



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville



To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

PRELUDE

Trio on Angels We Have Heard on High
arr. Wayne Leupold

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Martin Family

Reader 1: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Reader 2: He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him.

Reader 1: In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Reader 2: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Reader 1: The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

All: And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

ANTHEM

O Come, Little Children
Johann A.P. Schulz
arr. Mark Patterson (ASCAP)

O come, little children, O come, one and all to Bethlehem's stable, in Bethlehem's stall, and see with rejoicing this glorious sight. Our Father in heaven has sent us this night. O see in the manger in hallowed light a star throws its beam on this holiest sight. In clean swaddling clothes lies the heavenly child, more lovely than angels this baby so mild. O come, little children, O come, one and all to Bethlehem's stable in Bethlehem's stall. As Mary and Joseph smile on him with love the angels are singing sweet songs from above.

*†OPENING HYMN

Joy to the World
ANTIOCH

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all 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.**

THE ANNUNCIATION

THE JOURNEY

ANTHEM

Little Donkey
Eric Boswell

Little donkey, little donkey on the dusty road, got to keep on plodding onwards with your precious load.
Been a long time, little donkey through the winter's night, don't give up now, little donkey, Bethlehem's
in sight. Ring out those bells tonight, Bethlehem, Bethlehem. Follow that star tonight, Bethlehem,
Bethlehem. Little donkey, little donkey, had a heavy day. Little donkey, carry Mary safely on her way.
Little donkey, little donkey, journey's end is near, there are wise men waiting for a sign to bring them here.
Do not falter, little donkey, there's a star ahead; it will guide you, little donkey, to a cattle shed. Ring out
those bells tonight, Bethlehem, Bethlehem. Follow that star tonight, Bethlehem, Bethlehem. Little donkey,
little donkey, had a heavy day. Little donkey, carry Mary safely on her way.

HYMN

Once in Royal David's City
IRBY

Soloist

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

All

**He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall.
With the poor, oppressed, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.**
**Jesus is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.**
**And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.**

THE SHEPHERDS SEARCH

HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
MENDELSSOHN

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**
**Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**
**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

THE STABLE

HYMN

What Child Is This?
GREENSLEEVES

**What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?**

Refrain

***This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!***

**Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. *Refrain***

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. *Refrain***

HYMN

Away in a Manger
MUELLER

Soloist

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep in the hay.
The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

All

**Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

THE WISE MEN

HYMN

We Three Kings of Orient Are
KINGS OF ORIENT

All

**We three kings of orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.**

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

Soloist

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign.

All

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

Soloist

Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a deity nigh;
prayer and praising gladly raising, worshiping God Most High.

All

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

Soloist

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

All

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

**Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies.**

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

OFFERTORY

Jesus, Joy of Highest Heaven
Keith and Kristyn Getty

Jesus, joy of the highest heaven, born as a little baby under a wondrous star. Like us, crying, he takes his first breath, held by his mother, helpless, close to her beating heart. Jesus, laid in a lowly manger, facing a world of dangers, come to turn me, a stranger, into a child of God. Jesus, King of the highest heaven, learning to take his first steps, that he might bring us life. Like us, knowing our smiles and sorrows, he showed the way to follow, a way that is true and right. Jesus, take away every darkness, steady my simple footsteps, that I might in your goodness live as a child of God.

WORSHIP THE KING

LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF CHRISTMAS

*Please tilt your unlit candle toward your neighbor's lit candle as we spread the light of Christ.
Younger children may also light their glow sticks at this time.*

ANTHEM

Peace, Peace
Rick and Sylvia Powell

Peace, peace, peace on earth and good will to all. This is a time for joy. This is a time for love. Now let us all sing together of peace, Peace, peace on earth. Peace, peace (Silent night) Peace on earth (Holy night) And good will to all (All is calm) This is a time for joy (All is bright Round yon Virgin Mother and Child) This is a time for love (Holy Infant so tender and mild) Now let us all sing together (Sleep in heavenly peace) Of peace, peace on earth (Sleep in heavenly peace).

HYMN

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.**

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Please extinguish your candle.

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
John Rutter

May the peace and joy of this Christmas fill every heart and home.

* *Those who are able, please stand.*

† *Latecomers may be seated.*

MUSIC NOTES: *Trio on Angels We Have Heard on High* - Music - ©2004 Wayne Leupold Editions All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. *O Come, Little Children* - Johann A.P. Schulz - Arr. Mark Patterson (ASCAP) CCS License # 9151 Used by permission. *French Carol: Quem Pastores* from Oxford Book of Christmas Organ Music by Helmut Walcha, Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. *Jesus, Joy of the Highest Heaven* CCLI Song # 6135342 © 2011 Getty Music Publishing (BMI) (admin. By Music Services) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1121456. *Little Donkey* by Eric Boswell © 1959 Chappell Music Ltd. Under license from Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. All Rights Reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. *Peace, Peace* by Rick Powell | Sylvia Powell © 1969, 1973 Matterhorn Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1121456. *Toccata on "Joy to the World"* (Antioch) by Craig Phillips from Three Preludes for Christmas, Selah, 1996 All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895

SAVE THE DATE

VBS

RUN THE RACE

June 25-27, 2024

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

PAGEANT ASSISTANTS

Raphael Bundage – *Music Director*
Daphne Garey – *Music Assistant*
Stephen King – *Sound*
Mallory Hammond – *Director*
Catherine Martin – *Assistant Director*
Heather Moore – *Assistant Director, Costumes*
Shelley Eberle – *Assistant Director*
Mary Prevost – *Backstage Helper*

Leah Moser – *Backstage Helper*
Kevin Salter – *Angel Choir Director*
Kelly Posey – *Angel Choir Director*
JT and Mary Catherine Martin – *Lighting*
Rhonda Swanson – *Organ*
Peter Rogahn – *Piano*
Claire Paschal – *Soprano*
Elyse Cahill – *Opening Voluntary Organist*

CAST

PASTORS	GABRIEL	Russell Schwall	SHEEP
Ryan Moore	Elaine Morgan	Margot Thomas	Carter Alden
NARRATORS	INNKEEPERS	SHEPHERDS	Mac Andrews
Kate Andrews	Wynn Fuller	Juju Alden	Michael Cox
Amelia Emfinger	Kaiser Martin	Brock Clark	Lip Davis
Bentley Flanagan	Annie Walker	Greenlee Flanagan	John Erwin
Everett Hill	STARS	Ruffin Harris	Penn Floyd
Lylah Hill	Wright Billings	Julianna Mapangala	Vaughan Reed Floyd
Maddie Montgomery	Madelyn Dalton	Jonah Moore	Clare Fuller
Joanna Rixie	Rachel Eberle	Hudson Potter	Reese Garvey
Campbell Grace Ward	Cal Erwin	Mattie Rhodes	Lou Lou Harris
MARY	George Garvey	Ada Shapiro	Collins Kiser
Tara Thomas	Lee Hannon	Gabe Shapiro	James Martin
JOSEPH	Maddie Grace McFarlin	Isaac Shapiro	Meyer Montgomery
John Thomas	Marit Montgomery	Graham Walker	Penn Prevost
BABY JESUS	Evans Pettus	Maggie Wells	Luke Thomas
Bailey Thomas	Jonathan Paschal	WISE MEN	Brooks Ward
DONKEY	John Prevost	William Booker	Kate Wells
Caroline Andrews	Kenny Prevost	Reagan McMullen	Remy Woodward
	Trey Rhodes	Elijah Moore	
	Margaret Rolfe		

ANGEL CHOIR

Alice Alden	Avery Hoffman	Kennedy Potter – <i>soloist</i>
Kathryn Leigh Barrett	Evelyn Ison	Annie Prevost
Marcia Barrett	Jane Jager – <i>soloist</i>	Caroline Rhodes
Elyse Cahill – <i>soloist</i>	Grace Jager	Lily B. Rixie – <i>soloist</i>
Caroline Cahill – <i>soloist</i>	Molly Marshall	Zoe Schwall
Crea Coley	Mary Moss McInter	Reese Topol
Henry Cotter	Adah McInter – <i>soloist</i>	Railey Topol
Lizzy Kay Eatherly – <i>soloist</i>	Elizabeth Grace McInter – <i>soloist</i>	Millie Van Pernis
Anderson Emfinger	Georgia Moore – <i>soloist</i>	Mirette Van Pernis
Thomas Emfinger	Brittain Pettus	Margot Ward
Jane Hannon	Gracie Potter	

CHRISTMASTIDE WORSHIP 2023

Christmas Day Worship

Monday, December 25

11:00 a.m. | *Stanford Chapel*

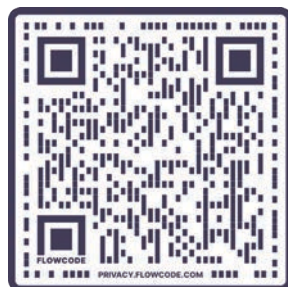
Happy Birthday, Jesus! Spend an hour worshipping the newborn King with your church family at this informal, relaxed service. We will enjoy some birthday cake and children are welcome to come in pajamas.

First Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, December 31

11:00 a.m. (*livestreamed*) | *Sanctuary*

On Sunday, December 31, there will be only one worship service, at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Nursery care will be available, beginning at 10:45 a.m. Young Children & Worship will not be provided.



SCAN HERE TO
LEARN MORE