



NOW IS THE MOMENT

The Carols of Christmas
led by the Sanctuary Choir
with the Kentucky Brass

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 11, 2022

11:15 A.M.

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Joy

Erin Phelps and Charlie Suer

Rejoice always in God.

We rejoice with joy and singing!

Where there is worry and fear,

we proclaim the promise of Joy.

Where there is grief and pain,

we proclaim the promise of Joy.

Where there is oppression and injustice,

we proclaim the promise of Joy.

As we light our third Advent candle,

we awaken to this moment.

Come now, O child of Mary.

Come now, O Prince of Joy.

WAKE, AWAKE, FOR NIGHT IS FLYING

Processional

David Danner

Arise, Your Light Has Come

Awake, my spirit, awake lute and harp;

I will awake at the dawn of day. Arise,

I will confess You, O Lord among the nations.

I will raise a psalm to You, for Your love, is wide as the heavens,

And Your truth reaches to the skies!

Wake, awake, for night is flying,

The watchmen on the heights are crying;

Awake, Jerusalem at last.

Midnight hears the welcome voices,

And at the thrilling cry rejoices:

"Come forth you maidens! Night is past.

The bridegroom comes, awake; Your lamps with gladness take!"

Alleluia! Prepare yourselves to meet the Lord,

Whose light has stirred the waiting guard.

Now let all the heavens adore you,

And saints and angels sing before You.

The harps and cymbals all unite.

Of one pearl each shining portal,

Where, dwelling with the choir immortal

We gather around Your dazzling light.

No eye has seen nor ear has yet been trained to hear.

What joy is ours!

Crescendos rise; Your halls resound, Hosannas blend in cosmic sound.

Arise, O Jerusalem! Arise clothed in light! Your light has come, and the glory of God upon your hearts will shine.

Alleluia!

O Emmanuel
by Malcolm Guite

O come, O come, and be our God-with-us
O long-sought With-ness for a world without,
O secret seed, O hidden spring of light.
Come to us Wisdom, come unspoken Name
Come Root, and Key, and King, and holy Flame,
O quickened little wick so tightly curled,
Be folded with us into time and place,
Unfold for us the mystery of grace
And make a womb of all this wounded world.
O heart of heaven beating in the earth,
O tiny hope within our hopelessness
Come to be born, to bear us to our birth,
To touch a dying world with new-made hands
And make these rags of time our swaddling bands.

Carol

VENI EMMAUEL
arr. Julian Wachner

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

ENSEMBLE

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.

CHOIR

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times did'st give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

ALL BASS/TENOR

**O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.**

ALL

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

ALL

**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.**

THE WATCHMEN ON THE HEIGHTS ARE CRYING

Reading

Sally Evans

A Christmas Carol

by Robert Herrick

What sweeter music can we bring,
Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?
Awake the voice! Awake the string!
Heart, ear, and eye, and everything.
Awake! the while the active finger
Runs division with the singer.

The darling of the world is come,
And fit it is, we find a room
To welcome Him. The nobler part
Of all the house here, is the heart,
Which we will give Him; and bequeath
This holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do Him honor; who's our King,
And Lord of all this reveling.

Anthem

John Rutter

What Sweeter Music

The Gospel Lesson

Renee Purtlebaugh

Luke 2:8-14 (Pew Bible page 57—NT)

Carol

THE FIRST NOEL
arr. Julian Wachner

The First Noel

ALL

**The First Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
In fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

Refrain

**Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.**

ALL SOPRANOS/ALTOS

**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.**

ALL BASSES/TENORS

**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.**

ALL

**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.**

CHOIR

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

ALL

**Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought.**

MIDNIGHT HEARS THE WELCOME VOICES

Reading

Lewis Miller

Refugee

by Malcolm Guite

We think of him as safe beneath the steeple,
Or cosy in a crib beside the font,
But he is with a million displaced people
On the long road of weariness and want.
For even as we sing our final carol
His family is up and on that road,
Fleeing the wrath of someone else's quarrel,
Glancing behind and shouldering their load.
Whilst Herod rages still from his dark tower
Christ clings to Mary, fingers tightly curled,
The lambs are slaughtered by the men of power,
And death squads spread their curse across the world.
But every Herod dies, and comes alone
To stand before the Lamb upon the throne.

Anthem/Carol

Ancient Melody/arr. Barnaby Smith

Coventry Carol

Chamber Choir

PREPARE YOURSELVES TO MEET THE LORD

Reading

Mary Alice Birdwhistell and John Dickson

Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem

Maya Angelou

We look at each other, then into ourselves,
and we say without shyness or apology or hesitation:

Peace, My Brother.

Peace, My Sister.

Peace, My Soul.

Exchange of Peace

Carol

GLORIA
arr. Julian Wachner

Angels We Have Heard on High

ALL

**Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.**

Refrain:

**Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

CHOIR

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

ALL

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

ALL

**See Him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While our hearts in love we raise.**

NO EYE HAS SEEN NOR EAR HAS YET BEEN TRAINED TO HEAR WHAT JOY IS OURS

Anthem

Ralph Vaughan Williams

O Clap Your Hands

Psalm 47:1-2, 5-8

O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.
For the Lord most high is terrible; he is a great King over all the earth.
God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises unto our King, sing praises.
For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.
God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness.

Offertory Prayer

Jan Forren

Offertory

Giovanni Palestrina

O Bone Jesu

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One, Amen.

**CRESCENDOS RISE; YOUR HALLS RESOUND,
HOSANNAS BLEND IN COSMIC SOUND**

Reading

Terri Connolly

First Coming
by Madeleine L'Engle

He did not wait till the world was ready,
till men and nations were at peace.
He came when the Heavens were unsteady,
and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait for the perfect time.
He came when the need was deep and great.
He dined with sinners in all their grime,
turned water into wine. He did not wait

till hearts were pure. In joy he came
to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.
To a world like ours, of anguished shame
he came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh,
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh
the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane
to raise our songs with joyful voice,
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

Carol

ANTIOCH
arr. Julian Wachner

Joy to the World

CHOIR

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.

ALL BASS/TENORS
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.

ALL
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.

ALL
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.

Benediction

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

Postlude

Giovanni Gabrieli

Canzon septimi toni No. 2
Kentucky Brass

We express our gratitude for today's musicians leading us in worship.

Trumpet:
Jim Recktenwald
Noah Dugan
Nicholas Recktenwald
Neil Barton

Bass Trombone:
Anastasi Fafalios

Tuba:
Andrew Doub

Organ:
Sharon Sanders

Horn:
Diana Morgen

Timpani:
Bruce Maples

Trombone:
James Seymour
Brett Shuster

Percussion:
Hudson William Toler

All are invited to join us for worship on Christmas Eve at 4:00 and 6:00 PM.



**HIGHLAND
BAPTIST CHURCH**
*A thinking, feeling, healing
community of faith*

Our Mission... God's Love compels us to cultivate a safe, welcoming community of faith where all are challenged to discover, grow, and serve, as together we boldly live out the worship that is our very lives.