



# CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

## December 24, 2022

### A SERVICE OF THE WORD

**WELCOME**

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

*The Perotti Family*

**PRELUDE**      *“O Come All Ye Faithful & Hark the Herald Angels Sing”*  
*Gabriel’s Bells*

*(Words & Music; Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, by Felix Mendelssohn, O Come, All Ye Faithful by John F. Wade, Arranger James D. Kimball, © 1993 James D. Kimball. All rights reserved. Permission to podcast/stream in this service obtained from CCS, license #12877.)*

**LITANY FOR CHRISTMAS**    *(based on Titus 2:11; Isaiah 9:2; Luke 2:11; John 1:14)*

*One:      The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.*

**All:      Glory to God in the highest!**

*One:      The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.*

**All:      Glory to God in the highest!**

*One:      For a child has been born for us, a Son has been given to us.*

**All: Glory to God in the highest!**

*One: He is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

**All: Glory to God in the highest!**

*One: To us is born in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.*

**All: Glory to God in the highest!**

*One: And the Word became flesh and lived among us.*

**All: Glory to God in the highest!**

**SILENCE**

**\*CAROL**

*“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*

*#133*

**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!**

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

**True God from true God, Light from light eternal,  
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
very God, begotten, not created!**

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

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

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

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

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

*(Words & Music: O Come, All Ye Faithful; by John Francis Wade, Public Domain)*

## SCRIPTURE

*Psalm 96*

*O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.*

*Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts. Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.*

*Say among the nations, "The LORD is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity." Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.*

## A TIME FOR CHILDREN

**\*CAROL**

*"The First Nowell"*

#147

**The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night.**

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.**

**And by the light of that same star  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went.**

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.**

**This star drew nigh to the northwest;  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
and there it did both stop and stay,  
right over the place where Jesus lay.**

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.**

**Then entered in those wise men three,  
full reverently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence  
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.**

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.**

**Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
and with his blood our life hath bought.**

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.**

*(Words & Music: The First Nowell, English Carol;  
Some Ancient Christmas Carols, 2nd ed., Public Domain)*

**SCRIPTURE**

*Luke 2:1-20*

*In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.*

*In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see--I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”*

*When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.*

**ANTHEM**

*“Rose Carol”  
Gabriel’s Sounds*

*(Words & Music: Rose Carol; by Joseph Martin, Public Domain)*

**SERMON**

**\*CAROL**

*“Joy to the World”*

#134

**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 all 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 & Music: Joy to the World, by Isaac Watts, Public Domain)*

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

*“Silent Night”*

*(Silent Night, arr. Phillip Kim, © Phillip Kim.)*

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**\*DOXOLOGY**

*“What Child Is This” (vs 3)*

#145

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, one and all, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!**

*(Words & Music: What Child Is This, by William Chatterton, Public Domain)*

**A SERVICE OF THE TABLE**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*One: The Lord be with you.*

**All: And also with you.**

*One: Lift up your hearts.*

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

*One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*One: Therefore we praise you...who forever sing to the glory of your  
name:*

**All Sing: Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.  
Glo -- -- -- ri-a in excelsis De – o!**

**Glo -- -- -- ri-a in excelsis De – o!**

*One: Remembering...with thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service. Great is the mystery of faith:*

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

## **LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

## **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

**MUSIC OF COMMUNION**                    *“Christmas Carol Medley”*

*(Words & Music: Christmas Carol Medley, Arranger Sean Mann, Public Domain)*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Psalm 103:1,2*

*One: Bless the Lord, O my soul;*

**All: And all that is within me, bless God’s holy name!**

*One: Bless the Lord, O my soul;*

**All: And forget not all God’s benefits.**

## **A SERVICE OF LIGHT**

**CAROL**

*“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”*

*#129*



**Lo, how a rose e'er blooming  
from tender stem hath sprung,  
of Jesse's lineage coming,  
by faithful prophets sung.  
It came, a floweret bright,  
amid the cold of winter,  
when half spent was the night.**

**Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
the rose I have in mind;  
with Mary we behold it,  
the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright  
she bore for us a Savior,  
when half spent was the night.**

**This flower, whose fragrance tender  
with sweetness fills the air,  
dispels with glorious splendor  
the darkness everywhere.  
Enfleshed, yet very God,  
from sin and death he saves us  
and lightens every load.**

*(Words & Music: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming, trans.  
Theodore Baker &, Harriet Knuth Spaeth, Public Domain.)*

## **SILENCE**

## **COMING OF THE LIGHT**

*Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; John 1:1-5*

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness-- on them light has shined.*

*For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,*

*Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.*

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.*

**CAROL**

*“Silent Night, Holy Night!”*

#122

**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 thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy 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 & Music: Silent Night, Holy Night!; trans. J.F. Young & J. M. Campbell, Public Domain)*

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

*“Silent Night”  
Gabriel’s Bells*

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### **Acknowledgements:**

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The Session and Staff of San Gabriel Presbyterian Church hope for you God’s fullest blessings in Jesus Christ this Christmas season and pray your New Year is one of joy and peace in the Lord.

San Gabriel gathers for worship each Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:15 a.m. Childcare is available in the church’s Nursery during worship. An extended time of fellowship, discussion, and play is offered for school-aged children each Sunday morning following the Children’s Message in worship. See the church’s website at [www.sgpcgeorgetown.org](http://www.sgpcgeorgetown.org) for more information.

### **Christmas Eve Offering 2022**

The Christmas Eve Offering is taken this evening in support of the Azizi family who are refugees from Afghanistan. In cooperation with Round Rock Presbyterian Church, Grace Presbyterian Round Rock, First Presbyterian Georgetown, San Gabriel Presbyterian has been instrumental in helping the Azizi family immigrate through a State Department program and be reunited in Georgetown for their new life together. Khalid Azizi worked for the United States for 20 years in Afghanistan

at Bagram Air Base where he was an interpreter for US troops and the US Embassy. Together with his wife, Shugafa, and their six children, the Azizi family is now together after being separated from each other for more than six months. This separation due to the immigration process has slowed the Azizi's effort in becoming self-sufficient in their new home. Through our giving generously this Christmas Eve to the Azizi family, we show not only our appreciation for their sacrifices on behalf of America, but we show them hospitality and welcome in the name of the Christ child. On this Christmas Eve when there was no room for Mary and Joseph and the Christ child in the inn, please give generously to this wonderful cause as we make a place for the Azizi family in the inn.