

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS



A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 27, 2020
10:45 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church
Bryan, Texas

WELCOME & GREETINGS

PRELUDE

Angels We Have Heard on High

arr. Martha Mier

OPENING WORDS

OPENING PRAYER

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray and be born in us this day. And we pray, dear Christ, that you will not only be born in our hearts, but that you will also be born into our troubled world, for you alone know how much our world is in need of your salvation. Send your light into a world of darkness; send your love into a world of hate, send your truth into a world of dishonesty and deceit, and send your reconciling power to break down all the walls that divide us from one another for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior of the world. Amen.

Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and join with the prophets of old and with the shepherds as we celebrate together, the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

CAROL (St. 1)

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

**O holy night, the stars are brightly shining, it is the night of the dear Saviour'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 world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;**

CHORUS Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices! O night divine!

O night when Christ was born. O night, O holy night, O night divine.

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Text in **bold face type** is to be read by all.

## THE ANNUNCIATION

*In days of old, prophets told of the arrival of the promised one, our savior, the Christ,  
and thus the story unfolds beginning with an Angel appearing to young Mary in Nazareth . . .*

FIRST LESSON

Luke 1:26-35; Luke 1:46-48

CAROL

Love Came Down at Christmas

Christina Georgina Rossetti (1885)

**Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, Love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.**

**Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love divine;  
worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign?**

**Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine  
love to God and others, love for plea and gift and sign.**

## THE BIRTH

*Concerning the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, it is written:*

SECOND LESSON

Luke 1:26-35,38

CAROL NO. 121 (st. 2,3,4)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

**For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.**

**O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.**

**How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear my hear his coming, but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.**

**We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

## ANGELS

*Concerning the announcement of the birth of Christ to the shepherds, it is written:*

THIRD LESSON

Luke 2:8-14

CAROL (St. 1,2,4)

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Noël Regney; Gloria Shane

**Said the night wind to the little lamb, Do you see what I see? Way up in the sky, little lamb.**

**Do you see what I see? A star, a star, dancing in the night  
With a tail as big as a kite, with a tail as big as a kite.**

**Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy, Do you hear what I hear? Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy.  
Do you hear what I hear? A song, a song high above the trees  
With a voice as big as the sea, with a voice as big as the sea.**

**Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king, Do you know what I know? In your palace warm, mighty king.  
Do you know what I know? A Child, a Child shivers in the cold.  
Let us bring him silver and gold, Let us bring him silver and gold.**

**Said the king to the people everywhere, Listen to what I say, pray for peace, people, everywhere  
Listen to what I say, The Child, the Child sleeping in the night  
He will bring us goodness and light, He will bring us goodness and light.**

## THE SHEPHERDS

*Concerning the announcement of the shepherds at the manger, it is written:*

FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2:15-19

CAROL (*St. 1, sung twice*)

Ding Dong Merrily on High

A French Carol

**Ding dong merrily on high, in heav'n the bells are ringing:  
Ding dong! verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing.  
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis! Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!  
E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,  
and "Io, io, io!" by priest and people sungen.  
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis! Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!  
Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers,  
may you beautifully rhyme your eve'time song, ye singers.  
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis! Gloria Hosanna in excelsis! Gloria Hosanna in excelsis!  
Gloria Hosanna in excelsis! Hosanna in excelsis!!!**

CAROL NO. 128

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

W ZLOBIE LEZY

**Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;  
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!  
Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new  
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of the gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing greet the morrow;  
Christ the babe was born for you! Christ the babe was born for you!**

## THE WORD BECOMES FLESH

*Concerning what came to pass in Bethlehem, it is written:*

FIFTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

CAROL NO. 134

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 . . .  
Joy to the world! The Savior reigns: Let us our songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, 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 . . .  
He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the  
nations prove, the glories of His righteousness, and wonders of His love . . .**

\* BENEDICTION

CAROL NO. 136

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

ANTIOCH

REFRAIN **Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**  
**While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. REFRAIN**  
**The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. REFRAIN**  
**Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. REFRAIN**

\* POSTLUDE

A Celebration of Carols (A Christmas Medley)

arr. Faber and Faber

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## A WARM WELCOME!

*We are delighted that you chose to worship with us today.*



### WORSHIP NOTES

#### PREACHER

Rev. Emily K. Béghin

#### USHERS | GREETERS

Shelley Espinoza; AJ Renold

#### MUSICIANS

Michelle Lassiter, *piano*  
David Kipp,  
*Director of Music Ministries*

#### AUDIO-VISUAL | SOUND

Nicole McKinley; Jerry Norris;  
Bill Watson

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### THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS, DECEMBER 27, 2020  
10:45am Worship LIVE STREAMED-S \*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2020

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2020

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2020

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2020

NEW YEAR'S DAY, JANUARY 1, 2021

**WISHING YOU A VERY JOYOUS NEW YEAR!**

# 2021

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 2021

EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2021

9:00am Church School: Loose Leaf Class-via Zoom  
9:20am Church School: The Word Class-303/via Zoom  
9:20am Church School: Seekers Class-P/via Zoom  
10:45am Worship LIVE STREAMED-S \*

*\* During COVID-19, Room 108 is available for your nursery needs*



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## What's the buzz?



*First Presbyterian Youth invite you to join in their mission project benefitting Heifer International. Heifer International works to end hunger and poverty by supporting and training the world's farmers, ranchers, and female business owners.*

**Here's how you can participate...** Jars of honey, donated by registered beekeeper Carolyn Lowry, are available for you to purchase, with 100% of the proceeds being forwarded from FPC-Bryan to Heifer International. Church members have invested time to “dress” the jars with decorative fabric. Ms. Lowry is a Bryan ISD faculty member at Rudder High School. She has family friendship ties to long-time FPC member Mary Alice Hall, whose favorite non-Presbyterian mission endeavor was Heifer International. And . . . Ms. Lowry's beekeeping efforts began with bees from the Hall family ranch at Kurten. **The jars of honey and prices are available on a table in the narthex.**

### CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

**“God is with us.” —Matthew 1:23.** PC(USA)'s **Christmas Joy Offering** is being received today celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, the truly “indescribable gift,” as well as the gifts of church leaders—past, present, and future. **Giving envelopes are included with today's bulletin.**

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newsletter, announcements, worship bulletins, updates, etc.

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Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), search for First Presbyterian Church of Bryan, Texas, then click **SUBSCRIBE**

**Share prayer needs and church group news with fellow FPC participants on Church Updates!**  
is FPC-Bryan's online tool for YOU to post church-related announcements, ways to serve, and your current prayer needs. While users receive a weekly reminder email on Thursdays to view new posts, this online tool is “REAL TIME.”  
Contact Karen in the church office, 979.823.8073 or [office@fpcbryan.org](mailto:office@fpcbryan.org) to set up your account.  
Then, login at <https://fpcbtx.churchupdates.org/login> to create your password-protected account.

The deadline for our first newsletter of 2021 is Noon, January 3, 2021, and will be distributed on Wednesday, January 6, 2021. This newsletter will cover news from January 14-27, 2021.