



Reformed Presbyterian Church

9:30 am Worship Service

December 24, 2022

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

TODAY'S SPEAKER: Dr. Michael Rogers

Organist: Courtney Abbott-Fogie

Choir Director: Rachel Klein

PRELUDES

The Bells of Christmas Chime Once More/ arr. J. Hanson

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People/ arr. A. Fedak

Angels We Have Heard on High/ arr. H. Balcome

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne/ arr. K. Varner

Joy to the World/ arr. F. Ritter

◇ A time of quiet preparation

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL ANTHEM *Run to Bethlehem/ M. McDonald*

*Shepherd, wake up from your sheep,
run, run to Bethlehem;
rise up from your flock of sheep!
Run, run, run, run to Bethlehem!
In the manger you will find the Lamb for all mankind!*

*Shepherd do not be afraid, run, run to Bethlehem;
Christ the Lord is born this day!
Run, run, run, run to Bethlehem!
In the manger you will find the Lamb for all mankind!*

*Shepherd, hear the news we bring,
run, run to Bethlehem! "Glory be to God" we sing;
Run, run, run, run to Bethlehem!
In the manger you will find the Lamb for all mankind!*

*Shepherd, search and find the Lamb,
run, run to Bethlehem!
Leave your flock of ewes and rams.
Run, run, run, run to Bethlehem!
In the manger you will find the Lamb for all mankind!*

SCRIPTURE READING

The Christ Candle

Jon & Mary Ann McElhany

***HYMN 208**

O Come All Ye Faithful

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 4:8-11 (ESV)

Patty Coiner, Reader

And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings,
are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they
never cease to say,

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come!”

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and
thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and
ever, the twenty-four
elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and wor-
ship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns be-
fore the throne, saying,

“Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.”

CHORAL ANTHEM *Hail the Day of Christ's Appearing/ C. Curry*
**Congregation join choir when indicated)*

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-20 (ESV)
Rusty & Kathy Rutter, Readers

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

***HYMN 203**

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

CHORAL ANTHEM

The Wexford Carol/ arr. H. Helvey

*Good people all, this Christmas time,
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done
In sending His beloved Son.*

*Mary holy we should pray,
To God with love this Christmas Day;
In Bethlehem upon that morn,
There was a blessed Messiah born.*

*Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;*

*To whom God's angel did appear,
Which put the shepherds in great fear.
"Prepare and go," the angels said,
"To Bethlehem, be not afraid;
For there you'll find this happy morn,
A princely Babe, sweet Jesus, born."*

*With thankful heart and joyful mind,
The shepherds went the babe to find,
and as God's angel had foretold,
They did our Saviour Christ behold.
Within a manger he was laid
And by His side a virgin maid,
Attending on the Lord of Life,
Who came on earth to end all strife.*

***HYMN 230**

Thou Who Wast Rich

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2:1-12 (ESV)

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶ ““And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of
Judah; for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.””

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared.⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.”⁹

After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was.¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERMON

Star of Wonder
Dr. Michael Rogers

CANDLE-LIGHTING

Silent Night

CHORAL ANTHEM

Christmas Sanctus/ L. Dengler

*See the weary pair, nestled in a stable bare,
gazing at their baby boy, filled with love and praise.
Earth and heaven sing, worshipping the newborn King,
who has come to change the world.
Join in songs of praise: Holy, holy, holy is the blessed one.
Heav'n and earth are filled with your glory.
Holy, holy holy is the promised Son.
Glory be to God in the highest!*

*See the shepherds run, searching for God's precious Son;
kneeling at his manger bed, filled with love and praise.
Ev'ry knee will bow. Ev'ry tongue confessing now,
Jesus Christ is Lord of all. Join in songs of praise:*

*Holy, holy, holy is the blessed one.
Heav'n and earth are filled with your glory.
Holy, holy, holy is the promised Son.
Glory be to God in the highest!
Holy, holy holy is the Lord.*

***HYMN 195**

Joy to The World, The Lord Is Come

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Good Christian Men, Rejoice/ arr. K. Varner

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

Hail the Day of Christ's Appearing

CASAD
Words and Music by
CRAIG CURRY

Unis.

Choir *f* 1. Hail the day of Christ's ap - pear - ing! Hail the com - ing
Choir *mf* 2. See our God lie in a man - ger, King of kings in
All *f* 3. Hail the day of Christ's ap - pear - ing! Hail the com - ing

Unis.

of our King! "To our God be high - est glo - ry!"
cat - tle stall. Could this ti - ny, help - less ba - by
of our King! "To our God be high - est glo - ry!"

Unis.

Join and with the an - gels, sing! 'Though dis - guised as
Be the One to save us all? 'Though dis - guised as
We now with the an - gels, sing! 'Though He came as

mf

but an in - fant, who can fath - om God's first breath? Christ is come to
but an in - fant, All the pow'rs of dark - ness fear, For they see a
but an in - fant, one day He shall come on high. Hail the day when

ran - som sin - ners, come to con - quer sin and death!
new Light shi - ning, our Re - deem - er, Christ is here!
we shall meet Him at life's end or in the sky!

8

203 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born 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 angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's
womb.

Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th' incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-
eousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, Words by Charles Wesley, Music by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, arr. by William H. Cummings ©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

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 Do-
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