



DOWNTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Among Angels

Advent Special Music Sunday, December 8, 2024



Celebration of Worship

December 08, 2024, 11:00 AM
Second Sunday of Advent and
Advent Special Music Sunday
[Click Here to Listen](#)



*If you have a joy or concern you would like to have lifted in prayer today, please complete a **Prayer Request Card**, including the name of the person (and pronunciation) or event, and additional information you'd like to share. Prayer Requests will be collected in baskets during the **hymn following the sermon** to share with the pastor and/or Deacons.*

Prelude

Were We Dreaming
Christmas Lullaby

Cary Ratcliff
Jeffrey Van

Words of Welcome

Rev. Phil Davis

Announcements

Chime

Introit

Past Three O'Clock

Cary Ratcliff

*Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 132)

Pat Tweet

Leader: Children of God, prepare the way! The Word of God is coming!

People: We come to listen and receive God's Word among us.

Leader: Children of God, the prophets call to us now and from generations past, urging us to prepare and refine our hearts for the coming of the Word of God. Are you listening?

People: We come to listen and prepare to receive God's Word among us.

Leader: Children of God, this is the mark of our preparation: that passion for God's Word would burn within us, cleansing us and renewing us to reflect God's love throughout the world.

People: May God ignite our passion for God's Word that has come among us as we listen, prepare, and receive all that God has for us today. Amen.

Invocation

All: Compassionate God, greet us with your grace this day, for we need you. We cannot save ourselves. Though we may be frantic with activity, our efforts do not yield peace, peace as you can give. Today we would be quiet enough to hear your voice. Today we would be still enough to feel your touch. Help us to find that place where we can receive as well as give, wait as well as act, and listen as well as speak. Our whole world needs your peace. Let us come before you and learn your ways, laying down our weapons and feeding the hungry. Come to us now, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

*Hymn

Angels We Have Heard on High
(Music may be found on page 7.)

GLORIA

Prayer for Transformation

Leader: God of Grace, you blow the breath of life into our lungs, you have formed us in your image.

People: And yet we acknowledge that sometimes we are not who you would have us be.

Leader: You challenge us to embrace the refining fire of your love, to meet you on the threshing floor of life, to be washed as with fuller's soap.

People: But in our heart of hearts we would rather keep those things that would be removed in such an encounter.

Leader: Through your Grace, life-giving God, accept us as we are,

People: Unrefined, unwashed, the chaff mixed in with the grain.

Leader And help us to move into a new way of being

Moment of Silence

Words of Grace

Leader: Listen! For this is Good News! God's Grace is wider than our wildest imaginings. God's Grace embraces us as we are and where we are and draws us out to be the people we were created to be.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Lighting of Second Advent Candle

Liturgist: O God, we light the second candle of Advent. We seek your comfort. Both mighty and tender, you come. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you.

People: We have sought such a God, both mighty and tender.

Liturgist: Isaiah announced God's coming to a people exiled in a broken and parched wilderness. He declared that God's redemption would make a highway in the desert and change the rough places into plain. God would come as a shepherd—feeding, leading, and cradling the weary flock. This Advent, we seek such a God.

People: Saving God, look upon your world and heal your land and your people. Prepare us to be changed. This Advent, teach us to be tender and just, as you are. Amen.

Scripture

Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 1:68-79

Time for Young Disciples

Music for Reflection

Among Angels
I. Fear Not

Will Todd

"Fear not you the dark. We carry you on soft wide wings."

Scripture

Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

Sermon

Being Prepared for Love

Rev. Phil Davis

*Hymn

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime
(Verses 1, 2, and 4, Music may be found on page 8.)

UNE JEUNE PUCELLE

Joys and Concerns
Prayers of the People
Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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 Spirit, and the
power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering
Offertory Music

Among Angels

Will Todd

II. Find Only Joy in the Golden Heavens
"Find only joy in the golden heavens and the shining earth."

III. Seek Out Light
*"Seek out light and bind it to your own light.
Fear not you the dark. We carry you on soft wide wings."*

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Let songs rise up from earth below;
Let stars and galaxies enthrone;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One! Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn
(Music may be found on page 9.)

REJOICE REJOICE

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

English Carol
Arr. Rutter/Warland

*Passing of the Peace
The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Thank you to:

Liturgist: Pat Tweet
Chancel Choir Members
Soprano: Nicole Knickerbocker, Lindsey Puc, Carolina Sullivan, Joan Sussman
Alto: Cecelia Allchin, Isabella Apodaca, Juli Elliot*, Leah Rosenman
Tenor: Olivia Anderson, Jason Cloen, Mark Darling, Evan McMahon
Bass: Rob Brown, John DeHority, Elijah Gebers,
Alan Jones, Stephen Lloyd, Sumner Tessier
*special guest

Grace Browning and Sunshine Quan, harps



Today's special music program was made possible in part by generous donations to the
Downtown Church Music Fund by:

anonymous, Priscilla and Rob Brown, Barbara Sharp (sister of Judy Boyd),
Carol Snook, and John Williams.

In addition to our Advent music, Donations to this fund support
music on Easter and for our Jazz Worship in June.

Thank you for your generous contributions throughout the year!



Angels We Have Heard on High

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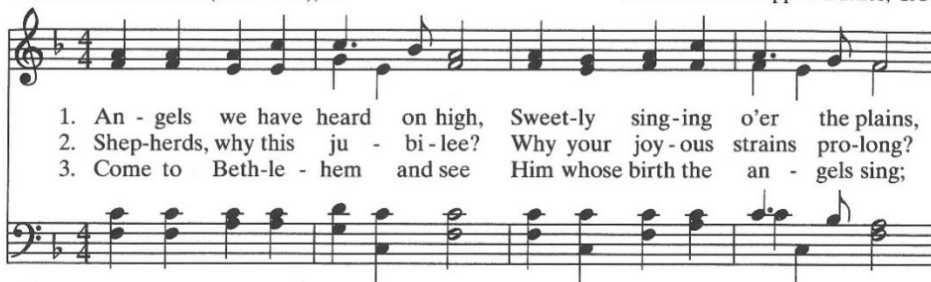
French carol

GLORIA 7.7.7.7 with refrain

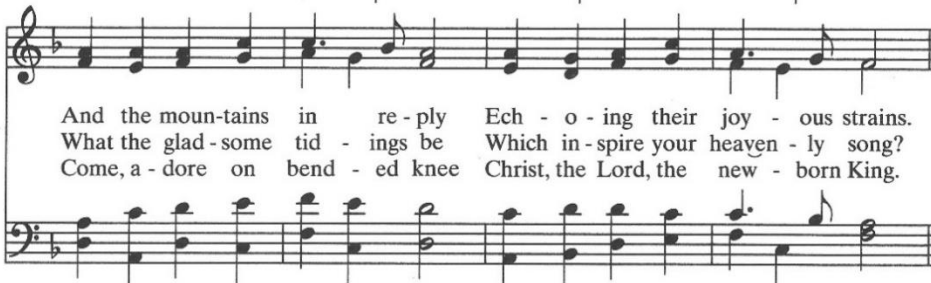
French carol

Trans. James Chadwick (1813–1882); alt.

Arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937



1. An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
 2. Shep-herds, why this ju - bi-lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
 3. Come to Beth-le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun-tains in re-ply Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heaven - ly song?
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.



Refrain
 Glo - - - - - ri - a



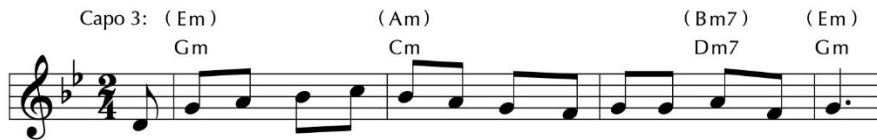
in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glo - - - - -



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

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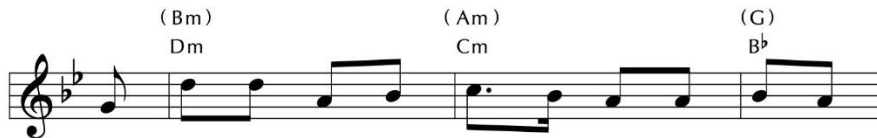
'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime 142



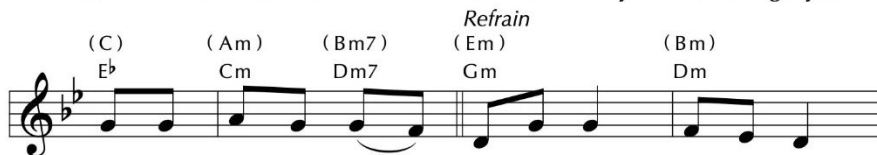
1 'Twas in the moon of win-ter-time, when all the birds had fled,
2 With-in a lodge of bro-ken bark the ten-der babe was found.
3 The ear-liest moon of win-ter-time is not so round and fair
4 O chil-dren of the for-est free, the an-gel song is true:



Great Spir-it, Lord of all the earth sent an-gel choirs in-stead.
A rag-ged robe of rab-bit skin en-wrapped his beau-ty round.
as was the ring of glo-ry on the help-less in-fant there.
the ho-ly child of earth and heaven is born to-day for you.



Be-fore their light the stars grew dim and wan-dering
But as the hunt-ers brave drew nigh the an-gel
The chiefs from far be-fore him knelt with gifts of
Come kneel be-fore the ra-diant boy who brings you



hunt-ers heard the hymn:
song rang loud and high: Je-sus, your king, is born;
fox and bea-ver pelt.
beau-ty, peace, and joy.



Je-sus is born. In ex-cel-sis glo-ri-a.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This English text preserves the earliest known Canadian hymn, originally written in the Huron language by a missionary, later translated into French, and eventually paraphrased in English. It is set to a French Noël tune old enough to have been used for the original version.

107 Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for an - gels
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em - man - u -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when all the
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night. Though dark the



her - ald its dawn-ing. Sing out your joy, for soon he is
el comes a - sing - ing; his hum - ble song is qui - et and
world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so qui - et and
win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall crown you with



born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing. Come as a ba - by
near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing; mu - sic to heal the
free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing. Then shall the mute break
light; be strong and lov - ing and fear - less. Love be our song and



weak and poor, to bring all hearts to - geth - er, he o - pens
bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing - kind - ness. The thun - der
forth in song, the lame shall leap in won - der, the weak be
love our prayer and love our end - less sto - ry; may God fill



wide the heaven - ly door and lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
of his an - thems rolls to shat - ter all ha - tred and vio - lence.
raised a - bove the strong, and weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
ev - ery day we share and bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

After attending a carol concert, the author and composer of this hymn was moved to create a contemporary, accessible carol that drew on the familiar images in a new way. There are echoes here of passages such as Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 7:14/Matthew 1:23, Isaiah 35:5-6, Isaiah 2:4.

Welcome Visitors!

Nursery Care for children up to 2nd Grade is available in the Library and can go out with the Sunday School teacher (see below).

Children not in nursery care will be invited forward during the “Time with Our Children and Youth” for a brief time with the pastor. Parents are welcome to come up with their children if they would like. The children then will be taken to the Sunday School room by their teacher.

* **An asterisk indicates** “please rise in body or spirit.”

You may place your offering in the offering plates as they are passed. If you would like to donate online you can use the QR code to the right to make your contribution to the church.



+We seek to use diverse images and liberating language about divine presence in our services of worship. Please feel free to adapt the words in hymns and prayers as needed so that they express your faith.

This is a Hearing Loop equipped sanctuary – please switch your hearing aid to the “T” (telephone) position to utilize this option.

Joys and Concerns– If you have a joy or concern that you would like lifted in prayer today, please complete a Prayer Request Card (available by the worship bulletins). The Cards will be collected during the hymn following the sermon and provided to the pastor.

We hope you will join us after worship for conversations and refreshments! Cookies and drinks are available in the front of the sanctuary.

Do you have an interest in becoming a member of DUPC? You can speak with an Usher or the pastor. They would be happy to give you more information.

This Week at Downtown United Presbyterian

Sunday, December 8

10:00AM **Advent Festival**
10:00AM Choir Warm-up
10:45AM Nursery
11:00AM Worship -**Music Sunday**
11:15AM Sunday School
12:00PM **Advent Festival Continues**

Tuesday, December 10

10:30AM Bible study via Zoom
6:30PM Deacons Meeting via
Zoom

Wednesday, December 11

4:30PM DEIB Mtg via Zoom
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 12

5:00PM Finance Team Mtg via Zoom
7:30PM Property Team Mtg via Zoom

Sunday, December 15

10:00AM Choir Warm-up
10:45AM Nursery
11:00AM Worship-Rev. Phil Davis
11:15AM Sunday School
7:00PM Sophia Circle via Zoom

Tuesday, December 17

10:30AM Bible study via Zoom
7:00PM Session Mtg via Zoom

The Downtown Church Staff

Keisha Betts, Office Administrator
Cheryl Bittle, Weekend Receptionist
Jason Cloen, Associate Musician
The Rev. Philip B. Davis, Sr.,
Stated Supply Pastor
Eileen Dietsch, Director of Operations
Alan Jones, Associate Musician
David Mear, Business Manager

Moses Nhial, Maintenance
Andrea Piccone, Bookkeeper
& Receptionist Coordinator
Tyrone Reeves, Maintenance
Robin Sheikh, Sunday School Teacher
Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor
Ed Verna, Maintenance
Lee S. Wright, D.M.A.,
Director of Music Ministry

Parish Leaders

Mary Rees and Pat Tweet, Clerks of Session
Henry Ehindero, Cindy Hamilton, Jacque Hancock co-Moderators of Deacons

Session

The Rev. Philip B.
Davis, Moderator
Nancy Brown
David Lee
Bob Richane
Sally Allison
Sam King

Jim Vesper

Pat Tweet

Mary Rees

Deacons

Bob Carlisle
Andrea Folan
Elizabeth Katz
Elaine Johnson

Stephen Lloyd

Grania Marcus

Carol Samuel

Kelley Sheils

Marilyn Terpening

Sandy Morales

Helen Ganotis

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