

Worship for Christmas Day

December 25, 2022

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Prelude

I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In
Samuel Garr, clarinet; Carolyn Garr, piano

setting by Robert Powell

*The virgin Mary and Christ were there ...
And all the bells on earth shall ring ...
Then let us all rejoice amain ...
... on Christmas Day in the morning!*

- traditional English carol

Call to Worship

Jeremiah Banks and Alex Lockridge

*The glory of the Lord shines around us. The angels tell the story:
Do not fear; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy.*

A child has been born for us, a son given to us!

He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people on earth!

Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place.

Let us glorify the One who is Christ, the Lord.

Come, let us adore him! Let us worship God!

+Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come and behold him, born the King of angels!

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,

Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

- Latin hymn; attr. John Francis Wade

+Prayer of Praise and Adoration

Paul Sims

+Act of Praise

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, ...

- Isaac Watts

The First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

Alex Lockridge

Carol

Child in the Manger

BUNESSAN

*Child in the manger, infant of Mary; outcast and stranger, Lord of all;
Child who inherits all our transgressions, all our demerits on him fall.
Once the most holy Child of salvation gently and lowly lived below;
Now as our glorious mighty Redeemer, see him victorious o'er each foe.
Prophets foretold him, infant of wonder; angels behold him on his throne;
Worthy our Savior of all our praises; happy forever are his own.*

- Mary MacDonald

The Second Lesson

Titus 3:4-7

Paul Sims

Carol

Away in a Manger

CRADLE SONG

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.*

- anonymous

The Third Lesson

Luke 2:1-14

Jeremiah Banks

+Carol

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

*Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angles sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

- Charles Wesley

Sermon

Alex Lockridge

“Choose Christmas – We Have Seen a Great Light”

+Carol

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

*Gentle Mary laid her Child lowly in a manger;
There he lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger:
Such a Babe in such a place, can he be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favor.*

*Gentle Mary laid her Child lowly in a manger;
He is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger:
Son of God, of humble birth, beautiful the story;
Praise his name in all the earth, hail the King of glory!*

- Joseph Simpson Cook

+Offertory Prayer

Paul Sims

Offertory

A Christmas Medley

by Salvatore A. Buono

Samuel Garr, clarinet; Carolyn Garr, piano

+Carol

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

REFRAIN

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

1. *While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.* REFRAIN
2. *Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.* REFRAIN

+Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge and Jeremiah Banks

*Go into the world to see what God reveals; proclaim good news of great joy.
Go forth with gladness and singing, proclaiming to all the earth that Jesus Christ is born.
Light and joy are gifts to be shared; take them to both loved ones and strangers.
For all that you have seen and heard, glorify God.
And may God's Spirit be with you, this day and every day. Amen.*

