

First Church at Worship

VOLUNTARY *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* Johannes Brahms

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*GREETING

Glory to God in the highest.

And on earth peace and good will toward men.

Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

Glory be to God on High.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders;

And he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful* *Adeste Fideles*

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;

Refrain:

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;

O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest; *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy evening,

Jesus, to thee be all glory given.

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

*LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

In him there is no darkness at all; The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God; Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness

have seen a great light;

those who lived in a land of deep darkness—

on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,

you have increased its joy;

they rejoice before you

as with joy at the harvest,

as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,

and the bar across their shoulders,

the rod of their oppressor,

you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors

and all the garments rolled in blood

shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us,

a son given to us;

authority rests upon his shoulders;

and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually,

and there shall be endless peace

for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it

with justice and with righteousness

from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

THE ANTHEM (5:00PM) *His Name Is Jesus* Nick Robertson
Sara Randle, soloist

THE RESPONSE(11:00PM) *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* *Veni Emmanuel*
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

THE SECOND LESSON Titus 2:11-14

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

* SEQUENCE HYMN *Angels We Have Heard on High* *Gloria*

Angels we have heard on high

sweetly singing o'er the plains,

and the mountains in reply

echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

* THE CHRISTMAS GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

* SEQUENCE HYMN *Angels We Have Heard on High* *Gloria*

Come to Bethlehem and see

Christ whose birth the angels sing,

come, adore on bended knee,

Christ the Lord, the newborn King

Refrain:

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

THE MEDITATION Rev. Kyle D. Randle

THE ANTHEM (5:00 PM) *Away in A Manger* Mack Walberg

HYMN OF RESPONSE(11:00PM) *Let There Be Peace* *World Peace*

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;

let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our creator, family all are we.

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

In Christ's manger, at Christ's table,

come, see what God makes known for you.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we confess our sin before you.

We replace compassion with competition.

We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek.

We are quick to anger but slow to forgive.

We have not put on love in harmony with you.

Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word.

Swaddle our hearts with your peace,

that all we do, in word or deed,

may reflect your love born among us.

Amen.

I bring you good news of great joy for all people:

God has come among us

in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord.

✠ In Christ your sins are forgiven

and you are clothed in peace.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

