



CHRISTMAS MUSIC

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 20, 2009

First Presbyterian Church,
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Cumberland, Maryland 21502
fpc-cumberland.org

COMING TOGETHER IN CHRIST

10:55 AM MEDITATION (Please pause in quiet preparation for worship.)

11:00 AM CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Prelude in B Flat (KV 68 (41))* W. A. Mozart

THE INTROIT *There Is a Flower* John Rutter

There is a flower sprung of a tree.
The root thereof is called Jesse, a flower of price;
there is none such in paradise.
This flower is fair and fresh of hue.
It fadeth never, but ever is new;
The blessed branch this flower on grew was Mary mild that bare Jesu;
A flower of grace; against all sorrow it is solace.

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

THE CALL TO WORSHIP: LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Leader: Light a candle in the darkness, Light a candle in the night, Let the peace of Jesus light us like a candle in the night.

People: He did not come in wealth and grandeur. He did not stand with men of power. He had no status to commend him. He was homeless, he was poor.
(Light the first Advent candle.)

But he came to heal the wounded and he came to heal the scars of a world that's bruised and broken where the image has been marred.
(Light the second Advent candle.)

And I feel his breath upon me and he whispers, "follow me". And he grants the fire within me and says "Let it shine for all to see."
(Light the third Advent candle.)

He walked among the lonely and the poorest of the poor. He gave his life to save us. He lives for evermore.
(Light the fourth Advent candle.)

* HYMN OF PRAISE #13 *Prepare the Way* "Bereden vag for Herran"

THE PRAYER OF APPROACH

SILENCE

AMEN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (together)

O God, you have set before us a great hope that your kingdom will come on earth, and have taught us to pray for its coming: make us ready to thank you for the signs of its dawning, and to pray and work for the perfect day when your will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON (Congregation & Choir)

#572, The Hymnal

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

THE DECLARATION OF PARDON

John Dillon

* THE RESPONSE IN PRAISE

#18, v. 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Children may come forward for worship bags.)

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Christmas Joy Offering

THE WORD IN MUSIC

* HYMN OF PREPARATION #48

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

"Es Ist Ein' Ros"

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 11: 1-3; 6-9

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Es Ist Ein Ros

arr. Brian Henkelmann

READING "The Sheep Stood Stunned in Silent Light" Thomas Troeger

The sheep stood stunned in sudden light.
The shepherds stared the creatures' fright,
While heaven's star embroidered train
Swept over hills and down the plain.

They heard a rhythmic, rumbling roar,
Like breakers breaking on the shore
And running up the thirsty strand
To toss a treasure on the land.

And then the waves began to sing!
A sea of angels, wing on wing,
Was circling, chanting in the skies
The news of Christ before their eyes.
This night, O God, again we hear
Your hidden ocean drawing near,
Again we sense through Jesus' birth
The seas of grace that circles earth.

O when the voiceless night returns
And heaven's sea more softly churns,
May faith be like the shell that sends
The sound of ocean waves and winds.

Through faith we'll hear the angels' song,
And though the dark be deep and long,
We'll bravely live, for by our side
Is Christ who came on heaven's tide.

ANTHEM

Wake, O Shepherds!
The Children's Choir

Jean Philippe Rameau

Wake, O Shepherds, hear the story of the Babe in Bethlehem.
Angels fill the sky with glory like a heav'nly diadem,
And sing a song loud and clear of praise to the Lord of heaven,
The Father, almighty King.
The Lord above, the Lord of love has sent to the earth a Savior!
His glory forever sing!

Shepherds, up, and hasten yonder to adore the King of love.
Kneeling there in awe and wonder, blend your hymns with those above,
And sing a song loud and clear of praise to the Lord of heaven,
The Father, almighty King.
The Lord above, the Lord of love has sent to the earth a Savior!
His glory forever sing!

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2: 1- 19

SERMON IN SONG *Song of the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ* Marc-Antoine Charpentier

RECITATIVE

There were in the same country, shepherds, abiding in the fields keeping watch o'er their flocks by night. And lo, an angel appeared to them, an angel of the Lord. The glory of the Lord shone round about them and they were sore afraid. But then the angel said to them:

AIR

Be not afraid, ye shepherds; For behold, I bring glad tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For this day is born in the City of David a Savior, 'tis Christ the Lord. And this shall be the sign: You will find the babe lying in a manger. Hurry, ye shepherds and there adore Him.

CHORUS

Awaken, let us hasten to go unto Bethlehem. There we shall see the wonder that was told to us. Why? Why then shepherds tarry?

MARCHE (Instrumental)

RECITATIVE AND AIR

And when these humble shepherds arrived at the place where the Child had been born; They knew the wonders told to them by the angels. They saw Mary and Joseph and the baby in a manger. Kneeling beside, they sang of their adoration in rustic but devoted songs of joy thus saying: On this day earth shall ring with the song shepherds sing, to the Lord, Christ our King born here this day. Now let us all rejoice, with heart and soul and voice, this gift his gracious choice now and always.

CHORALE AND RITORNELLO

On this day earth shall ring with the song shepherds sing, to the Lord, Christ our King born here this day. Now let us all rejoice, with heart and soul and voice, this gift his gracious choice now and always.

Born of a Virgin mild, spotless and undefiled He is the holy Child come from above, Children of every race see then the Father's face the babe who from his grace sent here in love.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2: 20-21

ANTHEM

In Dulci Jubilo

Dietrich Buxtehude

Now sing we, now rejoice! Now raise to heaven our voice;
He from whom joy streameth poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth the sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art!
Now through His Son doth shine the Father's grace divine.
Death o'er us had reigned through sin and vanity;
He for us obtained eternal joy on high.

May we praise Him there!
Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing with all His saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing in heavenly joy and light.
Oh that we were there.

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORSHIPPING THE LORD THROUGH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY DUET

Maria Wiegenlied

Max Reger

Amid the roses Mary sits and rocks her Jesus child,
While amid the treetops sighs the breeze so warm and mild.
And soft and sweetly sings a bird upon the bough:
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!
Happy is thy laughter holy is thy silent rest,
lay thy head in slumber fondly on thy mother's breast.
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

* THE DOXOLOGY

v. 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.**

* CHORAL BENEDICTION BY THE CHOIR

Alleluia!

J.S. Bach

Alleluia, O praised be God. All raise your voices, sing with thankful voices;
Thou God today hast given us joy, Hold fast to Him and praise His name eternal.

* THE HYMN OF PARTING #46

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

"Personent Hodie"

* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S LOVE

* THE POSTLUDE

JoyBells

* Those who wish to do so are invited to stand



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

- December 13: 3rd Sunday of Advent
 Special Christmas Music
- December 20: 4th Sunday of Advent
 Lessons and Carols
 Christmas Joy Offering Received
- December 24: 6 pm Christmas Eve Service of the Bells
 10:15 pm Cookie & Cider Social in the Library
 11 pm Christmas Eve Communion Service
- December 25:
Through Jan 3: **Church Office Closed**
- December 27 1st Sunday After Christmas
 No Sunday School Today
- January 3: 2nd Sunday After Christmas
 No Sunday School Today

If you can deliver a poinsettia to a shut-in, please take one from the sanctuary after worship tonight and a shut-in card from the table in the library. Thank you for sharing Christmas joy with our at home members.

The church office will be closed from now until January 4, 2009.

If you have an end-of-year pledge it must be mailed & received by the church by 12:00 noon on December 31 . All offerings received after that will be credited to 2010.