

THE SERVICE of Worship

December 24, 2020
Christmas Eve
8:00 P.M.



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON
established 1870

Responding to God's love and grace, we WORSHIP with joy, NURTURE with faith, and SERVE others with love.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

“He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child”
Edwin Walker, Organist

Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP | *Responsively*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light,

for a child has been born for us, a son given to us!

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

Glory to God in the highest heaven!

Let us worship the Prince of Peace.

Let us walk in the Light of Christ!

CAROL | “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Glory to God 133

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!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
very God, begotten, not created!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE | *Responsively*

We give thanks for the light of hope—unrelenting and spontaneous.

Our hope in Christ shines on.

We give thanks for the light of peace—unflinching and unafraid.

The peace of Christ lights our way.

We give thanks for the light of joy—persistent and vivacious.

The joy of Christ brightens our lives.

We give thanks for the light of love—fiery and holy.

The love of Christ comforts and corrects.

Now let us light the Christ candle as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Thank you, Holy God,

for your light breaking into the world through Jesus Christ.

The light shines in the darkness.

And the darkness has not overcome it.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION | *Unison*

**O Christ, you were born in a humble stable,
because there was no room for you in the inn.
Forgive us when we foolishly think
that there is no room for you in our lives.
When we close the doors of our hearts to your word,
forgive us, and burst through them with your love.
When we close the doors of our minds to your challenge,
forgive us, and burst through them with your love.
When we close the doors of our homes, our churches,
and our cities to people you would have us welcome,
forgive us, and speak your angel's words
to us once more: "Do not be afraid."
Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS | *Responsively*

Isa. 62:11-12

Hear the promise of the Lord: See, your salvation has come!
You are a holy people, redeemed by God; sought out and not forsaken.
Friends, in the name of Jesus Christ, the newborn King, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

CAROL | "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Glory to God 119

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 the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:1-20

SERMON

"A 2020 Christmas Story"

Pastor David Schaefer

SOLO

"Gesù Bambino"

Pietro A. Yon

APOSTLES' CREED | *Unison*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

**“The Birthday of a King”
Peter Tiggelaar, Soloist**

W. H. Neidlinger

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING | *Responsively*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We Lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE ADORATION | *Sung*

**O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER | *Unison*

**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.**

COMMUNION

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CAROL | “Silent Night”

Glory to God 122

Dan White, Guitar and Vocals

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! shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!”

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.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.

BENEDICTION

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CAROL | “Joy to the World”

Glory to God 134

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.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

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.

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.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“In Dulci Jubilo”
Edwin Walker, Organist

J. S. Bach



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
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*Worship Schedule
Membership Information
Calendar of Events*
www.fpcrichardson.org

