



**9:30 am Worship Service  
December 27, 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**

*O Worship the King/ M. Ham*

**WORDS OF GREETING**

**WE APPROACH GOD**

IN WORD from Psalm 24 (ESV)

Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory?

People: **The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!**

Leader: Who is this King of glory?

People: **The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!**

Leader: The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,

People: **The world and those who dwell therein.**

Leader: He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

People: **Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

IN PRAYER

**\*WE PRAISE OUR GOD**

HYMN OF PRAISE 198

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

**WE CONFESS OUR FAITH** Hebrews 1:2-3 (ESV)

People: **But in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.**

**\*WE EXALT OUR LORD**

WORSHIP SONGS

*Angels We Have Heard on High/Glory to God*

*O Come, Let Us Adore Him*

**WE GREET ONE ANOTHER**

WELCOME TO VISITORS

**WE SEEK GOD'S FACE**

Prayers of God's People

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2:1-18 (ESV)

SERMON

***Seeking the King...on the Road to Bethlehem***

*Advent series: The Bethlehem Journey*

Rev. Kevin Sheahan

**\*WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE **226**

*As With Gladness Men of Old*

\*WORDS OF PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

*Christmas Postlude on "In Dulci Jubilo"/ G. Martin*

## SONG LYRICS

### **198 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!**

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;  
Behold, the King of glory waits;  
The King of kings is drawing near;  
The Savior of the world is here!

A Helper just He comes to thee,  
His chariot is humility,  
His kingly crown is holiness,  
His scepter, pity in distress.

O blest the land, the city blest,  
Where Christ the Ruler is confessed!  
O happy hearts and happy homes  
To whom this King in triumph comes!

Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
Make it a temple, set apart  
From earthly use for heaven's employ,  
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come, I open wide  
my heart to thee; here, Lord abide!  
Let me thy inner presence feel;  
Thy grace and love in me reveal.

So come, my Sovereign, enter in!  
Let new and nobler life begin!  
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on,  
until the glorious crown be won.

## Angels We Have Heard On High / Glory To God

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

Shepherds, why this jubilee  
Why your joyous strains prolong  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song  
Gloria, In excelsis Deo  
Gloria, In excelsis Deo  
Glory to God, glory to God  
Glory to God in the highest  
Glory to God, glory to God  
Glory to God in the highest

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

See within a manger laid  
Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
With us sing our Savior's birth.  
Gloria, In excelsis Deo  
Gloria, In excelsis Deo  
Glory to God, glory to God  
Glory to God in the highest  
Glory to God, glory to God  
Glory to God in the highest

## Glory To God

Peace on earth  
There is hope for everyone  
Tell the world  
That the saving King has come  
And His light is here  
For all who live in darkness  
And His love is here  
For all the broken hearted

Glory to God, Glory to God  
Glory to God in the highest  
Glory to God, Glory to God  
Glory to God in the highest

Peace on earth  
There is hope for everyone  
Tell the world  
That the saving King has come  
And His light is here  
For all who live in darkness  
And His love is here  
For all the broken hearted

Glory to God, Glory to God  
Glory to God in the highest  
Glory to God, Glory to God  
Glory to God in the highest

Jesus, Messiah, the promise fulfilled  
The hope of the world born for us  
And all who believe Him  
And all who receive Him  
Are children born of God

Glory to God, Glory to God  
Glory to God in the highest  
Glory to God, Glory to God  
Glory to God in the highest

CCLI Song # 3680326 Brenton Brown | Terry Butler

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## **O Come Let Us Adore Him**

O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord

For You alone are worthy  
For You alone are worthy  
For You alone are worthy  
Christ the Lord

We'll give You all the glory  
We'll give You all the glory  
We'll give You all the glory  
Christ the Lord

CCLI Song # 4162678

C. Frederick Oakeley | John Francis Wade | Matt Redman | Terl Bryant

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## 226 As With Gladness Men of Old

As with gladness men of old  
did the guiding star behold,  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious God, may we  
evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped,  
to that lowly cradle-bed,  
there to bend the knee before  
him whom heav'n and earth adore;  
so may we with willing feet  
ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare  
at that cradle rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly King.

Holy Jesus, ev'ry day  
keep us in the narrow way,  
and, when earthly things are past,  
bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heav'nly country bright  
need they no created light;  
thou its light, its joy, its crown,  
thou its sun which goes not down;  
there forever may we sing  
alleluias to our King.



## SCRIPTURE READING

### Matthew 2:1-18 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> 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.” <sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>“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.”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>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.” <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

<sup>13</sup>Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to

Egypt<sup>15</sup> and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

<sup>16</sup> Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. <sup>17</sup> Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup> “A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”