



THE COMMUNITY OF ST. PHILIP AT WORSHIP

DECEMBER 24, 2019

THE NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST

**VOLUNTARY**

*Canonic Variations on "Vom Himmel hoch"*

(From heaven above to earth I come) BWV 769

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

**INTROIT**

*Christmas*

Richard Shephard  
(b. 1949)

To us a child is born, to us a son is given;  
and his name will be called the Prince of Peace.

— Isaiah 9:6

✦ **CANDLE PROCESSION** *please rise as the candle passes your pew*

✦ **CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION**

1. **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!*

2. **Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation.  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!**
3. **Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!**

✦ LITANY

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.  
**Glory to God in the highest!**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.  
**Glory to God in the highest!**

For a child has been born for us, a Son has been given to us.  
**Glory to God in the highest!**

He is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
**Glory to God in the highest!**

To us is born in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.  
**Glory to God in the highest!**

And the Word became flesh and lived among us.  
**Glory to God in the highest!**

LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

✦ CAROL NO. 113

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

GLORIA

LESSON

Luke 2:8-14

ANTHEM

*Jesus, Springing*

Bob Chilcott  
(b. 1955)

I am the heart that houses the cone,  
the cone enclosing the cedar,  
I am the cedar sawn for the cradle,  
forest of the body, body of the tree.

I am the cradle rocking the baby,  
I am the baby containing the man,  
I am the man nailed on the cross,  
tree of the body, body of the forest.

I am the cross sawn from the cedar,  
I am the cedar enclosed in the cone,  
I am the cone housed in the heart,  
here in my heart Jesus, springing.

**LESSON**

Luke 2:15-20

**ANTHEM***Who Comes?*Leo Nestor  
(1948-2019)

Who comes? a child, delivered on a stable floor.  
His mewling, newborn cry is all that God can say  
of hunger, thirst and aching need  
where Jesus lives today.

Come, singing fire of truth, compassion, right,  
and scorch our hardened apathy  
till love is new and bright.

Who comes? a Jew declaiming from a prophet's scroll.  
His messianic cry is all that God can say  
of freedom, health and saving hope  
where Jesus lives today.

Come, singing breeze from worlds already, new.  
Blow in and out of weary minds  
till faith is singing too.

Who comes? a man, in dying moments on a cross.  
His God-forsaken cry is all that God can say  
of searching, scarred, redeeming love  
where Jesus lives today.

Come, singing light from new creation's dawn,  
where trees of healing deck the streets  
and joy is newly born.

— words by Brian Wren (b. 1936)

**SERMON**

A Shepherd Story

John W. Wurster

✦ **CAROL NO. 134***Joy to the World*

ANTIOCH

**OFFERING**

*Gifts may be given anytime at [www.saintphilip.net](http://www.saintphilip.net)  
or text "SPPC" to 73256 and follow the prompts*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** *The Holly and the Ivy*Matthew Owens  
(b. 1971)

The holly and the ivy when they are both full grown;  
Of all the trees that are in the wood the holly bears the crown.

*O the rising of the sun and the running of the day,  
The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.*

The holly bears a blossom as white as any flower;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to be our sweet Savior.

The holly bears a berry as red as any blood;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to do poor sinners good.

The holly bears a prickle as sharp as any thorn;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ on Christmas Day in the morn.

The holly bears a bark as bitter as any gall;  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to redeem us all.

# SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give thanks and praise,  
O holy God, ...

... Therefore we now join our voices with the  
choirs of heaven and the faithful of every time  
and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:



Ho - ly Lord, we join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



Blest is He, who comes in glo - ry, and th'e - ter - nal three in one.



Come and wor - ship. Come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ,  
... even as we remember the mystery of faith:



Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen, Christ the Lord will come a - gain.

O God, once again, pour out your Holy Spirit . . .  
With the confidence of the children of God,  
we pray as Jesus taught:

**Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**THE BREAKING OF BREAD AND THE SHARING OF GOD'S GIFTS**

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

*Sicilienne*

Gabriel Fauré  
(1845-1924)

**THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**

John 1 (*selected verses*)

**PASSING OF LIGHT**

*Please keep lit candles upright as you pass the light.*

**CAROL 122**

*Silent Night, Holy Night*

STILLE NACHT

**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.  
Heavenly 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.**

**CHRISTMAS BLESSING**

**SENDING VOLUNTARY**

*Noël sur les Grands Jeux*

Louis-Claude Daquin  
(1694-1772)

*please extinguish candles*

## WORSHIP NOTES

✦ Please stand, if able. **Bold** type indicates congregational responses.

We join Presbyterians in supporting the Presbyterian Christmas Joy Offering, which provides assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and develops future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Envelopes are in the pews for your gift.

**Communion** is served tonight by intinction. Please come to the stations via the center aisle, take a piece of bread, and dip it into the chalice of grape juice. Return to your seat via the side aisles. All the bread tonight is gluten-free. Individual cups of grape juice are available at the station closest to the windows. Persons with difficulty coming forward can be served in the pews by signaling the servers. Because the table of Jesus Christ is open to all, everyone is welcome to receive communion tonight.

## SERVING TONIGHT

### MUSICIANS

St. Philip Choir  
Dillion Junkin, trumpeter  
Lily Frautschi, pianist  
Ann Frautschi, flutist  
Matthew Dirst, organist  
Randall Swanson, conductor

### MINISTERS

John Wurster  
Keatan King  
Omar Rouchon

### LIGHTING ELF

Noah Robertson

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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