

December 25, 2022

First Presbyterian Church

Christmas Day



Following Jesus, Transforming Life

Mission Statement:

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington is transforming life by glorifying God, following Jesus, and loving our neighbor.

Pastor: Rev. Chris Campbell
Preaching: Adrian Rodriguez

Lay Leader: David Terwilliger
Organist: Shina Heo

Christian Women's Fellowship

The Worship of God

Words in bold are spoken by the congregation.

§ Invites all who are able to stand.

Please silence all phones and devices.

Please fill out the Friendship Pad in your pew.

Gathering

Prelude

Ding Dong Merrily on High

Jack Jones

Preparation

God of glory, your goodness and loving-kindness have come to dwell among us, and salvation has knocked on our door. We can't wait to tell the world about this child, this joy we can't contain, this hope that came alive. Open our mouths and stretch out our arms, so we may sing your praises and embrace the child in a manger. Amen.

Welcome

Adrian Rodriguez

Introit

Ding, Dong, Merry Bells are Ringing

CWF Choir

Ding dong merry bells are ringing, The choirs of heaven are singing. Gloria, Hosanna in the highest.

Litany

God of unimaginable love, on the first Christmas You became one of us.

We celebrate Your love for every person in every place and time.

God of all humanity, You offered Your Peace to anyone who would be satisfied with Your presence.

We celebrate Your Peace in Your Church and accept Your commission to share it in all the world.

God of the manger, You came to us through Your Son in a small and simple place.

We celebrate Your presence with us this day in this small place made glorious by Your being in it.

God of birth, when You became as we are, You opened Yourself to each of us, no matter who or what we are. **We celebrate this day Your Kingdom and that we are welcome in it right now and always. Keep us close, now and in the life to come.**

God of Christmas, bless us as we once again celebrate Your coming into Your creation.

Amen.

§ Hymn 147

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

§ Prayer of Confession

Holy Incarnate God, by the light of your goodness and mercy, our failing to see your true light is clear: we have not loved you, we have not loved our neighbors, we have not loved ourselves.

Our feet have not brought good news to the poor nor have our voices defended Earth and its creatures and plants.

Forgive us, blind us with your holy honesty, so that we may more clearly see your will, and walk with sure steps into the way of wholeness and peace. Amen.

§ Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel! **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

§ Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Hymn 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

Sacrament of Baptism

Children's Time

Children (age 3 to fourth grade) are invited to go to Kids For Christ (KFC) in the Fellowship Hall.

Proclaiming

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:2–7

Old Testament page 638

Anthem

The Virgin Had a Baby Boy

CWF Choir

*The virgin Mary had a baby boy, and they said that His name was Jesus.
He comes from the glory, He comes from the glorious kingdom, O yes, believers.
The angels sang when the baby was born, and they said that His name was Jesus.
The Shepherds went where the baby was born, and they said that His name was Jesus.
The wise men came when the baby was born, and they said that His name was Jesus.*

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1–14, 15–20

New Testament page 58

Anthem

See the Little Baby

CWF Choir

*See the little baby. **Amen.** Lying in a manger. **Amen.** On Christmas morning. **Amen.***

Homily

The Joy of an 8lb 6oz Baby

Adrian Rodriguez

Responding

§ Hymn 128

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

W ZLOBIE LEZY

Pastoral Prayer and the 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.**

Offering our Tithes, Gifts, and Lives

Offertory

Joy to the World

CWF Choir

§ Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

§ Affirmation of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism Q. 18

Who is this mediator who is at the same time true God and a true and perfectly righteous man?

Our Lord Jesus Christ, who is freely given to us for complete redemption and righteousness. Amen.

Sending

§ Hymn 136

Go, Tell It on the Mountain
Stanzas 1–3

Go, TELL IT

§ Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Joy to the World

Gerre Hancock



147

The First Nowell

1 The first Now-ell the an-gel did say was to cer-tain poor
 2 They look - ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the
 3 And by the light of that same star three wise men
 4 This star drew nigh to the north-west; o'er Beth - le -

shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing
 east be - yond them far; and to the earth it gave
 came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was their
 hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop

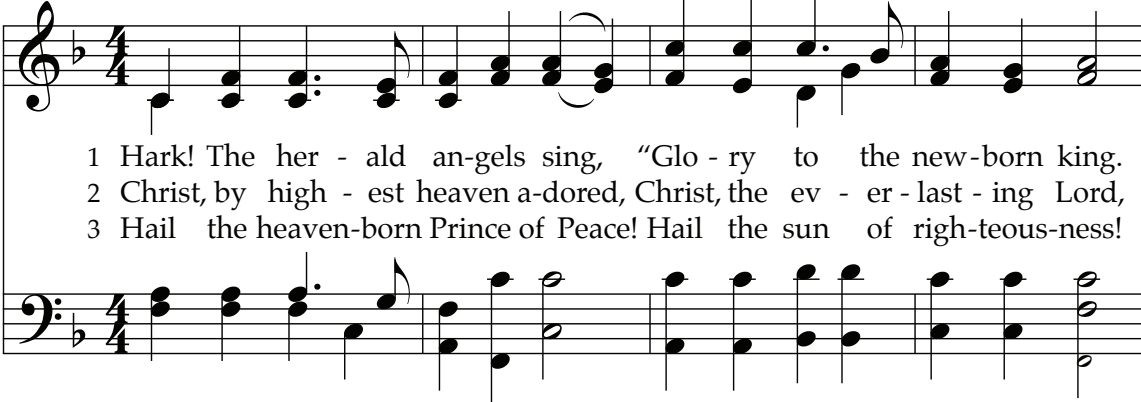
their sheep, on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.
 great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.

Refrain

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,

"Nowell" is the English form of the French "noel," a shout of joy formerly used at Christmas (as in Chaucer's "Franklin's Tale"), a clue that the word is older than its first printing. It may have Latin and French roots related to "born" (*natus / né*) as well to "news" (*nova / nouvelle*).


119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



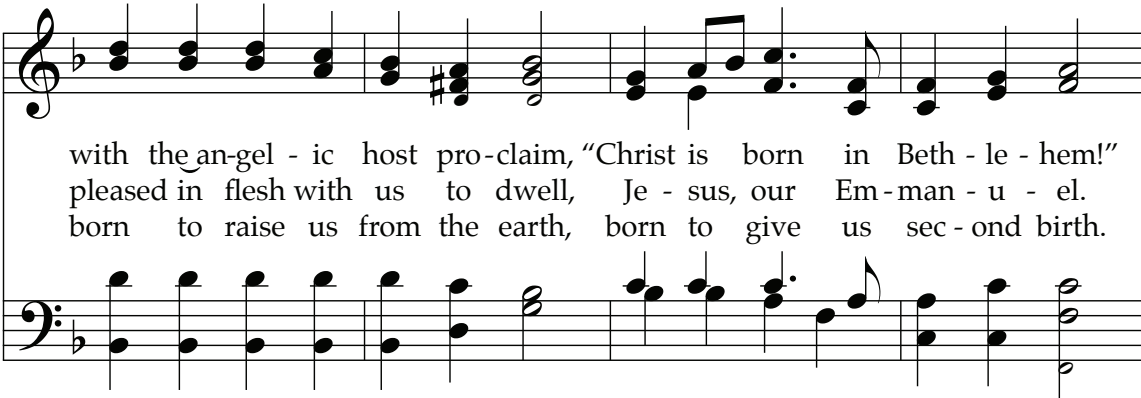
1 Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king.
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the vir-gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car - nate de - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Brought together in the mid-19th century, the text and tune of this familiar carol began in quite different forms. The text had ten stanzas and began, "Hark, how all the welkin rings." The tune was created for a festival celebrating Gutenberg's introduction of moveable type.

128 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat-tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep-ing; shep-herds keep-ing vig-il till the morn-ing new

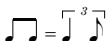
ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know-ing Christ the babe is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, ti - dings of the gos-pel true.

Swift are wing-ing an - gels sing - ing, no - els ring-ing, ti-dings bring-ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais-es voic-ing greet the mor - row:

Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!
Christ the babe was born for you! Christ the babe was born for you!

The English text of this 13th- or 14th-century Polish carol does not try to tell a story but to offer verbal snapshots of the well-known Nativity narrative of Luke 2:6–20. The tune name quotes the opening of the Polish text and means “He lies in a cradle” or “In manger lying.”

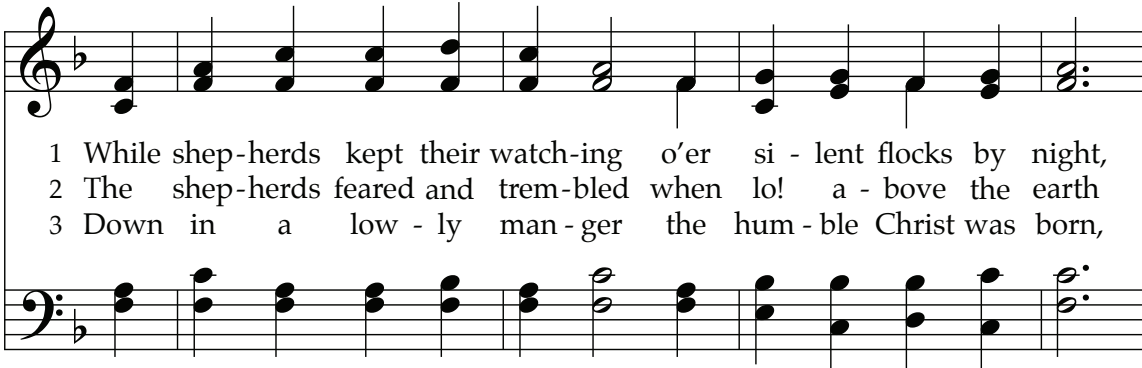
136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain 

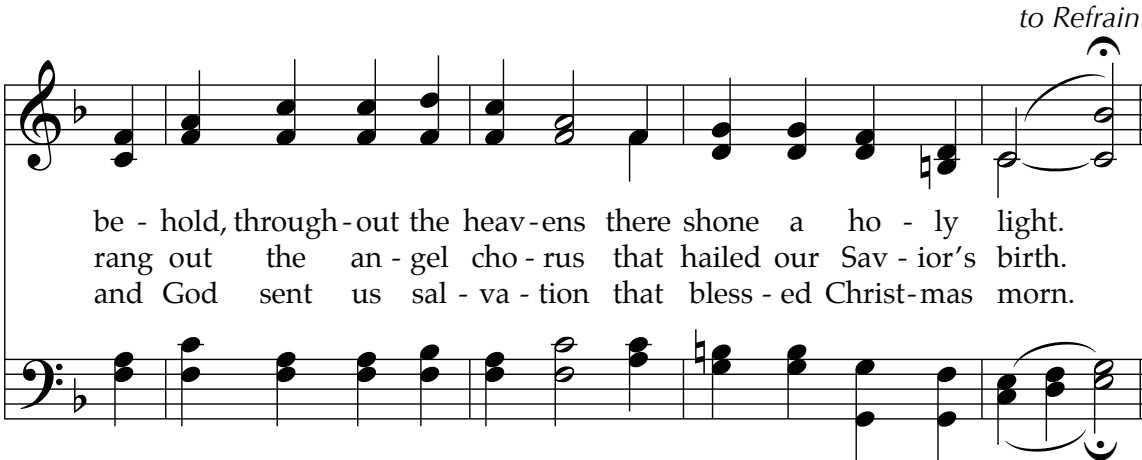

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;



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.

End-of-Year Giving

As the calendar year draws to a close, we want to thank you for your faithfulness in giving to the ministries of FPCA this year.

Also, we want to share a hopefully, helpful reminder regarding giving as it relates to taxes. We are allowed to give credit to any gift that is received or postmarked on or before December 31, 2022. Of course, you can always give online up to 11:59 pm on 12/31/2022 through our website at firstprestexas.org/give, or through our FPCA app.

Again, thank you for your prayerful generosity!

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 12/25

Worship in Sanctuary

11:00 a.m.

Monday 12/26 – Friday 12/30

Church Office Closed for Christmas

Sunday 1/1/23

Sunday School

9:45 a.m.

Worship in Sanctuary

11:00 a.m.

Prayer Ministry

Prayers for those with health and other concerns:

The family of Jeanne Malone, Jack Bos, Carol Browning, Billie Jo Campbell, Frank Coburn, Edna Collins, Cyprian Engwenyi, Betty Farrell, Bunny Floyd, Mary Lou Garrison, Joe and Lila Glenn, Grady Herzog, the Hydock Family, Pat May and her son Tim Karnes, Gary Lindley, Mathias Mbeng Ndip, Jim L. Quick, Tonya Scrabeck, Esther Teboh, John and Donna Vickers, Nancy Welborne, Patrick Welbourne, Danny Womble

Prayers for family serving in the armed forces:

Ben Boughton, Riley Curnutt, Jeff Grimes, Nathan Haerer, Damien King, Amie Murtha, Stephen O'Neil Sosa, Colin Peden, Ryan Powell, Peyton Steeno, Christopher Young, Robbie Wallace

Prayers for our home-bound members:

Esther Albright, Tom and Bobbie Fowler, Barbara Hughes, Family of Jeanne Malone, Charlene Miller, Betty Snowden, Dee Uhri, Richard Whitenight, Mary Jane Wright, Polly Baugh, Lucy Cleaver, Madge Casselman, Elizabeth Harri

Prayers for those who do not know Christ

If you have any congregational care needs, contact Parish Associate, Jim Shroyer at 682-445-0155 or jim@firstprestexas.org

Staff Directory

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Russell Farnell

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Jim Shroyer

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Reggie Manuel

Facilities Manager

Shina Heo

Organist

Adrian Rodriguez

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Kyle Terwilliger

Director of Children's Ministry

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