

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

**PRELUDE** "Five Noëls" Charles Tournemire (France, 1870-1939)  
"I wonder as I wander" arr. Jack Schrader (USA b., 1942)  
"O Little town of Bethlehem" arr. Jack Schrader  
Flute: Carol Ann Cameron

**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

(Stand)

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**C** **And also with you.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE:**

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|--|---|
| 1. O come, all ye faithful,<br>Joyful and triumphant!<br>O come, ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem<br>Come and behold him<br>Born the king of angels: <b>R/</b> | 2. The highest, most holy,<br>Light of light eternal,<br>Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;<br>Son of the Father<br>Now in flesh appearing! <b>R/</b> |
|--|---|

**Refrain:** O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

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|--|---|
| 3. Sing, choirs of angels,<br>Sing in exultation,<br>Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!<br>Glory to God<br>In the highest: <b>R/</b> | 4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,<br>Born this happy morning<br>Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!<br>Word of the Father,<br>Now in flesh appearing: <b>R/</b> |
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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. (Silence) Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen** (Sit)

**FIRST LESSON:** Isaiah: 9:2-7

**SOLO** "Away in the Manger" arr. Mark Hayes (U.S.A. b., 1953)  
Solo Carol Ann Cameron

**SECOND LESSON:** Titus 2:11-14

(Stand and Light candles before singing hymn)

**HYMN:**

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|---|--|
| 1. Silent Night, holy night!<br>All is calm, all is bright<br>Round yon virgin mother and child.<br>Holy Infant, so tender and mild,<br>Sleep in heavenly peace.<br>Sleep in heavenly peace.      | 3. Silent night, holy night!<br>Son of God, love's pure light<br>Radiant beams from your holy face,<br>With the dawn of redeeming grace,<br>Jesus, Lord, at your birth,<br>Jesus, Lord, at your birth. |
| 2. Silent Night, holy night!<br>Shepherds quake at the sight;<br>Glories stream from heaven afar,<br>Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!<br>Christ the Saviour is born!<br>Christ the Saviour is born! |  |

**GOSPEL** Luke 2:1-20

(Hand candles are extinguished when the reading is concluded). (Sit)

**SERMON**

**HYMN:** (Stand)

1. In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan.  
earth, stood hard as iron, water like a stone.;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow.  
In the bleak winter long ago.
2. Heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;  
heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign;  
In the bleak winter a stable place sufficed,  
the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.
3. What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;.  
if I were a wise man I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.

**NICENE CREED**

**C** We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in the 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.

**PRAYERS**

**A** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(a brief silence)

**A** You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father. Enlighten your Church with the radiance of your presence as you come to us in Word and Sacrament. Lord, in your mercy.

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** When you became human to set us free, you did not spurn the Virgin's womb. Spurn not our world today, but enable justice and peace to prevail for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** You overcame the sting of death, and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Be with those who suffer the stings of hunger and loneliness, depression and oppression, tragedy and illness (especially...). Lord, in your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

(Here other intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.)

**P** We remember with thanksgiving blessed Mary, your mother; Stephen, the first martyr; John, your beloved disciple; the Holy Innocents, the martyred children of Bethlehem. With them and with the choirs of angels, we sing in exultation:

**C** **Glory to God in the highest! Amen**

## PEACE

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** **And also with you.**

(Pastor and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord).  
Peace be with you. **R/ Peace be with you.**

## OFFERING (Sit)

**OFFERTORY** Chorale prelude on “In the bleak midwinter”

Malcolm Archer  
(England, b. 1952)

## OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Let us pray. (Silence.) Blessed are you,  
**C** **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**  
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**  
**P** We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you. Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight.

He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin’s womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: “Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me”.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This is my blood poured out for you. Do this for the remembrance of me".

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

And we ask you: Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ. Through him all glory and honour are yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

**C Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C Our Father...**

### **COMMUNION**

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C Amen**

### **HYMN:**

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|---|--|
| <p>1. Hark! The herald angels sing,<br/>         "Glory to the newborn king;<br/>         Peace on earth, and mercy mild,<br/>         God and sinners reconciled."<br/>         Joyful, all you nations, rise;<br/>         Join the triumph of the skies;<br/>         With angelic hosts proclaim,<br/>         "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" <b>R/</b></p> | <p>2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,<br/>         Christ, the everlasting Lord,<br/>         Late in time behold him come,<br/>         Offspring of a virgin's womb.<br/>         Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!<br/>         Hail, the incarnate deity!<br/>         Pleased as man with us to dwell,<br/>         Jesus, our Emmanuel! <b>R/</b></p> |
|---|--|

**Refrain** Hark! the herald angels sing,  
 "Glory to the newborn king!"

3. Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace,  
 Hail the sun of righteousness!  
 Light and life to all he brings,  
 Ris'n with healing in his wings,  
 Mild he lays his glory by,  
 Born that we no more may die,  
 Born to raise each child of earth,  
 Born to give us second birth. **R/**

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**P** Let us pray. (Silence) We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

**BENEDICTION**

**P** Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C Amen**

**DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord

**C Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN:**

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive its King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
And heav'n and nature sing. (Repeat)
2. Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sin and sorrow grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground!  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love.

**POSTLUDE** "Chant du roi René"

Alexandre Guilmant (France 1837 - 1911)

Thank you to Flutist Carol Ann Cameron for her gift of music.



ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION**

December 24, 2017

11:00 p.m.

**Worship Services**

Worship Note: Christmas Day and all Sunday Services are at 10:00 a.m.