

CHRISTMAS EVE  
DECEMBER 24, 2024  
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

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**prelude**

*As the music plays, please quietly prepare your heart and mind for worship, lifting your thoughts up from the cares of this world.*

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**lighting of the christ candle**

*The Christ Candle is the fifth Advent Candle, and its color is white, representing purity and light. Christ is the sinless, spotless, pure Savior; and he is the light who has come into a dark world. Those whose Savior is Jesus Christ are washed of their sins and made whiter than snow.*

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**musical meditation**

SANCTUARY CHOIR

“Lullay, Noel” – arranged by Becki Slagle Mayo

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**opening prayer and invitation**

DANIEL MCDOWELL

*Leader:* Brothers and sisters in Christ, of all ages, as we celebrate Christ’s advent, let it be our thought and delight to hear again the wondrous message given through angels and blessed ones. Let us consider in heart and mind this work of God which is come to pass in human history, and the message of the ages that has come down through the centuries through those who saw and observed firsthand. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the heavenly purposes of the loving God, from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious redemption accomplished for us by the Holy Son of God.

– Adapted from *The Promise of His Glory*

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him, born the King of angels; \*

*\* Chorus:*

O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of Light;  
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb:  
Very God, begotten, not created; \*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:  
"Glory to God in the highest!" \*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning:  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing; \*

Words & Music: John Francis Wade, ADESTE FIDELES. Public Domain.

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**first lesson**

THE CASTRO FAMILY

*The beginning: dust to dust*

**The Reading** | Genesis 2:7,18; Gen 3:8-19, Romans 5:12

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## COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
 From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
 Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,  
 Dear Desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, appear;  
 Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!  
 O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth:  
 "Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he who glories knew no end;  
 By his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
 Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;  
 This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
 Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
 By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
 By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (vv. 1&4), Mark Hunt (vv. 2&3); Music: HYFRYDOL, R. H. Pritchard. Public Domain.

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## second lesson

THE GEYER FAMILY

*Foreshadow of redemption and sacrifice, and promise of blossom, joy, and glory*

**The Reading** | Gen 3:15, 21; Isaiah 35:1-4; 9:1-2

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## HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

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 as man with men 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 man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn. Public Domain.

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## third lesson

THE MARDIAN FAMILY

*Immanuel, Mighty God, Prince of Peace*

**The Reading** | Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7

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## O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by:  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

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 men on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may 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.

Words: Phillips Brooks; Music: Lewis Henry Redner, Public Domain.

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## fourth lesson

THE STEVENS FAMILY

*A shepherd, a covenant, and a light to all nations*

**The Reading** | Micah 5:2-4, Isaiah 42:6; 49:6; Luke 2:25-32

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## O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,  
In ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heavenly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Words: Latin hymn, trans. by John Mason Neale; Music: VENI EMMANUEL, Thomas Helmore. Public Domain.

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## fifth lesson

THE NEWCOMBE FAMILY

*Heavenly Priest and Mediator*

**The Reading** | Hebrews 1:1-3, 7:26-8:1

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## WHAT CHILD IS THIS

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.  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail! Hail! the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.

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.

Words: William Chatterton Dix; Music: GREENSLEEVES, 16th century English melody. Public Domain.

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## sixth lesson

THE STEELMAN FAMILY

*Gloria in excelsis Deo*

**The Reading** | Luke 2:8-20



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## ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply, echo back their joyous strains. \*

\* *Chorus:* Glo-ria in excelsis Deo. Glo-ria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song? \*

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King. \*

Words: Traditional French carol; Music: GLORIA, French melody. Public Domain.

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## seventh lesson

THE TURNER FAMILY

*God with us*

**The Reading** | Matthew 1:18-23; 2 Corinthians 8:9

## AWAY IN A MANGER

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes;  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! look down from the sky, and stay by my cradle, 'til morning is nigh.

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.

Words: John Thomas McFarland, Martin Luther. Music: MUELLER, James R. Murray. Public Domain.

*The eternal Word*

**The Reading** | John 1:1-4, 14

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**song****JOY TO THE WORLD**

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 men 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.

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: ANTIOCH, George Frideric Handel, adapted by Lowell Mason. Public Domain.

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**message**

RYAN SLABACH

**“God With Us”****December 24, 2024**

**John 8:12**<sub>ESV</sub> | Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

**John 14:1b**<sub>ESV</sub> | “Believe in God; believe also in me.”

*Please rise and sing the final hymn as the candlelight is passed.*

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**\*\* song**

## SILENT NIGHT

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 your birth! Jesus, Lord, at your birth!

Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing, “Alleluia” to our King;  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Words: Joseph Mohr; Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, Public Domain.

## ADVENT POINSETTIAS

### **Molly & Larry Brown**

in memory of Reed Jennings

### **Jeanne Dillinger & Greg Shoup**

In memory of David Dillinger and Pamela Shoup: You will always be cherished, deeply loved and never forgotten. We find great comfort knowing that you are resting in the joy and presence of the Lord

### **Bryan & Adrienne Herron**

In honor of our children who serve beside us, Aidan & Reagan

### **David Lee & Sarah Hulsey**

In honor of our children Lily and Luke Hulsey

### **Rhoda Hunter**

In memory of my husband, Pastor Phil Hunter

### **Virginia Moore**

In memory of my mother, Violet McCall, and daughter, Stacey Ruhser

### **Alex and Isabella Paluch**

In loving memory of baby Alexander Winchell Paluch II

### **Suzanne Schell**

In memory of my father, Bob Puig, and my uncle, George Puig

*If you sponsored a poinsettia, they will be available to take home after today's service.*

## WHERE TO FIND US

### **sedro crossing**

4843 Williams Drive  
Georgetown, TX 78633

(512) 966.9644  
[cpcgeorgetown.org](http://cpcgeorgetown.org)

Christ Presbyterian Church of Georgetown is part of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).