

Advent & Christmas 2023

*The First Witnesses
of Christ*



3rd Sunday in Advent

Hannah & Mary

December 17 | 9 & 11 am



Christmas Eve Services

10 am: Morning Prayer

This service will be livestreamed.

A simple morning service of liturgy and Advent hymns.

Children's Ministry & Nursery available



4 pm: Family Service

A family-friendly communion service with *Silent Night* by candlelight.

Children's Ministry & Nursery not available



6 pm: Traditional

Christmas liturgy & communion with carols by candlelight.

Nursery available

Holy Communion

All hymns & song lyrics are included in the bulletin.

Congregational responses are indicated in **bold**.

Once in Royal David's City

Verses 1, 2, 4, 5



1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is God and Lord of all,
3. And, through all His won - drous child - hood, He would hon - or and o - bey,
4. And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own re - deem - ing love,
5. Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, With the ox - en stand - ing by,



Where a moth - er laid her Ba - by In a man - ger for His bed:
And His shel - ter was a sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall;
Love, and watch the low - ly maid - en In whose gen - tle arms He lay:
For that Child so dear and gen - tle Is our Lord in heav - en a - bove;
We shall see Him; but in heav - en Set at God's right hand on high;



Ma - ry was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle Child.
With the poor, and mean, and low - ly, Lived on earth our Sav - iour ho - ly.
Chris - tian chil - dren all must be Mild, o - be - dient, good as He.
And He leads His chil - dren on To the place where He is gone.
When like stars His chil - dren crowned, All in white shall wait a - round. A - MEN.



The Acclamation for Advent

Surely the Lord is coming soon.
Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Collect for the 3rd Sunday in Advent

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

[Please be seated.]

The Lesson..... 1 Samuel 2: 1-10

Pew Bible pg. 225

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Psalm..... 34: 1-8

- 1 I will always give thanks unto the Lord; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 My soul shall make its boast in the Lord; *
the humble shall hear this and be glad.
- 3 O praise the Lord with me, *
and let us magnify his Name together.

- 4 I sought the Lord, and he heard me; *
he delivered me out of all my fears.
- 5 They looked unto him, and were made glad, *
and their faces were not ashamed.
- 6 Look, the poor man cries, and the Lord hears him, *
and saves him out of all his troubles.
- 7 The angel of the Lord camps round about those who fear him, *
and delivers them in time of need.
- 8 O taste and see how gracious the Lord is; *
blessed is the one who trusts in him.

[Please stand.]

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel Reading..... Luke 1: 46-56
Pew Bible pg. 856

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

[Please be seated.]

The Sermon..... The Rev. Ben Hughes

[Please stand.]

The Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

[Please sit or kneel.]

The Prayers of the People

*If you would like us to name someone aloud in prayer in the service
next week, please notify the office during the week.*

The Confession and Absolution of Sin

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name.**

Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

[Please stand.]

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

The Sursum Corda

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 him thanks and praise.

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

[On occasion the minister may add a proper preface.]

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, God Almighty

Who was and is, and is to come,

Lift up His name with the sound of singing,

**Lift up His name in all the earth.
Lift up your voice and give Him glory,
For He is worthy to be praised.
Holy. Holy.**

[Please be seated.]

The Prayer of Consecration

All praise and glory is yours, O God our heavenly Father, for in your tender mercy, you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there, by his one offering of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and he instituted, and in his Holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For on the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

And here we offer and present to you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice. We humbly pray that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, be filled with your grace and heavenly benediction, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

**By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.**

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.**

Amen.

The Fraction

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Prayer of Humble Access

**We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your abundant and great mercies.**

**We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under your table;
but you are the same Lord
whose property is always to have mercy.**

**Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.***

The Ministration of Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized believers are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Parents of baptized children are welcome to decide whether you would like your children to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

*To receive a blessing instead of communion,
simply keep your hands by your side or folded.*

If you require a gluten-free or alcohol-free cup, please ask the minister.

See Amid the Winter's Snow

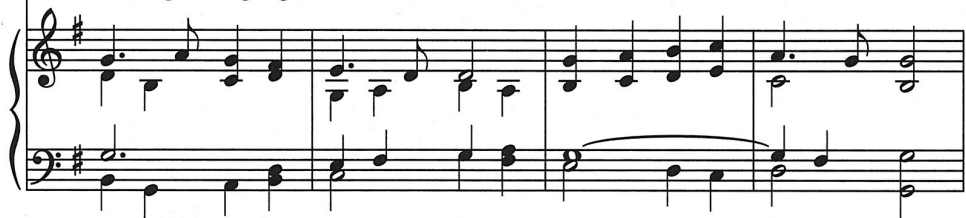
Verses 1-3



1. See a - mid the win - ter's snow, Born for us on earth be - low,
2. Say, you ho - ly shep - herds, say, Tell your joy - ful news to - day.
3. "As we watched at dead of night, There ap - peared a won - drous light;



See, the gen - tle Lamb ap - pears, Prom - ised from e - ter - nal years.
Why have you now left your sheep On the lone - ly moun - tain steep?
An - gels sing - ing 'Peace on earth' Told us of the Sav - ior's birth."



Refrain



Hail that ev - er - bless - ed morn, Hail re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn,

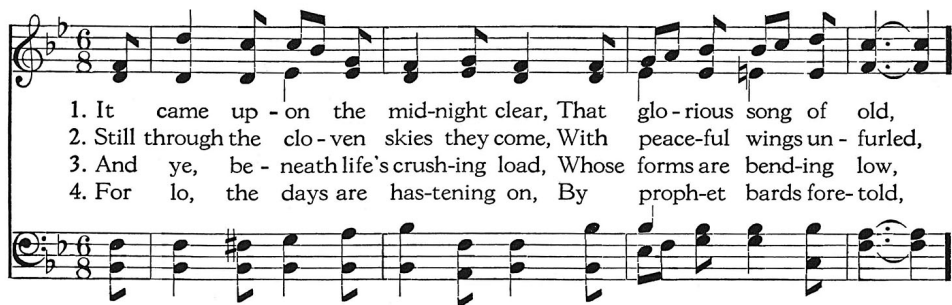


Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem: Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.

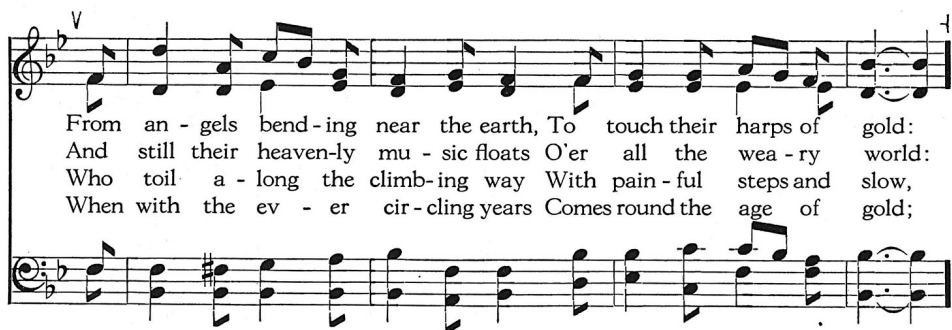


It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

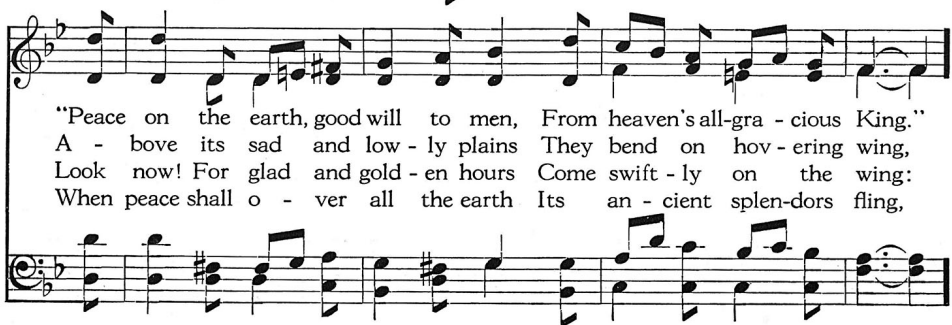
Verses 1, 3, 4



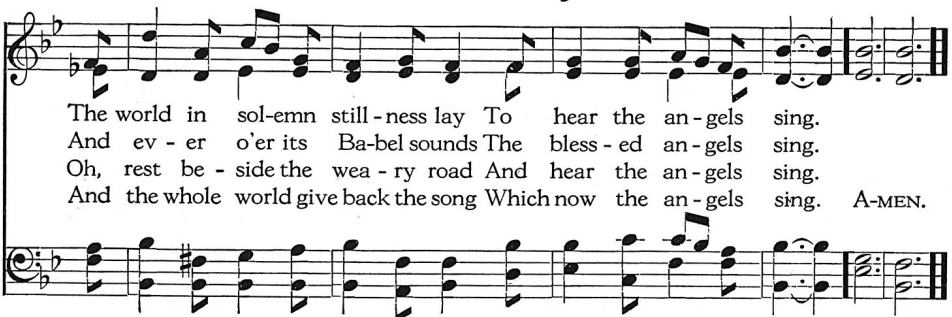
1. It came up - on the mid-night clear, That glo - rious song of old,
2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come, With peace - ful wings un - furled,
3. And ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load, Whose forms are bend - ing low,
4. For lo, the days are has - tening on, By proph - et bards fore - told,



From an - gels bend - ing near the earth, To touch their harps of gold:
And still their heav - en - ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world:
Who toil a - long the climb - ing way With pain - ful steps and slow,
When with the ev - er cir - cling years Comes round the age of gold;



"Peace on the earth, good will to men, From heaven's all - gra - cious King."
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains They bend on hov - ering wing,
Look now! For glad and gold - en hours Come swift - ly on the wing:
When peace shall o - ver all the earth Its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.
And ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.
Oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road And hear the an - gels sing.
And the whole world give back the song Which now the an - gels sing. A - MEN.

What Child Is This

Verses 1-3



1. What Child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2. Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3. So bring Him in - cense, gold and myrrh, Come, peas-ant, king, to own Him;



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet, 'While shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings, Let lov - ing hearts en-throne Him.



This, this is Christ the King, Whomshep-herds guard and an - gels sing:
Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you:
Raise, raise the song on high, The Vir - gin sings her lul - la - by:



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mar - y!
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The Babe, the Son of Mar - y!
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The Babe, the Son of Mar - y!



The Post Communion Prayer & Blessing

On occasion the minister may invite the congregation to join in the Post Communion Prayer below.

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father,

**We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal Kingdom.**

**And now, Father, send us out to do
the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever.**

Amen.

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**On occasion members of this congregation like to add “alleluia, alleluia”
to the dismissal.*



Under Jesus Christ, Our Savior and Lord:
The Rt. Rev. Alex Cameron, Bishop of Pittsburgh

Staff

The Rev. Alex Shuttleworth, *Rector*
Robert Fire, *Music Minister*
Tami Fire, *Children's & Pastoral Care Minister*
Josh Gerdes, *Children's Minister*
The Rev. Ben Hughes, *Assistant Minister*
Jenna Hughes, *Asst. Youth Minister*
Lam Gray, *Interim Asst. Youth Minister*
The Rev. Elizabeth H. Rodewald, *Deacon*
Niki De Luca, *Finance Manager*
Bridget Michael, *Operations Manager*

Vestry

Catherine Parham, *Senior Warden*
Matt Beresik, *Junior Warden*
Richard Cagley
Alyssa Campbell
Jane Flaherty
Zack Gray, *Treasurer*
Joe Nawrocki
Anne Malone, *Secretary*



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