# FESTIVAL OF CAROLS

DECEMBER 14, 2014

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

### THE MEANING of CHRISTMAS

e hope you enjoy this worship service celebrating the marvelous birth of Jesus Christ, who is the Savior of mankind and the true meaning of Christmas. More importantly, we hope you know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. Being a Christian is more than identifying yourself with a particular religion or affirming a certain value system. Being a Christian means you have embraced what the Bible says about God, mankind, and salvation. Consider the following truths found in the Bible.

#### God is Sovereign Creator

Contemporary thinking says man is the product of evolution. But the Bible says we were created by a personal God to love, serve, and enjoy endless fellowship with Him. The New Testament reveals it was Jesus Himself who created everything (John I:3; Colossians I:16). Therefore, He also owns and rules everything (Psalm 103:19). That means He has authority over our lives and we owe Him absolute allegiance, obedience, and worship.

#### God is Holy

God is absolutely and perfectly holy (Isaiah 6:3); therefore He cannot commit or approve of evil (James I:13). God requires holiness of us as well. First Peter I:16 says, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

#### Mankind is Sinful

According to Scripture, everyone is guilty of sin: "There is no man who does not sin" (I Kings 8:46). That doesn't mean we're incapable of performing acts of human kindness. But we're utterly incapable of understanding, loving, or pleasing God on our own (Romans 3:10–12).

#### Jesus is Lord and Savior

Romans 10:9 says, "If you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you shall be saved." Even though God's justice demands death for sin, His love has provided a Savior who paid the penalty and died for sinners (I Peter 3:18). Christ's death satisfied the demands of God's justice, and Christ's perfect life satisfied the demands of God's holiness (2 Corinthians 5:21), thereby enabling Him to forgive and save those who place their faith in Him (Romans 3:26).

#### The Character of Saving Faith

True faith is always accompanied by repentance from sin. Repentance is agreeing with God that you are sinful, confessing your sins to Him, and making a conscious choice to turn from sin (Luke 13:3, 5; I Thessalonians I:9) and pursue Christ (Matthew II: 28–30; John 17:3) and obedience to Him (I John 2:3). It isn't enough to believe certain facts about Christ. Even Satan and his demons believe in the true God (James 2:19), but they don't love and obey Him. True saving faith always responds in obedience (Ephesians 2:10).



The Nativity, 1563

German woodcut from Martin Luther's book of sermons for Festival Sundays, Kercken Postilla, datys, Vthlegginge der Epistelen vnd Euangelien, an de Söndagen vnde vornemesten Festen In preparation for worship, please silence your mobile devices.

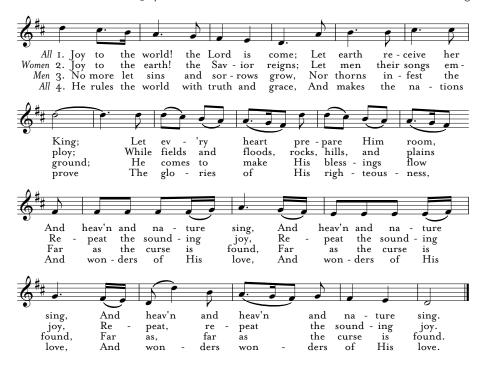
Please join in singing when indicated with music.

Indicates congregation standing.

Following the service, all are invited to join us in the connector and reception areas for wassail and cookies.

# FESTIVAL OF CAROLS

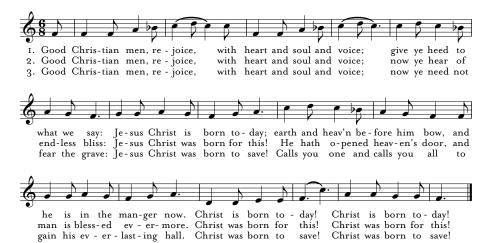
WELCOME..... Gabriel Statom ORCHESTRAL PRELUDE: "Rejoice!".... Steven Admundson CAROL OF PRAISE: "Joy to the World".....arr. Mack Wilberg



♦INVOCATION AND GREETINGS......Mike Stokke

#### CAROL

"Good Christian Men, Rejoice" .....arr. Stan Pethel



#### CAROL ANTHEM

"God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" .....arr. Barlow Bradford

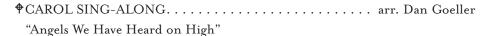
God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay, Remember Christ, our Saviour was born on Christmas day, To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray, O tidings of comfort and joy!

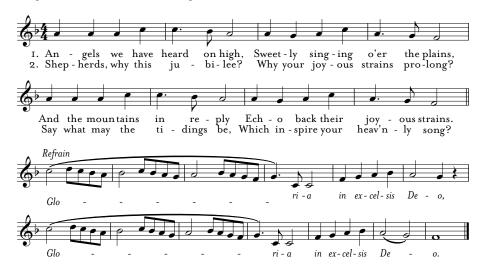
From God our Heavenly Father a blessed Angel came; And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same: How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name. O tidings of comfort and joy!

"Fear not then," said the angel, "Let nothing you affright, This day is born a Saviour 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!

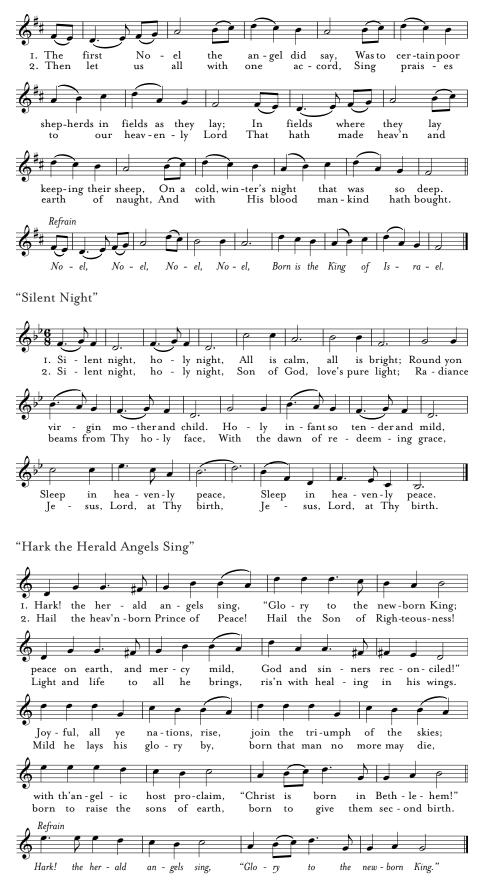
The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind, And left their flocks a-feeding in tempest, storm and wind: And went to Bethlehem straightway the Son of God to find. O tidings of comfort and joy!

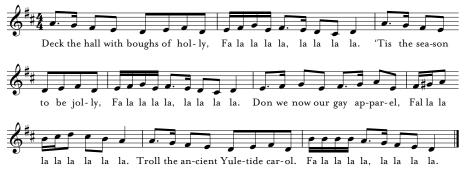
Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place, And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace; This holy tide of Christmas all other doth deface. O tidings of comfort and joy!



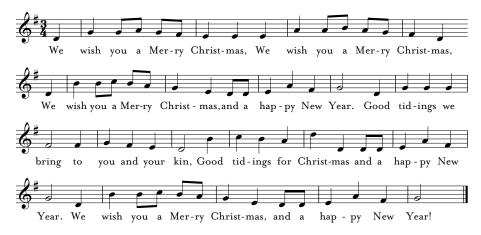


"The First Noel"





"We Wish You a Merry Christmas"



#### CAROL ANTHEM

"Carol of Joy"......Dan Forrest, Eileen Berry

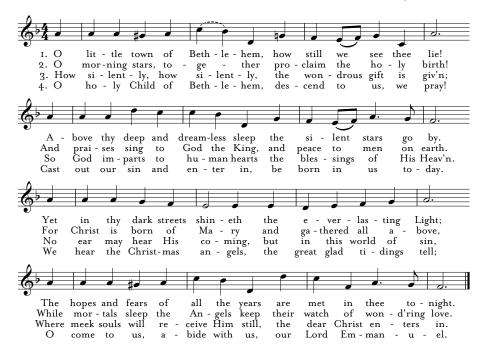
Green leaves all fallen, withered and dry; Brief sunset fading, dim winter sky; Lengthening shadows, Dark closing in... Then, through the stillness, carols begin! Oh fallen world, to you is the song! Death holds you fast and night tarries long. Jesus is born, your curse to destroy! Sweet to your ears, a carol of Joy!

Pale moon ascending, solemn and slow; Cold barren hillside, shrouded in snow; Deep, empty valley, veiled by the night; Hear angel music – hopeful and bright! Oh fearful world, to you is the song. Peace with your God, and pardon for wrong. Tidings for sinners, burdened and bound,

A carol of joy! A Saviour is found! Earth wrapped in sorrow, lift up your eyes! Thrill to the chorus filling the skies. Look up, sad-hearted. Witness God's love; Join in the carol swelling above! Oh friendless world, to you is the song! All Heaven's joy to you may belong! You who are lonely, laden, forlorn:

Oh fallen, oh friendless world! To you, a Saviour is born!

CAROL: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" .....arr. John Rutter



#### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

#### CAROL ANTHEM

"Go Tell It On the Mountain" arr. John Rutter			
Go, tell it on the mountain,	The shepherds feared and trembled,		
Over the hills and everywhere.	When lo, above the earth		
Go, tell it on the mountain	Rang out the angel chorus		
That Jesus Christ is born.	That hailed the Savior's birth.		
While shepherds kept their watching	Down in a lowly manger		
O'er silent flocks by night,	The humble Christ was born,		
Behold, throughout the heavens	And brought us God's salvation		
There shone a holy light.	That blessed Christmas morn.		

♦ CAROL: "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child" . . . . . . . . . . . . . arr. Mark Cohen

6#4 1. Gen - tle her Child laid - ly Ma ry low in man ger; Him; 2. An - gels 3. Gen - tle sang a bout His birth: wise men sought and found Ma \_ laid her Child \_ ly man ry low in а \_ ger; 0 There He filed, Stran lay, the - de the world ger: Him: un to а bright - ly glo but Hea - ven's star shone forth, ry all а round He Un - de is still the - filed. no more а strang er. 0 • 1 Such Babe place, He be the Sa vior? such а in can а Shep-herds gels the won - drous sight, heard saw the an sing ing; Son  $\mathbf{of}$ birth.  $\operatorname{God}$ hum - ble ful ry; of beau - ti the sto \_ ò • 0 0 0 of all have found His Ask saved the who fa the race vor. plains were All all hills were ring ing. the lit that night, the praise His name in all the earth, hail the King of glo ry! . arr. Patti Drennan CAROL: "Away In a Manger" . . . 6 Women I. A - way in Men 2. The cat - tle crib for bed. the lit tle Lord а man-ger, no а ba - by a ask Thee to \_ low-ing, the wakes. lit tle Lord are hut

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#### CAROL ANTHEM

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"What Child Is This"..... ..... arr. Barlow Bradford

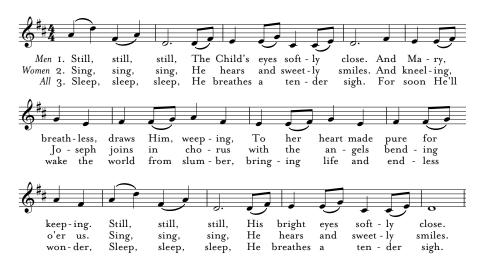
What child is this, who laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping?

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 Christians, fear, for sinners here, The silent Word is pleading. So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own him. The King of Kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise the song on high, The Virgin sings her lullaby. Joy, joy for Christ is born, The Babe, the Son of Mary.

CAROL: "Still, Still, Still" .....arr. Mack Wilberg



HOMILY: A Holy Night, A Holy Love..... Sandy Willson

#### ANTHEM

"O Holy Night" ..... arr. David Clydesdale Ginger Statom, Soloist

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining, It is the night of the dear Savior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining. Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;

Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! Truly He taught us to love one another, His law is love and His gospel is peace; Chains He shall break, for the slave is our brother, And in His name all oppression shall cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, Let all within us praise His holy name.

#### **†**BENEDICTION

CAROL: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ......David Wilcocks



ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella" ..... Denis Bédard

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Gabriel Statom, Director of Music Samuel Metzger, Organist/Music Associate Christy Young, Assistant Director Mary Quinlan, Administrative Assistant Terri Theil, Director of Children's Music and Second Conservatory Ginger Statom, Director of Youth Choir Madelyn Carson, Intern

Janice Akins	Roger Fakes	Harold Knight	Diego Rodriguez
Ginny Atkinson	Barbara Faulk	Milton Knowlton	Jonathan Sessions
John Beckham	Beth Fischer	Rob Liddon	Leslie Shaw
Jerry Bowman	Fred Flinn	Caesar Lomo	Sam Shaw
Marjorie Bowman	Mary Lawrence Flinn	Hite McLean	Amy Stanfill
Jennifer Brandon	Sallie Foster	Colby Morgan	Ginger Statom
Suzanne Burgar	Bob Green	Carey Moore	Taylor Strickland
Jim Cantrell	Sharon Green	Jo Myhr	Robert Sutton
Linda Cantrell	Kathy Hammond	Bob Neal	Emily Taylor
Madelyn Carson	Rachel Harkins	Charlotte Neal	Terri Theil
Orgeny Carroll	Joe Hause	Bob Oliver	Anne Thompson
Pat Corbitt	June Hause	Carol Overcast	Brett Trimble
Sarah Curtis	Mike Hillard	Haley Overcast	Lee Wallace
Clay Deacon	Martha Hopper	Anna Pepper	Susan Warner
Liz Deacon	Julia Johnson	Justin Pepper	BJ Webster
David Dennis	Molly Johnson	Kackie Person	Dan Whipple
Pam Dennis	Betty Lu Jones	Tom Person	Tucker Williams
Luanne Donoghue	Warren Jones	Annie Petzinger	Christy Young
Mike Donoghue	Benjy Joung	Virginia Pilcher	Keith Young
Mary Edwards	Matt King	Gay Rhodes	Marilyn Ziegler
Karen Emmett	Carol Kirby	Anto Rodriguez	. 0
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#### THE CHANCEL CHOIR

We are grateful to be joined this evening by members of our Children's and Youth Choirs.

VIOLIN I	Cello	Bassoon	Tuba
Paul Turbow	Jonathan Kirkscey	Michael Scott	Kevin Sanders
Diane Zelickman	Hannah Schmidt	Horns	Percussion
Wen-Yih Yu	BASS	Dan Phillips	David Carlisle
Long Long Kang	John Chiego	Daniel Vidican	Ed Murray
VIOLIN II Gaylon Patterson	Flute Karen Busler	Jaron Kloap Bethany Beck	TIMPANI Frank Shaffer
Ionut Cosarca	Elise Blatchford	Trumpet	HARP
Libby Armour Amanda Kull VIOLA	CLARINET André Dyachenko Robin Jones	Susan Enger Chris Wilson Mark Woodridge	Marian Shaffer
Irene Wade Karen Casey	OBOE Joseph Salvalaggio Luke Bryson	Trombone John Mueller Wes Lebo Buster Harris	

#### THE ORCHESTRA

## MUSIC AT SECOND

#### CALENDAR of EVENTS

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols Sunday, December 21, 2014 8:15 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Advent Evensong & Communion with Buddy Greene Sunday, December 21, 2014 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Durufle's Requiem and Lauridsen's Lux Aeterna presented by the Memphis Masterworks Chorale Friday, February 13, 2015 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Lenten Organ Concert with Samuel Metzger Friday, March 6, 2015 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

> Lenten Concert presented by the Memphis Children's Choir Tuesday, March 24, 2015 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel

#### Lenten Concert: Choral Reflections presented by the Laudis Domini Ensemble

Thursday, March 26, 2015 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Ascension Day Concert Thursday, May 14, 2015 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary



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