God on high, And to the earth be

ground, The an-gel of the Lord came down, And
 mind, "Glad ti-dings of great joy I bring To
 line, The Sav-ior who is Christ the Lord, And
 played, All mean-ly wrapped in swath-ing bands, And
 peace: Good will hence-forth from heav'n to men, Be-

glo-ry shone a-round, And glo-ry shone a-round.
 you and all man-kind, To you and all man-kind.
 this shall be the sign: And this shall be the sign:
 in a man-ger laid; And in a man-ger laid.
 gin and nev-er cease, Be-gin and nev-er cease." A-men.

This tune in a higher key, No. 454

HIS BIRTH

113 Angels We Have Heard on High

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace . . . Luke 2:14

GLORIA 7777 Ref.

Traditional French carol

Traditional French melody

1. An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2. Shepherds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem, and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4. See with - in a man - ger laid Je - sus, Lord of heav'n and earth!

And the moun - tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
Say what may the ti - dings be, Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, With us sing our Sav - ior's birth.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

JESUS CHRIST

This Week at CFPC

Sunday, December 11

- 8:45 AM — Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15 AM — Adult Sunday School
- 9:30 AM — Teen Bible Study
- 10:30 AM — Worship
- 11:30 AM — Fellowship in Metzger Hall
- 11:45 AM — ‘Round the Table Carol Sing

Wednesday, December 14

- 12 PM — Brown Bag Bible Study

Thursday, December 15

- 6 PM — Senior Singles Outing, reservation required

Saturday, December 17

- 7:30 AM — Men’s Bible Study in the Chapel

Planning Ahead at CFPC

Sunday, December 18

- 8:45 AM — Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15 AM — Adult Sunday School
- 9:30 AM — Teen Bible Study
- 10:30 AM — Worship with Children’s Christmas Program
- 4 PM — Christmas Open House at the Cameron Home

Wednesday, December 21

- 12 Noon — Brown Bag Bible Study

Saturday, December 24 — Christmas Eve

- No men’s Bible Study
- 6:30 PM — Christmas Eve Music Begins
- 7 PM — Christmas Eve Service

Looking Ahead — Sunday, December 18



Be sure to read your announcements about the holiday season – next Sunday will be the third Sunday of Advent and our children and youth will be participating in the service, a little drama, a little music and lots of love! Why is that important? Because these young “saints” are the leaders of Christ’s Kingdom advance in the decades ahead. Pray for the them and their families. Christmas Eve and Christmas Sunday will be special moments of worship as we focus on God’s gift of Jesus in our lives!