



**9:30 am Worship Service
December 20, 2020**

We are so glad you are worshiping 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
Organist: Courtney Abbott-Fogie

PRELUDES *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen/* arr. J. Brickman
We Three Kings/ arr. J. Brickman

WORDS OF GREETING

WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD

Psalm 122:1-4 (ESV)

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

People: **Our feet have been standing within your gate, O Jerusalem!**

Leader: Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together,

People: To which the tribes go up, the tribes of
the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to
give thanks to the name of the LORD.

IN PRAYER

***WE PRAISE OUR GOD**

HYMN OF PRAISE 223

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

WE CELEBRATE THE COMING OF CHRIST

THE ADVENT CANDLE: Wisemen's Candle

***WE EXALT OUR LORD**

WORSHIP SONGS

*The First Noel
Away in a Manger*

WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

WELCOME TO VISITORS

WE SEEK GOD'S FACE

Prayers of God's People

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-20 (ESV)

SERMON *Leaving Home...on the Road to Bethlehem*

Advent series: The Bethlehem Journey

Rev. Kevin Sheahan

***WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE 195

Joy to the World

*WORDS OF PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Hail, O Star/ E. Grieg

SONG LYRICS

223 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
an angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around,
and glory shone around.

"Fear not," said he for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind
"glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind,
to you and all mankind.

"To you, in David's town, this day
is born of David's line
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord;
and this shall be the sign,
and this shall be the sign:

"The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid,
and in a manger laid."

Thus spake the seraph. And forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song,
addressed their joyful song:

"All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
good will henceforth, from heav'n to men,
begin and never cease,
begin and never cease!"

The First Noel

The first Noel
the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
In fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep
Noel Noel
Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night
Noel Noel
Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel

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

Away in a Manger (Forever Amen)

Away in a manger
No crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus
Lay down His sweet head

The stars in the bright sky
Look 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 side
'Til morning is nigh

I worship You Jesus
For all of my days
The highest of praises
Be unto Your Name

My God and my Savior
My king and my friend
For Yours is the glory forever, amen
Yours is the glory forever, amen

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-20 (ESV)

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And 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, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And 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.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those
with whom he is pleased!”

¹⁵ 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.” ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.