

Service for the Lord's Day

Pre-Service Music Improvisation on *How Brightly the Morning Star Shines*
Andrew Hackett, Organist

Concerns of the Congregation

Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Robert C. Anderson

One: Hark, hark, the wise eternal word,

All: like a weak infant cries!

One: In form of servant is the Lord,

All: and God in cradle lies.

One: We kneel beside the baby bed

All: holy love fills us now!

One: His name, Lord Jesus, must be said,

All: Our humbled hearts before him bow.

Prelude

Away in a Manager

Arr. Andrew Hackett

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 #103 vs. 1,4

O Come All Ye Faithful

*Christmas Prayer

Rev. Dr. Robert C. Anderson

**All: God our Father, your word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem.
Grant that the light of faith may illumine our hearts and shine in our words
and deeds. May this Christmas wonder so overwhelm us that we cannot help
but speak your name at which every knee must bow and every tongue confess
that Jesus is Lord. We pray through him who is Christ our Lord, who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.**

*Invocation

***Prayer of Confession**

*One: Lord of grace and truth, we confess our unworthiness to stand in your presence as your children.
We have sinned:*

All: Forgive and heal us.

One: Young Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

All: We have been disobedient to your will.

One: We have sinned:

All: Forgive and heal us.

One: Your Son our Savior was born in poverty in a manger.

All: Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

One: We have sinned:

All: Forgive and heal us.

One: The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem. Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision. We have sinned:

All: Forgive and heal us.

***Moments of Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

One: Hear the good news! Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven. This is the Good News.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Gloria Patri #575**

Glory Be to the Father

Carol Sing

Carols are included beginning on page 8 of the bulletin.

#120 vs. 1,4

Joy to the World

#109 vs. 1,4

Once in Royal David's City

#104 vs. 1,4

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

#106 vs. 1,3

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#107 vs. 1,3

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

During the singing of Gentle Mary Laid Her Child we invite all children to come to the front for a Children's Time.

Children's Time

Blessing of the Crib

Pastor Bob

*Hymn see bulletin pg. 13

Away in a Manager

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

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

Andrew Hackett, Organist

*Doxology #572

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Please note: Today children are encouraged to stay in the worship service.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #124 vs. 1, 2, 5

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

Scripture Lesson

Old Testament

Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

New Testament

Luke 1:28-30

The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Government will be
on His shoulders

Rev. Dr. Robert Anderson

***Hymn #115**

Go Tell It on the Mountain

***Christmas Blessing**

One: Let the love that shaped earth and heaven

All: Dwell within us this Christmas.

One: Let the love that created humanity

All: Dwell within us this Christmas.

One: Let the love that overcomes suffering and hatred

All: Dwell within us this Christmas.

One: Let the love that causes us to rejoice with loved ones

All: Dwell within us this Christmas.

One: Let the love that forgives and renews

All: Dwell within us this Christmas.

One: Let the love that brings reconciliation after separation

All: Dwell within us this Christmas.

One: Let the love that brings the blessing of peace

All: Dwell within us this Christmas.

One: May we share that peace with all people near and far.

All: Amen

***Benediction**

Postlude Improvisation on *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*
Andrew Hackett, Organist

*Those who are able, please stand.

O Come, All Ye Faithful 103

Let us now go even unto Bethlehem... Luke 2:15

Latin hymn
Attr. to John F. Wade, 1751
Trans. by Frederick Oakeley, 1841, and others

ADESTE FIDELES Irreg. Ref.
John F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,
2. God of God, and Light of Light be - got - ten,
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion!
4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,

O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem!
Lo, He ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
O sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove;
Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold Him, born the King of an - gels;
Ver - y God, be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted;
Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain
O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,

O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord. A - men.



Carol Sing



Verses 1 & 4

120 Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth . . . Psa. 98:4

Isaac Watts, 1719
Based on Psalm 98

ANTIOCH C.M.
George Frederick Handel, 1742
Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1839

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re -
2. Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; Let men their
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in -
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - ery heart pre - pare Him room,
songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
fest the ground; He comes to make His bless - ings flow
na - tions prove The glo - ries of His right - eous - ness,

And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His
1. And heav'n and na - ture sing,

1. And
sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

JESUS CHRIST

Once in Royal David's City 109

Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior... Luke 2:11

IRBY 878777

Cecil F. Alexander, 1848

Henry J. Gauntlett, 1849

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a low - ly cat - tle
 2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is God and Lord of
 3. Je - sus is our child-hood's pat - tern, Day by day like us He
 4. And our eyes at last shall see Him, Thro' His own re - deem - ing

shed, Where a moth - er laid her ba - by In a
 all, And His shel - ter was a sta - ble, And His
 grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and help - less, Tears and
 love; For that child so dear and gen - tle Is our

man - ger for His bed: Ma - ry was that moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall: With the poor, and mean, and
 smiles like us He knew: And He feel - eth for our
 Lord in heav'n a - bove, And He leads his chil - dren

mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 low - ly Lived on earth, our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 sad - ness, And He shar - eth in our glad - ness.
 on To the place where He is gone.

HIS BIRTH

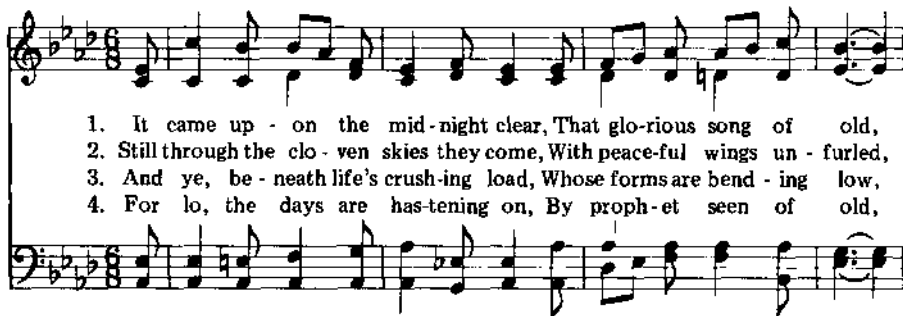
104 It Came upon the Midnight Clear

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

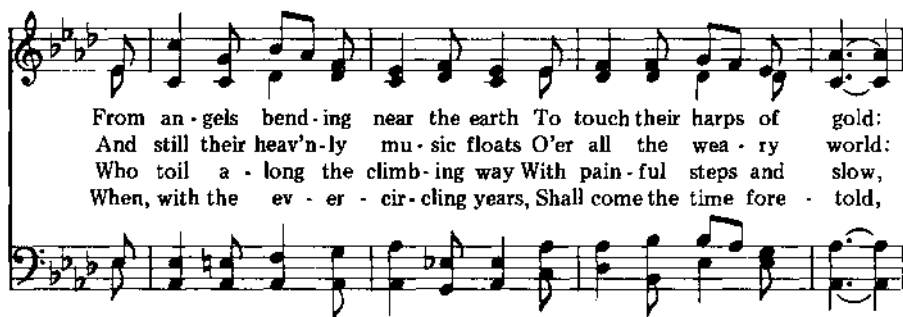
Edmund H. Sears, 1849

CAROL C.M.D.

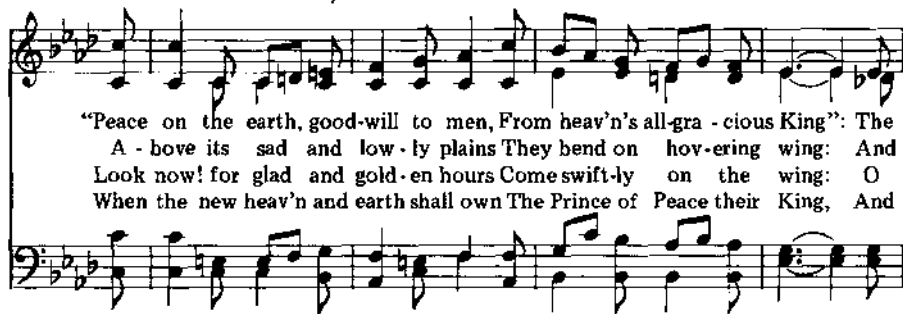
Richard S. Willis, 1850



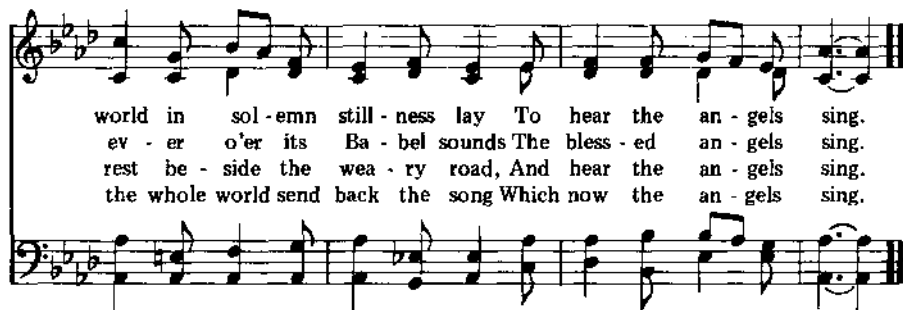
1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, That glo - rious song of old,
 2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come, With peace - ful wings un - furled,
 3. And ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load, Whose forms are bend - ing low,
 4. For lo, the days are has - tening on, By proph - et seen of old,



From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
 And still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world:
 Who toil a - long the climb - ing way With pain - ful steps and slow,
 When, with the ev - er - cir - cling years, Shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good-will to men, From heav'n's all - gra - cious King": The
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains They bend on hov - ering wing: And
 Look now! for glad and gold - en hours Comes swift - ly on the wing: O
 When the new heav'n and earth shall own The Prince of Peace their King, And



world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.
 ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.
 rest be - side the wea - ry road, And hear the an - gels sing.
 the whole world send back the song Which now the an - gels sing.

JESUS CHRIST

106 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

And suddenly there was . . . a multitude of the heavenly host praising God . . . Luke 2:13

MEDELSSOHN 7777 D. Ref.

Charles Wesley, 1739

Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

Arr. by William H. Cummings, 1856

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King:
 2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
 3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold Him come, Off-spring of the Vir - gin's womb:
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,

With th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King." A-men.

JESUS CHRIST

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child 107

And she brought forth her firstborn son . . . and laid Him in a manger. Luke 2:7

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM 7 6 7 6 D.

Piae Cantiones. 1582

Arr. by Ernest Macmillan, 1930

Joseph S. Cook, 1919

1. Gen - tle Ma - ry laid her Child Low - ly in a man - ger;
 2. An - gels sang a - bout His birth; Wise Men sought and found Him;
 3. Gen - tle Ma - ry laid her Child Low - ly in a man - ger;

There He lay, the un - de - filed, To the world a stran - ger:
 Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth, Glo - ry all a - round Him:
 He is still the un - de - filed, But no more a stran - ger:

Such a Babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
 Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
 Son of God, of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;

Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
 All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
 Praise His name in all the earth, Hail the King of glo - ry!

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HIS BIRTH

Away in a Manger

MUELLER 11.11.11.11

Stanzas 1-2, *Little Children's Book for Schools and Families*, c. 1885
 Stanza 3, *Gabriel's Vineyard Songs*, 1892

Attr. James R. Murray, 1887
 Harm. John Weaver, 1986

1. A - way in a man-ger, no crib for His bed, The lit - tle Lord
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the poor Ba - by wakes, But lit - tle Lord
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay Close by me for -

Je - sus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the sky looked
 Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes. I love Thee, Lord Je - sus, look
 ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

down where He lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky, And stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
 Thy ten - der care, And fit us for heav - en to live with Thee there.

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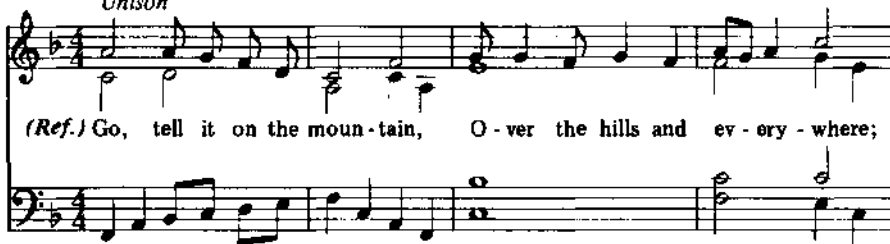
115 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

... They made known abroad the saying ... concerning this child. Luke 2:17

GO TELL IT Irreg.
Traditional Spiritual

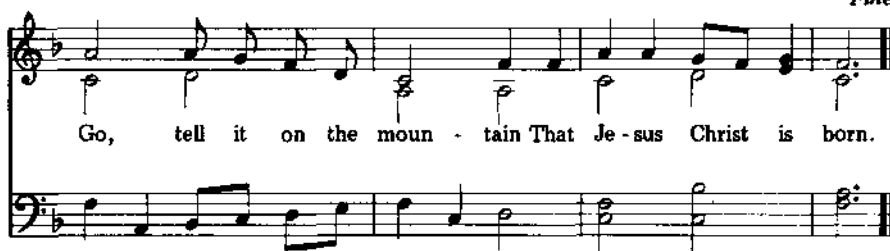
John W. Work, II, 1907

Unison

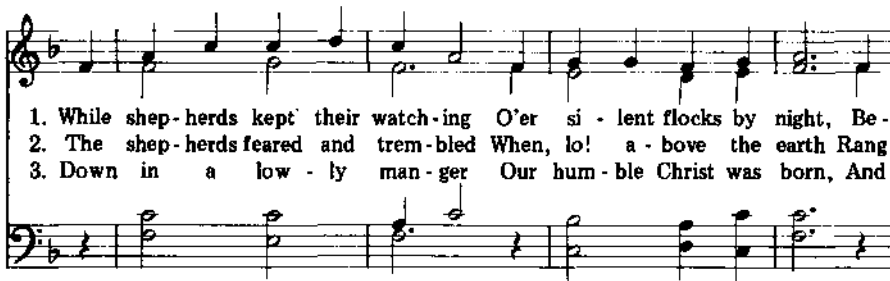


(Ref.) Go, tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills and ev-ery-where;

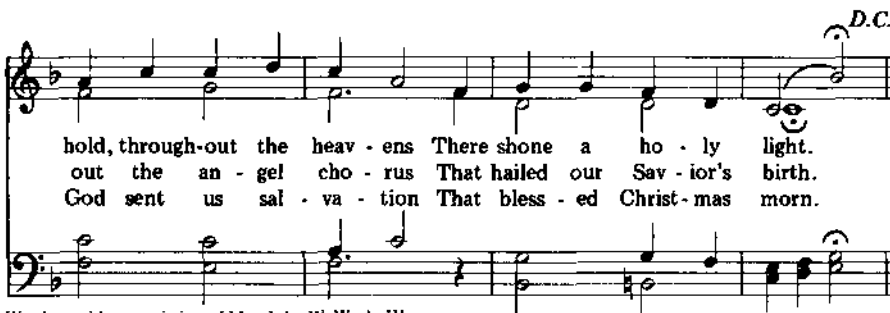
Fine



Go, tell it on the moun-tain That Je-sus Christ is born.



1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si-lent flocks by night, Be-
2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When, lo! a-bove the earth Rang
3. Down in a low-ly man-ger Our hum-ble Christ was born, And



hold, through-out the heav-ens There shone a ho-ly light.
out the an-gel cho-rus That hailed our Sav-ior's birth.
God sent us sal-va-tion That bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Words used by permission of Mrs. John W. Work, III.

JESUS CHRIST

This Week at CFPC

Sunday, December 25

10:30 AM — Christmas Morning Family Worship

No Sunday School, children's programming and nursery during worship and no Fellowship Time this Sunday.

Wednesday, December 28

No Brown Bag Bible Study

Friday, December 30

Courier Deadline

**The church office will be closed
Wednesday December 28
through Friday, December 30.**

Saturday, December 31 — New Year's Eve

7:30 AM — Men's Bible Study

Planning Ahead at CFPC

Sunday, January 1 — New Year's Day

10:30 AM — Family Worship

No Sunday School or Fellowship Time this Sunday.

Wednesday, January 4

12 Noon — Brown Bag Bible Study

Saturday, January 7

7:30 AM — Men's Bible Study

Looking Ahead — Sunday, January 1

New Year Day, January 1, we will gather for worship as usual. With grateful hearts our scripture will guide us to how God creates all things new. We will share in the Lord's Supper and also participate in the Service for the Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant. This will be a time for all of us to refresh our commit to following Jesus and his ministry through the Church. This will be a very special time for new beginnings in our Christian discipleship. On January 8 we will have a unique visit from the first century as the Magi join us for worship.

