



ASCENSION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • DECEMBER 15, 2019
THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Isaiah 2:5

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD.

O Come All Ye Faithful

Latin Hymn: *Adeste Fideles* • Public Domain

Alto

The image shows a musical score for the Alto voice part of the hymn 'O Come All Ye Faithful'. The score is written on a single staff with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score is divided into systems, with measure numbers 4, 7, 11, 14, 17, and 20 indicated at the beginning of each system. The lyrics are: 'O come all ye faith - ful joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O come ye to Beth - - le - hem. Come and be - hold him born the King of an - gels; O come let us a - dore him, O come let us a - dore him, O come let us a - dore him Christ the Lord.'

O come all ye faith - ful joy - ful and tri -
um - phant, O come ye, O come ye to
Beth - - le - hem. Come and be - hold him
born the King of an - gels; O
come let us a - dore him, O come let us a -
dore him, O come let us a - dore him
Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created;
(Chorus)

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
(Chorus)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.
(Chorus)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Colossians 1:19-20

In him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

CONFESSION OF SIN

*Holy Father, Son, and Spirit,
we have lived in open rebellion
against your gracious rule.*

*Please, Lord Jesus, may we find
our redemption in your passion,
the absolution of our guilt in your condemnation,
the cancellation of our curse in your cross,
the satisfaction for our sins in your sacrifice,
our purification in your blood,
reconciliation to God in your descent into hell,
the death of our flesh in your tomb,
immortality in your resurrection,
our inheritance in your ascension.*

We believe, Lord. Help our unbelief. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Colossians 1:21-22

You, who were once alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Proverbs 3:9–10

Honor the LORD with your wealth
and with the firstfruits of all your produce;
then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine.

OFFERTORY

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.*

GOSPEL READING • Luke 1:68-75

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

(Te Deum Laudamus, 5th Century)

You are God.
We praise you!

You are the Lord.
We acclaim you!

You are the eternal Father.
All creation worships you!

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:
*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might,
Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory!*

The glorious company of apostles praise you.
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you.

Father, of majesty unbounded,
Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
You, Christ, are the king of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free,
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.
*You overcame the sting of death
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.*

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.
We believe that you will come and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.
Amen.

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

Text: 15th Century German Carol • Translator: Theodore Baker

Music: Michael Praelorius, "Es Ist Ein Ros" • Public Domain



1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom - ing From
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The
3 This Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der With



ten - der stem__ hath sprung! Of Jes - se's li - neage co -
Rose I have__ in mind: With Ma - ry we be - hold
sweet-ness fills__ the air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen -



ming As men of old__ have sung. It came, a
it, The vir - gin mo - ther kind. To show God's
dor The dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet



flo - wer bright, A - mid the cold of win -
love a - right She bore to men a Sa -
ve - ry God, From sin and death He saves



ter When half - gone was__ the night.
vior When half - gone was__ the night.
us And ligh - tens ev - 'ry load.

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

18th Century English Carol • Public Domain

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of nine staves of music, each with a measure number (3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18) at the beginning. The lyrics are: "God rest you mer - ry gen - tle - men let no - thing you dis - may, re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas day, to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy, O tid - ings of com - fort and joy."

God rest you mer - ry gen - tle - men let
no - thing you dis - may, re - mem - ber Christ our
Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas day, to
save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a -
stray; O tid - ings of com - fort and
joy, com - fort and joy, O tid - ings of
com - fort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came;
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same;
how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name;
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!
O tidings of comfort and joy!

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "Let nothing you affright.
This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
to free all those who trust in him from Satan's power and might."
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!
O tidings of comfort and joy!

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,
and left their flocks a-feeding in tempest, storm and wind,
and went to Bethlehem straightway the Son of God to find;
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!
O tidings of comfort and joy!

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Isaiah 9:1–7

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.

- 2 The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.
- 3 You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
- 4 For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
- 5 For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.
- 6 For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Everlasting Father” (Rev. Eric Costa)



THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Heidelberg Catechism, 60

How are you right with God?

Only by true faith in Jesus Christ. Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments and of never having kept any of them, and even though I am still inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned or been a sinner, as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. All I need to do is to accept this gift with a believing heart. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE • Colossians 3:15

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

(Greet one another with the words, "*The peace of Christ be with you.*")

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE AND PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION • 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

THE MYSTERIUM FIDEI • 1 Corinthians 11:26; 5:7-8

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(All who confess faith in Jesus Christ may partake of this Sacrament: baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the Gospel, who are at peace with God and with their brothers and sisters in Christ, and who seek God's grace to live more faithfully for him in this world. Please come forward after the musicians. The glasses on your right contain grape juice for those who do not want wine. There are gluten-free crackers on the table. An Elder is available for prayer upon request [James 5:13-16].)

What Wondrous Love Is This

Text: American Folk Hymn • Music: Southern Harmony • Public Domain



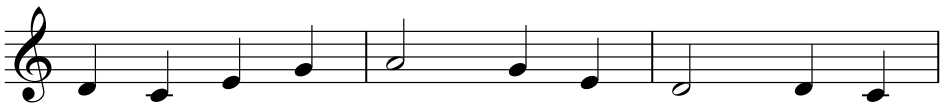
1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my
2 When I was sin-king down, sin-king down, sin-king
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won-drous love is this, O my soul! What
down, when I was sin-king down, sin-king down;— when
sing, to God and to the Lamb I will sing!— To
on, and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on!— And



won-drous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to
I was sin-king down be - neath God's right eous frown, Christ
God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM," while
when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful be, and



bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
sing, while mil lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Of The Father's Love Begotten

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413 • Music: *Divinum Mysterium*, 11th c.



Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the
O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the
This is he whom heav'n-taught sing - ers sang of
O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore him; an - gel
3 Christ to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O



worlds be - gan to be. he is Al - pha and O - me -
Vir - gin, full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv -
old with one ac - cord, Whom the Scrip - tures of the proph -
hosts, his prais - es sing; All do - min - ions, bow be - fore
6 Ho - ly Ghost, to thee, Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiv -



ga, he the Source, the End - ing he. Of the
ing bore the Sav - ior of our race; and the
ets prom - ised in their faith - ful word; Now he
him and ex - tol our God and King; Let no
9 ing, and un - wear - ied prais - es be, Ho - nor,



things that are that have - been, and that
babe, the world's Re - deem - er, first re -
shines, the long - ex - pect - ed; Let cre -
tongue on earth be si - lent, Ev' - ry
12 glo - ry, and do - min - ion, And e -



fu - ture years shall see, ev - er - more and ever - more!
vealed his sa - red face, ev - er - more and ever - more!
a - tion praise its Lord, ev - er - more and ever - more!
voice in con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ever - more!
ter - nal vic - tor - y, ev - er - more and ever - more!

Hosanna In The Highest

Text: The Book of Common Prayer • Music: Benjamin Wilkinson • Used by Permission

Tenor

8 Ho - san - na to the liv - ing Lord! Ho - san - na to the
O Sav - ior with pro - tect - ing care, a - bide in this thy
4 Be ho - nor, praise, and glo - ry giv'n, by all on earth and
8 liv - ing word! Where we thy par - ting prom - ise claim, as -
house of prayer; and make our se - cret soul to be, a
7 all in heav'n, to God the Fa - ther and the Son, and
8 semb - led in thy sa - cred name; to Christ, cre - a - tor
tem - ple pure and ho - ly; be hon - or praise and
10 God the Spi - rit three in one, be hon - or praise and
8 Sa - vior, King, let earth, let heav'n, Ho - san - nas sing! Ho - san - na!
glo - ry giv'n, by all on earth and all in heav'n.
14 glo - ry giv'n, by all on earth and all in heav'n!
8 _ Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! in the high - est!_

To earth you came a tiny babe, to earth you came our souls to save;
A child born meek and lowly, the infant King of Glory!
To earth you came a tiny babe, to earth you came our souls to save;
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna! In the highest!
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna! In the highest!

BENEDICTION • 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

~

*Every gathering is an opportunity to invite friends,
to introduce others to the Christ-centered community and life of the church!*

After Worship • Please stay a while for coffee and conversation! Around 11:45am we will begin Sunday School classes for the children in the sanctuary, and Sermon Discussion for the adults in the fellowship hall. (Infants and toddlers are welcome to join the adults in Sermon Discussion.)

Advent Choir Practice • 7pm Tuesdays, in the Sanctuary.

Christmas Eve Service • 7pm Tuesday, December 24, in the Fellowship Hall.

Refreshments Volunteers • Bringing refreshments to share at church is a great way to practice hospitality. Contact: Nicole Hamilton (neh.hamilton@gmail.com)

Today: Bonifield

Next week: C. Boden

Nursery Volunteers • Can you play with young children and help their parents once every 6-8 weeks? Contact: Rainy Aznoe (rainyrr@aol.com).

Today: Stevenson

Next week: Aznoe

•

PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

Love INC, Hillsboro (loveincgreaterhillsboro.org)

Northwest Church Planting Network (nwcpcnetwork.com)

Reformed University Fellowship (ruf.org)

Brian & Faith Janssen, Missionaries in Taiwan with OMF (omf.org/asia/taiwan)



Public Worship • 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro • ascensionpc.org

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Printed songs are used by permission under CCLI license #11109756.

(Please fill out this contact card, tear it off, and drop it in the offering.)

Name(s)

I am a visitor.

I want to know more about being a Christian.

I would like to get coffee with the Pastor.

Please send me the email newsletter.

Please use this info for the photo directory.

Email / Phone