A blue-toned illustration of a nativity scene. The Virgin Mary is seated on the left, holding the infant Jesus. To the right, a shepherd kneels in adoration. In the foreground, a dog and a sheep are visible. The background shows other figures, including another shepherd with a staff. The scene is set in a stable with wooden beams. The text 'Festival of Carols' is written in a stylized, yellow, serif font across the center. The word 'of' is smaller and in a cursive script. The date 'December 17, 2017' is at the bottom.

FESTIVAL
of
CAROLS

December 17, 2017

THE MEANING *of* CHRISTMAS

All of the songs that you are about to enjoy in this Festival of Carols focus on the unique identity, majestic divinity, and saving work of Jesus Christ. They basically tell the story of the gospel in three words:

Cradle

The cradle of Christmas proves that God is with us — Emmanuel. We are not alone in this world. We are not alone in our guilt, shame, and struggle. We are not alone when we walk through the valley of the shadowlands — even death itself. The little baby in the feeding trough in the cave in Bethlehem is the incarnate God. He came to live a life of perfection that we never could and to die a sacrificial death to free us from guilt, shame, sin, and death.

Cross

These carols remind us that the gospel story continues with another transforming event. The cross of Calvary proves that God is for us and not against us. We no longer have to work to earn His favor and acceptance; the cross serves as proof of God's grace and love. Jesus endured our sin, our judgment, our hell, and our death on that cross so that, by believing in Him, we might enjoy forgiveness, acceptance, heaven, and eternal life.

Crown

The good news gets even better. These carols remind us that Jesus rose from the dead and ascended into heaven to rule and reign. He is now crowned with glory and honor. The crown reminds us that God will ensure that we arrive safely home to His glorious kingdom. Jesus will triumph over all of His and our enemies. Our future is bright indeed. At Advent, we also celebrate that Jesus is coming again to make all things new.

Have you gazed upon that cradle, that cross, and that crown? Let us worship our Savior, born in a cradle; the Son of God, slain on a cross; and the King of Glory, who has secured our way home to the Father's house!

FESTIVAL *of* CAROLS

Hail Redemption's Happy Dawn

presented by

The Second Presbyterian Church

Choir *and* Orchestra

Michael J. Devine, *conductor*

In preparation for worship, please silence your mobile devices.

♠Indicates congregation standing

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Josh Yates

"Nimrod" from *Enigma Variations* Edward Elgar

"As the Dark Awaits the Dawn" Christopher Aspaas

As the dark awaits the dawn, so we await your light.

O Star of promise, scatter night, loving bright,

Till shades of fear are gone.

As the blue expectant hour before the silv'ring skies,

We long to see your day arise, whole and wise, O lucent Morning Star.

As the moon reflects the sun until night's decrease,

May we your healing light release, living peace, holy dawn.

Shine your future on ev'ry guest, that through us stream your holiness,

Bright and blest; Sun of grace. We await your light.

♠ CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" .. Sterling Procter

1. Come, Thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set Thy
 2. Born thy peo - ple to de - li - ver, born a child and
 peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us
 yet a King, born to reign in us for - e - ver, now thy
 find our rest in Thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -
 gra - cious king - dom bring. By thine own e - ter - nal
 la - tion, hope of all the earth Thou art, dear de - sire of
 Spi - rit, rule in all our hearts a - lone; by thine all - suf -
 ev' - ry na - tion, joy of ev' - ry long - ing heart.
 fi - cient, mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

♠ INVOCATION

♠ CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: "Joy to the World" Mack Wilberg

(All) 1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
 (Women) 2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let men their songs em -
 (Men) 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the
 (All) 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions
 King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him room,
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings flow
 prove the glo - ries of His right - eous - ness
 and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n 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
 sing, and heav'n and heav'n 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.

“Arise, Your Light Has Come” David Danner

Awake, my spirit, Awake, lute and harp; I will awake at the dawn of day.
I will confess You, O Lord among the nations. I will raise a psalm to You, for Your love,
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 heav’ns 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 round 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 heav’nly sound.

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

◆ CONGREGATIONAL CAROLS Gary Fry

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O
come ye to Beth - le - hem; come and be - hold him born the King of
an - gels; O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see Thee lie!
A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by.
Yet in Thy dark streets shin - eth the e - ver - last - ing light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.

“What Child Is This?”



What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing?



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing.



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Ma - ry.

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”



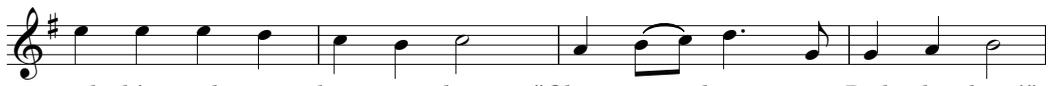
Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born King;



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;



with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born King.”

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

“Before the Marvel of This Night” Carl Schalk

Before the marvel of this night adoring, fold your wings and bow,
Then tear the sky apart with light and with your news the world endow.
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease:
Sing peace, sing gift of peace!

Awake the sleeping world with song, this is the day the Lord has made.
Assemble here, celestial throng, in royal splendor come arrayed.
Give earth a glimpse of heavenly bliss, a teasing taste of what they miss:
Sing bliss, sing endless bliss!

The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light,
Now to the loveless world be shown, now break upon its deathly night.
Into one song compress the love, that rules our universe above:
Sing love, sing God is love!

♠ CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: “See Amid the Winter's Snow” David Willcocks



1. See, a - mid the win - ter's snow, born for us on earth be - low,
2. Lo, with - in a man - ger lies he who built the star - ry skies:
3. Sa - cred in - fant, all di - vine, what a ten - der love was thine,
4. Teach, O teach us, ho - ly child, by thy face so meek and mild,



see the ten - der Lamb ap - pears, prom - ised from e - ter - nal years.
he who, throned in height sub - lime, sits a - mid the cher - u - bim.
thus to come from high - est bliss down to such a world as this!
teach us to re - sem - ble thee, in thy sweet hu - mil - i - ty.

Refrain



Hail, thou ev - er - bless - ed morn! Hail, re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn!



Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem, Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.

HOMILY Dan Burns

“Carol of Joy” Dan Forrest

Green leaves all fallen, withered and dry; brief sunset fading, dim winter sky;
Lengthening shadows, dark closing in; then through the stillness, carols begin.

O fallen world, to you is the song! Death holds you fast and night tarries long.
Jesus is born, your curse to destroy; sweet to your ears, a carol of joy!

Pale moon ascending, solemn and slow; cold, barren hillside shrouded in snow.
Deep empty valley, veiled by the night, hear angel music, hopeful and bright.

O fearful world, to you is the song! Peace with your God and pardon for wrong.
Tidings for sinners, burdened and bound, carol of joy a Savior is found!

Earth wrapped in sorrow, lift up your eyes! Thrill to the chorus filling the skies.
Look up, sad-hearted! Witness God's love; join in the carol swelling above!

O friendless world, to you is the song! All heaven's joy to you may belong!
You who are lonely, laden, forlorn: now unto you, carol of joy, a Savior is born!

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: "Silent Night" John Rutter



1. Si - lent night! ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright round yon
 2. Si - lent night! ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight! Glo - ries
 3. Si - lent night! ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diance



vir - gin mo - ther and child. Ho - ly in - fant so, ten - der and mild,
 stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n - ly hosts sing, "Al - le - lu - ia!"
 beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,



sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 Je - sus Lord, at thy birth. Je - sus Lord, at thy birth.

♠BENEDICTION

♠CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: "The First Noel" Dan Forrest



(All) 1. The - first No - el the an - gel did say, was to cer - tain poor
 (Women) 2. They look - ed up and saw a star shin - ing in the
 (All) 3. Then let us all with one ac - cord sing prais - es



shep-herds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay
 east be - yond them far, (Men) and to the earth it
 to our heav - en - ly Lord that hath made heav'n and



keep - ing their sheep on a cold, win - ter's night that was so deep.
 gave great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 earth of naught, and with His blood man - kind hath bought.



Refrain
 (All) No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

THE CHANCEL CHOIR

Michael J. Devine, *Guest Conductor*

Ginny Atkinson	Fred Flinn	Megan Lomo	Jonathan Salinas
Ben Beard	Mary Lawrence Flinn	Hite McLean	Leslie Shaw
Jerry Bowman	Sallie Foster	Chelsea Mills	Sam Shaw
Marjorie Bowman	Jan Franks	May Elizabeth	Jeff Slenker
Jennifer Brandon	Keith Gilder	Montague	Peggy Stephens
Allan Browning	Sharon Green	Colby Morgan	Coley Stout
Suzanne Bugar	Warren Grimm	Ginny Moss	Robert Sutton
Maria Burke	Alan Hammond	Bob Neal	Emily Taylor
Jim Cantrell	Kathy Hammond	Charlotte Neal	Karen Taylor
Linda Cantrell	Mike Hillard	Carol Overcast	Anne Thompson
Pat Corbitt	Harrison Howle	Haley Overcast	Brett Trimble
Estelle Curtis	Susan Irvin	Kackie Person	Peter van der Bijl
Sarah Curtis	Macon Ivy	Annie Petzinger	Elizabeth Wall
Julie Dahlhauser	Angela Johnson	Virginia Pilcher	Lee Wallace
David Dennis	Julie Johnson	Daniel Polloreana	Susan Warner
Vernon DiCarlo	Betty Lu Jones	Katie Polloreana	Tabitha Watkins
Luanne Donoghue	Brad Jones	Kathy Priestley	Dan Whipple
Mary Edwards	Nicole Jones	Andrea Quinn	Tucker Williams
Calvin Ellis	Warren Jones	Skip Quinn	Christy Young
Karen Emmett	Carol Kirby	Gay Rhodes	Keith Young
Roger Fakes	Harold Knight	Kelsey Rivers	Marilyn Ziegler
Maria Fasciano	Rob Liddon	Jackie Robertson	
Beth Fischer	Ceasar Lomo	John Rutledge	

THE ORCHESTRA

Violin I	Cello	Oboe	Trombone
Barrie Cooper	Iren Zombor	Shelley Sublett	Greg Luscombe
Tim Shiu	Mark Wallace		Wes Lebo
Paul Turnbow	Brenton Moore	Bassoon	Eddie Clark
Andy You		Susanna Whitney	
Jessica Munson	Bass	Horn	Tuba
	Chris Butler	Caroline Kinsey	Kevin Sanders
Violin II	Sean Ohara	Robert Patterson	Percussion
Gaylon Patterson		Dan Phillips	David Carlisle
Stephen Hancock	Flute	Dan Vidican	Stewart Plumlee
Clay Hancock	Karen Busler		
Aubrey Mills	Dee Walker	Trumpet	Timpani
		Scott Moore	Frank Shaffer
Viola	Clarinet	Susan Enger	Harp
Michelle Pellay Walker	Rena Feller	Michael McKenzie	Julia Shaffer
Beth Luscombe	Stephanie Hancock		Organ
Betty Eubanks			Samuel Metzger

THE DEPARTMENT *of* MUSIC

Samuel Metzger, *Director of Music and Organist*
Christy Young, *Assistant Director of Choral Music*
Ginny Atkinson, *Administrative Assistant*



CHRISTMAS EVE

Nine Lessons and Carols

8:15 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Nine Lessons and Carols service includes Scripture readings and carols based on the original service held on Christmas Eve in 1918 at King's College in Cambridge, England.

Morning Reception

9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

All ages are invited to a reception in the Fellowship Hall during the CC hour. Sunday School/CCs will not meet during this time and the nursery will be closed. Come enjoy a light breakfast with your church family!

Christmas Eve Worship

Family Service with Children's Message, 4:00 p.m.
Candlelight Communion Services, 6:00 & 11:00 p.m.

Nursery is available for ages 4 and under for all services excluding 11:00 p.m. worship.

We invite you to worship with us on Sundays!

Morning Worship: 8:15 & 11:00 a.m.

Evening Worship: 6:00 p.m.

*To find out how you can become part of our church community,
contact Pastor Todd Erickson at
(901) 531-8895 or todd.erickson@2pc.org.*

www.2pc.org · (901) 454-0034





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