

CAROLS *by Candlelight*

A Community Sing

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024



PEACHTREE ROAD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Music and Arts Program at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church

Rev. Bill Britt, *Senior Minister*

presents

Carols by Candlelight

Sunday, December 15, 2024, 5:30 pm

PRELUDE

Silent Night, Holy Night

Franz Gruber, 1818
arr. Joel Raney

Aleksandra Tevdoska, *flute*
Dr. Robin Hensley, *piano*

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Bill Britt

† *Please stand as the crucifer passes your pew.*

OPENING CAROL

Once in Royal David's City

arr. David Willcocks
(1919-2015)

Stanza one Mary Allison Hamby, *soloist*

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

Stanza two All

He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all, and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle
was a stall, with the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our Saviour holy.

Stanza three All

And through all his wondrous childhood He would honour and obey, Love and watch the lowly maiden,
in whose gentle arms he lay. Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.

Stanza four All

For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew. He was little, weak and helpless,
tears and smiles like us he knew: And he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

Stanza five All

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love. For that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heaven above; And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Stanza six All

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by. We shall see him; but in heaven, set at
God's right hand on high. When like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

† *The people are seated.*

Christ's birth is foretold by Isaiah.

CAROL, 211

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O Israel.

O come, thou root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call.

Refrain

O come, desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind. From dust thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife.

Refrain

THE ANTHEM:

Nativity Carol

John Rutter

(b. 1945)

Born in a stable so bare, born so long ago; born 'neath light of star He who loved us so. Far away, silent he lay, born today, your homage pay, for Christ is born on Christmas Day. Cradled by mother so fair, tender her lullaby; over her son so dear angel hosts fill the sky. Wise men from distant far land, shepherds from starry hills worship this babe so rare, hearts with his warmth he fills. Love in that stable was born into our hearts to flow; innocent dreaming babe, make me thy love to know.

Oxford Choral Song

The Carols by Candlelight Choir

CAROL, 230

O Little Town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie, above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given; So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven. No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

SECOND READING

Luke 2: 1-7

Read by Rebecca Tomasetti

The Christ Child's Birth.

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
the stars in the sky looked down where He lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

ANTHEM

Still, still, still

arr. Cathy Moglebust

Peachtree Carillon

THIRD READING

Luke 2:15-20

Read by David Thomas

The shepherds go to the manger.

ANTHEM

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Antonio Vivaldi

(1678-1741)

Glory to God in the highest.

Arr. Patrick Liebergen

(1949-2020)

Doxology Youth Chorale
Aleksandra Tevdoska, *flute*
Dr. Robin Hensley, *piano*

† Please stand.

CAROL, 234

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

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:

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

True God of true God, light from light eternal, lo he shuns not the Virgin's womb; Son of the Father, begotten, not created;

Refrain

Sing, Choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, Glory in the highest:

Refrain

Yea, Lord we greet Thee, Born this happy morning, Jesu, to thee be glory given Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing:

Refrain

† The people remain standing.

The great mystery of the Incarnation unfolds.

CAROL, 249

Joy to the World

Antioch

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.

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.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

† *The people are seated.*

CAROLS

Silent Night, Holy Night

Stille Nacht

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, 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.

The First Noel

Traditional English Carol

The first Noel 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. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Angels We Have Heard On High

Traditional English Carol

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!

See him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise; Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise. *Refrain*

BENEDICTION

Rev. Bill Britt

† *The people stand.*

Hark! the herald angels sing “Glory to the newborn King;
 Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
 Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
 With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with healing in his wings;
 Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
 Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Refrain

† The people extinguish their candles.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

STAFF

Scott H. Atchison, *Director of Music and Organist*
 Jonathan Easter, *Guest Organist*
 Kathy Fletcher, *Director of Youth and Children’s Music*
 Ruth Sommerville, *Music and Arts Coordinator*
 Dr. Robin Hensley, *Assistant Organist*
 Tamara Witt, *Children’s and Youth Music Project Manager*
 Janice McGalliard, *Choral Librarian*
 Darrell Osborne, *AV Manager*

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHRISTMAS WITH THE GEORGIA BOY CHOIR

Friday & Saturday, December 20, 21, 7:00 pm

David R. White, conductor

Ring in the holiday season with the internationally acclaimed Georgia Boy Choir! Come hear all five levels of the Georgia Boy Choir in this Atlanta tradition and PRUMC favorite. Choristers will perform sacred classics, Christmas carols, and all beloved holiday tunes. Don't forget Atlanta's largest performance of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" with all the audience participating! Accompanied by a full orchestra and The Great Organ of PRUMC, it will be two incredible nights of performances. The Georgia Boy Choir is proud to be PRUMC's Ensemble in Residence and is ready to celebrate this most magical time of year with you and your family!

Tickets available at www.georgiaboychoir.org

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Come celebrate this glorious night with us! Our beautiful services offer meaningful messages and magnificent music.

Complimentary childcare for ages 3 and under for the 4:00 & 6:00 pm service.

11:00 am | Christmas Service of Holy Communion

A celebration of the Eucharist.

4:00 pm | Family Candlelight & Pageant

Children's Choirs and Christmas Pageant with nativity characters.

6:00 pm | Family Candlelight & Pageant

Children's Choirs and Christmas Pageant with nativity characters.

8:00 pm | Festival of Lessons & Carols

Chancel Choir and Orchestra herald in this most Holy Night.

10:30 pm | Festival Choral Eucharist

Chancel Choir and Orchestra with a celebration of the Eucharist.



PEACHTREE ROAD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

