



**9:30 am Worship Service
December 24, 2021**

We are so glad you are worshipping with us this morning!

Reformed Presbyterian Church exists to be a stream of God's refreshing grace for people from all walks of life.

Today's Speaker: Rev. Kevin Sheahan, Associate Pastor
Worship Leader: Rev. Thomas E. Nicholas, Sr. Pastor

PRELUDES

*Christmas Medley/ arr. L. Larson
One Small Child
Christmastime*

*Once in Royal David's City/ No Eye Has Seen
The Birthday of a King
All is Well*

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE READING

The Christ Candle

Ben, Faith, Braden & Brooklyn Burchfield

HYMN 208*O Come All Ye Faithful***SCRIPTURE READING**Luke 1:68-70, 72-74, 79 (NIV)
Anthony Martin, Reader

The father of John the Baptist, Zechariah, was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people. He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear,... to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace."

CHORAL ANTHEM *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus/ R. Lau*

*Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in Thee.*

*Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.
Joy of every heart.*

*Born Thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now
Thy gracious kingdom bring,
Thy gracious kingdom bring.*

*By Thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by Thine all sufficient merit
raise us to Thy glorious throne,
raise us to Thy glorious throne.*

SCRIPTURE READINGGal. 4:4-7; I John 3: 1a (NIV)
Tim Hubach, Reader

But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons,

God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “*Abba*, Father.” So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir. How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

HYMN 230

Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:26-35 (NIV)

Kathy Rutter, Reader

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. 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 be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name 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 the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.”

“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Holy Child/ R. E. Schram

*In a rustic cradle, in a dusty stable,
lies the precious Son of God, our Lord and Savior.
You have come from heaven;
in all eternity, there has never been
a Holy child like this before!
More than innocent, more than pure,
You are the Holy One, God’s begotten Son,
sent to live among the lowly.
Full of majesty, full of grace,
You are the Only One
Who could take our place, and live a life that’s holy.*

*To a world of darkness comes the Word Incarnate;
You were, You are, and You will be forevermore.
You have come from heaven;
in all eternity, there will never be a Holy Child like this again!
More than innocent, more than pure,
You are the Holy One, God's begotten Son,
sent to live among the lowly.
Full of majesty, full of grace,
You are the Only One
Who could take our place,
and live a life that's holy, holy.
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.
Full of majesty, full of grace,
You are the Only One
Who could take our place;
You are holy.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:4-14 (NIV)
Deb Felak, Reader

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to men on
whom his favor rests."

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

HYMN 214

*Angels We Have Heard On High***SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 2: 15-19 (NIV)

Ed Voigt, Reader

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

CHORAL ANTHEM *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming/* arr. M. Connolly*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung!**Of Jesse's lineage coming As seers of old have sung.**It came, a blossom bright, Amid the cold of winter,**When half spent was the night.**Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The Rose I have in mind,**With Mary we behold it, The Virgin Mother kind.**To show God's love aright, She bore to us a Savior,**When half spent was the night.***CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION**

John 3:1-8 (ESV)

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Born that Man No More May Die

Rev. Kevin Sheahan

CHORAL ANTHEM*O Holy Night/* arr. J. Leavitt

*O Holy night the stars are brightly shining,
it is the night of the dear Savior's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;
Fall on your knees, oh, hear the angel voices!
O night divine o night when Christ was born!
O night O Holy night O night divine.
Truly he taught us to love one another,
His law is love, and His gospel is peace;
Chains shall he break for the slave is our brother,
and in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
let all within us praise His holy name;
Christ is the Lord, oh praise His name forever!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!*

CANDLE-LIGHTING*Silent Night***HYMN 195***Joy to The World, The Lord Is Come***BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE**

Permissions: Reprinted under Onelicense.Net A-72197
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus: Words by Charles Wesley, Music arranged by Robert C. Lau
Holy Child, Words and Music by Ruth Elaine Schram
Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming: Words Tr. by Theodore Baker, Music arranged by Michael Connolly
O Holy Night: French Words Placide Cappeau, Music Adolph Adam

SONG LYRICS

208 *O Come, all Ye Faithful*

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.

God of God, Light of Light:
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb:
very God, begotten, not created;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above:
Glory to God in the highest:
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 giv'n;
Word of the Father,
late in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

O Come, All Ye Faithful, Words attr. To John Francis Wade, Trad. by Frederick Oakeley, Music from John Francis Wade's Cantus Diversi ©Public Domain CCLI License # 79597

230 *Thou Who Wast Rich, beyond All Splendor*

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,
All for love's sake becamest poor;
Thrones for a manger didst surrender,
Sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,
All for love's sake becamest poor.

Thou who art God beyond all praising,
All for love's sake becamest man;
Stooping so low, but sinners raising
Heavenward by thine eternal plan.
Thou who art God beyond all praising,
All for love's sake becamest man.

Thou who art love beyond all telling,
Saviour and King, we worship thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling,
Make us what thou wouldst have us be.
Thou who art love beyond all telling,
Saviour and King, we worship thee.

Thou Who Wast Rich, beyond All Splendor, Words by Frank Houghton, Music French carol melody, arr.
by Charles H.Kitson © Public Domain CCLI License # 79597

214 *Angel We Have Heard on High*

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Angels We Have Heard on High, Words Trad. French carol, Music Trad. French melody, arr. by Edward S. Barnes

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia:
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent Night! Holy Night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light:
With the angels let us sing
alleluia to our King:
Christ, the Savior is born!
Christ, the Savior is born!

Silent Night! Holy Night!, Words by Joseph Mohr, Music by Franz Gruber
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195 *Joy to the World, the Lord Is Come*

Joy to the world, The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns:
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come, Words by Isaac Watts, Music by George Frederick Handel, arr. by Lowell Mason ©Public Domain CCLI License # 79597