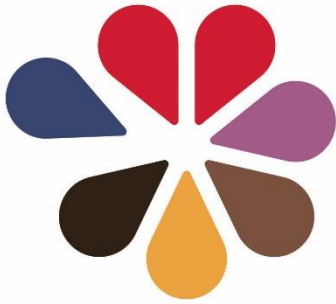




DOWNTOWN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The Light Shines in the Darkness

Celebration of Worship
Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024
Prelude 6:45PM, Service of Worship 7:00PM
[Click Here to Listen](#)

Prelude	Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day	Arr. John Rutter
	O Magnum Mysterium	Tomás Luis de Victoria
	The Friendly Beasts	Arr. Robert Scholz
	Past 3 O'Clock	Arr. Cary Ratcliff

Words of Welcome Rev. Phil Davis

Chime		
Introit	In the Bleak Midwinter	Harold Darke

Call to Worship Rev. Phil Davis

Leader: O come, all ye faithful,

People: joyful and triumphant,

Leader: O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

People: Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

Leader: O come, let us adore Him;

People: O come, let us adore Him;

All: O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

*Carol	O Come All Ye Faithful	ADESTE FIDELIS
	<i>(Verses 1, 3 and 4. Music may be found on page 6.)</i>	

Invocation

All: Emmanuel, you brought worlds into being. Your word goes forward with creative and redemptive power. Keep watch over your people assembled this evening as we lift our voices and our beings in praise, celebration, remembrance, and worship of you. Amen.

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

All: Holy God, you enter into the human condition inviting us to follow your direction. The history of humanity reflects that we too often prefer our own way. We believe in the possibility of transformation and we ask you to point the way to new life in you. Cleanse our spirits and renew our minds that we might reflect your image more clearly and be drawn nearer to you. Make us a righteous branch in the vineyard. In the name of Jesus and hope of restoration, we pray. Amen.

Words of Grace

Leader: Beloved, trust that the grace of God has appeared, bringing new life to all. Receive the gifts of grace and mercy from the Compassion One who recognizes your repentance, comes to you in your weakness, offers strength for transformation, provides encouragement for repair, and grants forgiveness for sin.

*Carol

Good Christian Friends Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

(Verses 1 and 2. Music may be found on page 7.)

Lighting of The Christ Candle

Liturgist Lights The Candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love

Liturgist: Rejoice, people of God! The light has come into the world.

O God, now we light the candle of your nativity!

People: With the company of heaven and with sounds of great joy,

Liturgist: The prophet Isaiah proclaimed a time when those who walked in the shadows would see a great light. A light would shine and a child would be born to us. The evangelist Luke painted the nativity sky and repeated the heavenly song of the angels, "Glory, peace on earth and goodwill!" John declared that this great light is Christ, the Word made flesh. This great light lives among us. By it we behold God's glory—full of grace and truth. At Christ's nativity, we now rejoice.

People: God, our Life and Light, thank you for coming this night to us. Thanks for touching all heaven and earth with your splendor. In every corner of the world, shine this night with your peace. In every corner of our hearts, shine this night with your grace. Amen.

All: Shine on us, O God of justice; Guide our path through gloom of night; Bear within us Wisdom's glory; Come to us, O Christ the Light. Glory be to God and peace on earth Christ is born! Alleluia!

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

*Carol

Go Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

(Verses 1 and 3. Music may be found on page 10.)

Time with our children and youth

Scripture

Isaiah 9:2-7

Music for Reflection

Prayer for Peace

Abbie Burt Betinis

Scripture

Luke 2:1-20

*Hymn

Away in a Manger

CRADLE SONG/MUELLER

(Music may be found on page 8-9.)

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

Let Every Heart

Cary Ratcliff

*Doxology

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

(Verse 1, Music may be found on Pg. 11.)

Prayer of dedication

Holy One, as we await the greatest gift from you, we dedicate these gifts to you in that same spirit of giving. Bless all that we offer, and stir our hearts so that all we do may be to the glory of your name and the sharing of your light. Amen.

Sermon

Jesus' Birthday Celebration

Rev. Phil Davis

Sharing of the Light

Carol

Silent Night

STILLE NACHT

(Music may be found on Pg. 12.)

(Please remain seated for the singing of Silent Night.)

After the soft lights come up, let us extinguish our candles and greet one another with signs of peace and friendship. All are invited to a reception following the service in the Hall Behind The Sanctuary. Merry Christmas!

Thank you to. . .

Liturgist: Rev. Phil Davis

Chancel Choir Members

Soprano: Marrlee Burgess, Nicole Knickerbocker, Lindsey Puc, Joan Sussman

Alto: Cecelia Allchin, Adrienne Jones, Leah Rosenman

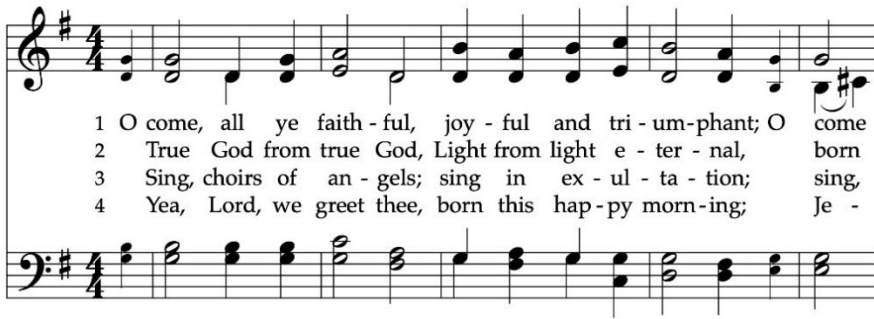
Tenor: Olivia Anderson, Jason Cloen, Mark Darling, David Henkel

Bass: Rob Brown, Alan Jones, Stephen Lloyd, Sumner Tessier

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O Come, All Ye Faithful

133



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -



ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain



born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!



us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

TEXT: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, alt.
 MUSIC: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

ADESTE FIDELES
 Irregular

132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
 He has o-pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic," the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.

TEXT: Medieval Latin; trans. and para. John Mason Neale, 1853, alt.
 MUSIC: German folk melody, 14th cent.; harm. David Hugh Jones, 1953
 Music Harm. © 1955, ren. 1983 John Ribble (admin. Westminster John Knox Press.)

IN DULCI JUBILO
 6.6.7.7.7.8.5.5

Away in a Manger

114

Capo 5: (C) (Am) (C) (Dm)

F Dm F Gm

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

(F) (G) (C) (Dm) (F) (G)
 B $\flat$ C F Gm B $\flat$ C

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
 close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

(C) (Dm)
 F Gm

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

(G) (C) (Dm) (G) (C)
 C F Gm C F

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
 and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

This anonymous carol probably originated among Pennsylvania Lutherans in the late 19th century, giving rise to a mistaken assertion that it had been written by Martin Luther. This tune is also by an American but has become the one usually used in Canada and Great Britain.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–2, *Little Children's Book for Schools and Families*, c. 1885;
 stanza 3, *Gabriel's Vineyard Songs*, 1892
 MUSIC: William James Kirkpatrick, 1895

CRADLE SONG
 11.11.11.11
 (alternate tune: MUELLER, 115)

115 Away in a Manger

Capo 3: (D) F (G) B $\flat$ (D) F



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

(A7) C7 (D) F



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
 close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

(G) B $\flat$ (D) F



The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

(A7) C7 (D) F (Em) Gm (A7) C7 (D) F



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
 and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Though erroneously attributed to Martin Luther, this anonymous carol has North American roots, probably originating among Pennsylvania Lutherans. Although more than forty melodies have been connected with these words, this tune was among the earliest written for them.

136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain $\text{♩} = \text{♩}^{\text{♩}}$

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

TEXT: African American spiritual; stanzas, John W. Work II, 1940

MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. John W. Work III, 1940; harm. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987

Music Harm. © 1989 Melva Wilson Costen

GO TELL IT

7.6.7.6 with refrain

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.

MUSIC: Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742; arr. Lowell Mason, 1836

ANTIOCH

CM with repeat

(alternate tune: RICHMOND, 266)

Silent Night, Holy Night! 122

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
 4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing
 with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"
 grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
 King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

TEXT: Joseph Mohr, 1816; stanzas 1–3, English trans. John Freeman Young, 1863;
 stanza 4, English trans. Jane Montgomery Campbell, 1863, alt.
 MUSIC: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1818

STILLE NACHT
 Irregular

This Week at Downtown United Presbyterian

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

7:00PM Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day-Building Closed

Sunday, December 29

10:00AM Choir Warm-up

10:45AM Nursery

11:00AM Worship-

Rev. John Dehority

11:15AM Sunday School

12:00PM Coffee Hour in Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 31

New Year's Eve



Wednesday, January 1

New Year's Day – Building Closed

Thursday, January 2

7:15PM Worship Team Mtg via Zoom

Sunday, January 5

10:00AM Choir Warm-up

10:45AM Nursery

11:00AM Worship-

Rev. Jarmani Dozier

11:15AM Sunday School

12:00PM Refreshments in Sanctuary

Welcome Visitors!

*** 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.



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

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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