

* THE HYMN OF PRAISE 9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

“Veni Emmanuel”

THE PRAYER OF APPROACH

SILENCE

AMEN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(together)*

Babe in the manger, we do not wait patiently in expectation for God’s coming in glory, we start wandering around, going from one little sensation to another. Our lives get stuffed with newspaper items, television stories and gossip. Then our minds lose the discipline of discerning between what leads us closer to God and what doesn’t, and our hearts lose their spiritual sensitivity. Without waiting for the coming of Christ, we will stagnate and become tempted to indulge in whatever gives us a moment of pleasure...but when we have the Lord to look forward to, we can already experience him in the waiting.

KYRIE ELEISON

#572 The Hymnal

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE DECLARATION OF PARDON

THE RESPONSE IN PRAISE

The Desert Shall Rejoice

#18, verse 6, The Hymnal

The desert shall rejoice and blossom as a rose:

Unto Zion we come with joy, For our God has come to save us.

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Hearing God’s Word Through Music

* THE HYMN OF PREPARATION 48

Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming

“Es ist ein Ros”

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 11: 1-3; 6-9

ANTHEM

Of a Rose, A Lovely Rose

John Rutter

Of a rose, a lovely rose, Of a rose is all my song.
 Hearken to me, both old and young, How this Rose began to spring;
 A fairer rose to mine liking in all this world ne know I none.
 Five branches of that rose there been, the which be both fair and sheen;
 The rose is called Mary, heaven's queen. Out of her bosom a blossom sprang.
 The first branch was of great honour: That blest Marie should bear the flower,
 There came an angel from heaven's tower to break the devil's bond.
 The second branch was great of might, that sprang upon Christmas night;
 The star shone over Bethlem bright, that man should see it both day and night.
 The third branch did spring and spread; three kinges then the branch gan led Unto Our Lady in
 her childbed; Into Bethlem that branch sprang right.
 Of a rose, a lovely Rose, Of a Rose is all my song.
 Pray we to her with great honour, She that bare the blessed flower,
 To be our help and our succour, and shield us from the fiends bond.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1: 39-56

ANTHEM

Mary's Salutation

Johann Eccard

Mary arose and journeyed far in haste to greet Elizabeth,
 whose babe did leap within her womb; The Holy Spirit gave her breath
 To hail the mother of the Lord, and Mary with joy then did sing:
 "My soul doth magnify the Lord, my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour,
 merciful to all who fear his holy name."

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2: 1- 21

SERMON IN SONG

Christmas Cantata, Opus 6, No. 8

Arcangelo Corelli

RECITATIVE

*And there shepherds in the same country abiding in the fields
 keeping watch over their flocks by night.*

CHORUS

*And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the
 Lord shone round about them and they were sore afraid.*

RECITATIVE

And the angel said unto them:

DUET

*Fear not, for behold I bring good tidings of joy for all people. For
 unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, who is
 Christ the Lord.*

ARIOSO

*And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in
 swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was
 with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and
 saying:*

CHORUS *Glory to God in the highest.*

ARIOSO *And on earth, peace, good will toward men.*

RECITATIVE *And it came to pass as the angels were gone away into heaven the shepherds said one to another.*

CHORUS *Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made know to us.*

Say, ye holy shepherds, say, what your joyful news today? Wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep? As we watched at dead of night, lo we saw a wondrous sight. Angels sing "Peace on earth," told us of the Saviour's birth.

RECITATIVE *And they came to pass and found Mary and Joseph and the babe lying in a manger.*

CHORUS *Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth. Ye who sang Creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth. Come and worship Christ the newborn King. Gloria in excelsis Deo, Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.*

UPDATE ON THE S.O.S. MISSION FAIR

WORSHIPPING THE LORD THROUGH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY SOLO *The Three Kings* Peter Cornelius

Three Kings had journeyed from lands afar, To Jordan led by a guiding star,
 In David's city they ask men to tell where the newborn King whom they seek doth dwell.
 Fine gold and myrrh and incense they bring, An off'ring to the promised newborn King.
 The guiding star shining on before, The Kings then led to the lowly door,
 They see the Child in a manger bare, And fall before Him in worship there.
 Fine gold and myrrh and incense they bring, An off'ring to the promised newborn King.
 And still the star, shining bright and clear, To those who seek it doth yet appear
 The star of mercy in peace will bring the pilgrim who seeketh the Heavenly King;
 And failing incense, Myrrh and gold, Bring thou thy Heart to the Saviour's fold,
 Give Him thy heart.

THE DOXOLOGY vs. 6, # 56, The Hymnal

**Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heavenly Lord.
 That hath made heaven and earth of nought. And with His blood our life hath bought.
 Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.**

* THE HYMN OF PARTING 23 *Angels We Have Heard On High* "Gloria"

* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

(Please greet one another in the peace of Christ.)

* SUNG BENEDICTION

Rejoice! Rejoice!

(Please join hands as we sing the Benediction)

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. (repeat)

* POSTLUDE

* Those who wish to do so are invited to stand

This Morning's Worship Leaders

Liturgist	John Dillon
Organist	Judith Brown
Special Music	Jessie Ragland, Laura Fehle, Sopranos; Patricia Kelby, Mezzo-Soprano; Lane Conklin, Tenor; Petr Skopek, Violin; James Tung, Violin; Alan Saucedo, Cello and the JoyBells Hand Bell Choir
Candle Lighters	Eleanor and John Johnson
Moment for Mission	Katie Ross
Acolyte	Will DiNola
Child Care	Julie Hudson, Janie Schlottmann
Greeters	Carol and J.P. Morgan
Coffee Hour	Pam Griffith (Susan Mills on Dec. 21)
Ushers	Carole Helmick, Bob Lange and Randy Sterne

Music Notes

The music for this Advent/Christmas journey in music spans five centuries in choral composition. Johann Eccard (1553-1611) was a German composer and kapellmeister. At the age of eighteen he went to Munich, where he became the pupil of Orlando Lasso. Eccard's works consist exclusively of vocal compositions, such as songs, sacred cantatas and chorales for four or five, and sometimes for seven, eight, or even nine voices. Their polyphonic structure is a marvel of art and still garners the admiration of musicians. At the same time his works possess a spirit of true religious feeling. "Mary's Salutation" is a microcosm of the Annunciation and Magnificat. Written in five choral parts, this motet is truly representative of his gift for composition.

Next in the chronological ladder is Arcangelo Corelli (1658-1718), an Italian violinist and composer of Baroque music. The style of execution introduced by Corelli and preserved by his pupils was of vital importance for the development of violin playing. It has been said that the paths of all of the famous violinist-composers of 18th-century Italy led to Arcangelo Corelli who was their "iconic point of reference." His influence was not confined to his own country. J.S. Bach studied the works of Corelli and based an organ fugue (BWV 579) on Corelli's Opus 3 of 1689. Corelli's Twelve concerti grossi, opus 6, are a collection of twelve works, published in 1708. These are some of the finest examples of the baroque-style Concerti Grossi. A concerto grosso is a work written for a concertino group (a smaller group of instruments) and a ripieno group (a larger group contrasting with the concertino group). His concerti grossi have often been popular in Western culture. For example, a portion of the Christmas Concerto, op.6 no.8, is in the soundtrack of the film *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World*. He is also referred to frequently in the novel *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*. What you will hear this morning are portions of the 18th century Concerto Grosso Opus 8, No. 6 with Christmas text added by 20th century poet Richard Shephard.

Peter Cornelius and John Rutter bring us to the 19th and 21st centuries. Carl August Peter Cornelius (1824-1874) was a German composer, writer about music, poet and translator. Despite his friendships with Wagner and Liszt, Cornelius had a rocky relationship with the so-called "New German School" of composition. Among many British musicians, his best known work is "The Three Kings", which will be sung this morning. An epiphany tale of the Wiseman is sung as a solo while the strings accompany this melody with a harmonization of the popular "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star" carol.

John Milford Rutter (1945 -) is an English composer, choral conductor, editor arranged and record producer. His compositions are chiefly choral, and include many Christmas carols, anthems, and extended works such as Magnificat. In 2002, his setting of Psalm 150, commissioned for the Queen's Golden Jubilee, was performed at the Thanksgiving service in St Paul's Cathedral, London. Rutter's music is eclectic, showing the influences of the French and English choral traditions of the early 20th century, as well as of light music and American classic songwriting. Despite composing and conducting much religious music, Rutter told the US television program 60 Minutes in 2003 that he was not particularly a religious man, but he is inspired by the spirituality of sacred verses and prayers. His music is very popular, particularly in the USA (NBC's Today Show called him "the world's greatest living composer and conductor of choral music"); There is great appreciation for his work in many parts of the UK, as illustrated by the following quotation from a review in the London Evening Standard: "For the infectiousness of his melodic invention and consummate craftsmanship, Rutter has few peers." In terms of performances he is probably the most successful choral composer of his generation. For example, his *Shepherd's Pipe Carol*, written while he was still at school, is reputed to have sold well over one million copies in sheet music alone. "Of A Rose, A Lovely Rose" is the second movement from his larger work, "Magnificat" and likens the Advent metaphor of the Rose to Mary.

We are pleased to welcome voice students from the Music Department of Frostburg State University and members of the Maryland Symphony this morning.

*"Reason
for the
Season"*



REASON FOR THE SEASON

Christmas is all about a Child, and children. The Global and Local Mission Committees encourage you to give a unique gift which reflects the true significance of Christ's birth, and provides more resources for the projects this church supports. Consider giving a gift toward:

- ◆ **LESOTHO CHILD COUNSELING UNIT**—Help the newly constructed shelter provide for the basic needs of orphaned and abused children in one of the poorest countries, as witnessed by Kati Ruark this past summer.
- ◆ **RESTORATION OF THE HEART**—Cumberland. Provides individuals in crisis with educational, spiritual, vocational and life skills instruction in a residential setting to prepare them for re-entry into society. Founded in 2004 by Frances Jones.
- ◆ **GUATEMALA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**—Help us to continue the 14 scholarships we provide for students in the Kaqchikel Presbytery and to expand it to include other children. An elementary school is \$125; a high school scholarship is \$150. Full or partial funding is welcome.
- ◆ **UNION RESCUE MISSION**—Cumberland. Rev. Dan Taylor cares for the physical and spiritual needs of homeless and transient people in this area as Jesus would do, but it costs money.
- ◆ **OTHER**—Give to a favorite mission that FPC supports; Special Ministries, Food Pantry; Project VIDA, El Paso; Kikuyu Hospital, Kenya; Mulanje Hospital, Malawi; Kyungju Hospital, Korea; Uraba Presbytery, Colombia, SA; Brett McMichael, Croatia; Pakistan schools, Nepal orphanage, This Child Here, Ukraine; or Juna Amagara, Uganda.
- ◆ You may request explanations of the groups and projects to give to your recipient. Look for displays throughout the church.



REASON FOR THE SEASON ORDER FORM

Name : _____ Phone: _____

Please pay with cash or one check for the total amount made payable to "First Presbyterian Church", earmarked "Reason for the Season". Your gift will appear on your church financial statement.

Lesotho Child Counseling Unit	\$ _____
Restoration of the Heart	\$ _____
Guatemala Scholarship Program	\$ _____
Union Rescue Mission	\$ _____
OTHER _____	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

_____ Yes, I would like one or more gift cards and mission explanations.

Christmas Poinsettias 2008



If you wish to dedicate a Christmas poinsettia in the Sanctuary in honor or memory of a loved one, please complete the tear-sheet below and place it in the offering plate, or return it to the church office.

Poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary for Christmas worship services beginning December 21. If you have indicated you wish to pick up your poinsettia to take home, you may do so any time after worship at the Candlelight Christmas Eve service. If you do not wish to keep your poinsettia, please indicate this on the tear sheet and they will be taken to our members who are confined to their homes. Donations may also be made toward the Christmas flowers.

Please print names exactly as you wish them to appear in the bulletin and attach a check for \$6.00 for each 6" poinsettia, marked "CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA" or stop by the church office during the week to pay for them.

Due date is Monday, December 15.



Christmas Poinsettias 2008

Number of 6" poinsettias: _____ at \$6.00 each, total \$ _____

Other contribution: _____

To the Glory of God in Memory or Honor of: (Please circle one)

By: _____

Phone: _____



I wish to pick up my poinsettia:

I do not wish to pick up my poinsettia:

What's Happening This Week:



SUNDAY, DECEMBER (14)

- 9:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 AM Sunday School for All Ages
- Adult Sunday School Class in Chapel
- 10:15 AM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 AM Coffee Hour in the Library
- 11:00 AM Worship Service, Third Sunday of Advent, Choir Cantata,
Moment for Mission, On the Air WCBC
- 4:30 PM GAFOSAC Youth Meeting

MONDAY, DECEMBER (15)

- 9:00 AM Church Office Open
- 9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School
- 10:00 AM Pastor's Book Study
- 12:00 Noon Highlanders Lunch at Geatz' Restaurant

TUESDAY, DECEMBER (16)

- 9:00 AM Church Office Open
- 9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School
- 5:30 PM Pee Wee Basketball Practice at Baltimore St. YMCA
- 6:00 PM Christian Education Meeting
- 7:00 PM Music & Arts Club Meeting

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER (17)

- 9:00 AM Church Office Open
- 9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School
- 6:00 PM Middler Team Basketball Practice at Cresaptown School
- 6:15 PM JoyBells Rehearsal
- 7:00 PM Sr. High Boy's Team II Basketball Practice at Cresaptown School
- 7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- 8:00 PM Sr. High Boy's Team I Basketball Practice at Cresaptown School

THURSDAY, DECEMBER (18)

- 9:00 AM Church Office Open
- 9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School
- 7:00 PM Session Meeting

FRIDAY, DECEMBER (19)

- 9:00 AM Church Office Open
- 9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School