



Oh, magnify the LORD  
with me, and let us  
exalt his name  
together!  
Psalm 34:3





# Worshiping Christ Jesus, Who Came Down from Heaven!

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DECEMBER 24, 2022  
5:30PM

**PRELUDE** *Carillon on a Ukrainian Bell Carol* Gerald Near

Dennis Bergin, organ

Note on the Prelude

This year marks the centennial of the first performance in the United States of the beloved Christmas staple “Carol of the Bells”. Based on a Ukrainian folk song, “Carol of the Bells” was written by Ukrainian composer Mykola Leontovych and performed at Carnegie Hall by the touring Ukrainian National Chorus on October 5, 1922. The version heard today is an exciting carillon for organ by American composer Gerald Near. This work is presented to the glory of God in the hope and prayer that Jesus, our glorious Prince of Peace, will bring His peace to our weary, war-torn world and to the hearts of all he came to save.

**MEDITATION** *Christmas Carol Medley*

Julia Teves, violin; Charis Baker, flute; Carrie Smith, keyboard

**WELCOME**

Reverend Dr. Russell St. John, Lead Pastor

**ADVENT BELL TOLLING**

**LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE** Isaiah 42:1-9; 1 John 1:1-3

Reverend David Barnes, Associate Pastor

The Fitzgerald Family

**Pastor:** Tonight we light the fourth candle of Advent.

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: “I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols. Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them.”

**Reader:** John testifies that the one about whom Isaiah spoke dwelled with God from all eternity, but became flesh for our salvation. 1 John 1:1-3 says, “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.”

**WE FALL ON OUR KNEES!** *O Holy Night*

Kyrstan Brantley, soprano; Virginia McGuigan, piano

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining, it is the night of the dear Savior's birth;  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;  
Fall on your knees, oh, hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!  
O night divine, O night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another, His law is love, and His gospel is peace;  
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother,  
And in His name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, Let all within us praise His Holy name;  
Fall on your knees, Oh hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!  
O night divine, O night, O night divine, divine, divine!

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**\*GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP** Isaiah 52:7-10

**Pastor:** How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

**People:** **The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion.**

**Pastor:** Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

**People:** **The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

**\*HE GAVE HIS MOST CHERISHED TREASURE! NO. 217** *All My Heart This Night Rejoices*  
Carrie Smith, piano; Matt Brantley, bass; Greg Wagener, drums; Nathanael Zanders, timpani

**\*WE INVOKE HIS PRESENCE**

**GOD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD TO HIS CHILDREN!**

Abraham Sullivan, Seminary Intern

**BE NEAR ME LORD JESUS!** *Away in a Manger*  
Matthew Fessler, Li Ndindi, Belle St. John, Kyrstan Brantley

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed.  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looking 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 cradle 'til 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.  
Forever in Thy care.

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**GOD REVEALS HIS ONLY SON!** Luke 2:1-7

Reverend Dr. Russell St. John, Lead Pastor

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

**OF JESSE'S LINEAGE COMING!** No. 221 *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

**GOD REVEALS THE GOOD NEWS!** Luke 2:8-10

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."

**\*THIS GIFT OF GOD WE'LL CHERISH WELL! No. 215**

*While by the Sheep We Watched at Night*

**\*GOD REVEALS HIS WONDROUS SIGN! Luke 2:11-14**

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!

**\*GLORY TO GOD AND PEACE TO MEN! No. 227** *On Christmas Night All Christians Sing*

**GOD FULFILLS HIS PROPHECY! Luke 2:15**

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

**THE WONDROUS GIFT WAS GIVEN! No. 201** *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**GOD REVEALS CHRIST THE LORD! Luke 2:16-20**

And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**THIS SLEEPING CHILD YOU'RE HOLDING, IS THE GREAT "I AM!"** *Mary Did You Know?*  
Kyrstan Brantley, Belle St. John, soloists

Mary, did you know that your baby boy would someday walk on water?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?  
Did you now that your baby boy has come to make you new?  
This child that you delivered, will soon deliver you.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with his hand?  
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?  
When you kissed your little baby, then you kissed the face of God.

The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again;  
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb,

Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day rule the nations?  
Did you know that your baby boy was heaven's perfect Lamb?  
This sleeping child you're holding, is the great the great "I AM!"  
Mary did you know....?

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<b>GOD REVEALS HIS WORD</b>	Reverend David Barnes, Associate Pastor
<b>SERMON SERIES</b>	"Magnify! Glorify!"
<b>SCRIPTURE TEXT</b>	John 6:38-40
<b>SERMON TITLE</b>	<i>How'd He Do That?</i>

<sup>38</sup> For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup> And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. <sup>40</sup> For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."



**\*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**\*CHRIST, THE SAVIOR IS BORN!** *Silent Night*

**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, heav'nly 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**

**\*POSTLUDE** *Reprise: Carillon on a Ukrainian Bell Carol*

**You and your family are welcome  
to join us tomorrow for our  
Christmas Day Worship Service  
at 10:30 AM**

**Have a blessed Christmas  
Worshiping Christ Jesus,  
Who Came Down from Heaven!**

SERMON NOTES

## ***How'd He Do That?***

Reverend David Barnes, Associate Pastor

John 6:38-40

\*Congregation please rise

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You and your family  
are welcome  
to join us every Sunday  
for our Worship Service at  
10:30 AM

Have a blessed Christmas!

**Magnify! Glorify!**

