

# SERVICE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

CHRISTMAS EVE  
DECEMBER 24, 2013



*The Adoration of the Shepherds*,  
by Gerard van Honthorst  
1620-1622  
oil on canvas

Honthorst (1592-1656) was a Dutch Golden Age painter. He was a prolific artist. He had great skill at *chiaroscuro*, often painting scenes illuminated by a single candle.

His 1620 *The Adoration of the Shepherds* (pictured here) in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, Italy, was unfortunately destroyed in 1993.

(source: Wikipedia)

## WE GATHER

### OPENING VOLUNTARY

*CHRISTMAS BRINGS JOY TO EVERY HEART*

ARR. DAVID PAXTON

### CHIME PEAL

### ADVENT WREATH FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

ISAIAH 11:1-10

Tonight is the night for which we have all been waiting. Our Advent wreath is now complete by the lighting of the Christ candle. A child has been born for us, a son given to us! Let us pray.

**Living God, on this holy night we gather to stand with shepherds and to sing with angels, rejoicing in your work; we wait with Joseph, trusting in your promise; and we sit with Mary, cradling your love. May the good news of this night inspire us to tell the world of our great joy; for to us is born a savior, the Messiah, the Lord. Come, let us go to Bethlehem. Today and every day, let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

\* Whenever you see this symbol, please stand if you are able.

# SONG RESPONSE (HYMN 113)

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH (REFRAIN ONLY)

GLORIA

Edwin S. Barnes (1887-1958) was the arranger of the French carol *Angels We Have Heard on High*. Barnes studied organ at Yale University and in Paris with several important organists. He later served as organist at Church of the Incarnation (New York), Rutgers Presbyterian (New York), St. Stephen's Episcopal (Philadelphia), and First Presbyterian (Santa Monica).

Glo - ri - a  
in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - ri - a  
in ex - cel - sis De - o.

## CHIME PEAL

### \*OPENING HYMN 133

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

ADESTE FIDELES

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come  
2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,  
of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -  
all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all  
sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

*Refrain*  
born the King of an - gels!  
got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let  
glo - ry in the high - est!  
now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

# WE PROCLAIM

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 9:2-7

Leader: And the Word became flesh and lived among us.

People: Thanks be to God. (John 1:14)

### CHOIR ANTHEM

GLORIOUS LIGHT

GETTY/HANNAH

ARR. SHACKLEY

### SECOND LESSON

LUKE 2:1-7

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

### \*HYMN 134

JOY TO THE WORLD

ANTIOCH

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven 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  
and heaven and na - ture sing,

and  
sing, and heaven, and heaven 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.

heaven and na - ture sing,

Isaac Watts (1674 -1748) is known as the "father of English hymnody." His text of *Joy to the World* is a paraphrase of Psalm 98.

The music for this hymn is by George Frederic Handel. Although born in Germany, Handel spent most of his life in England. He composed many operas and oratorios including *Messiah*, his best-known work.

# THIRD LESSON

LUKE 2:8-20

## SERMON

"GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY"

REV. DR. ANNE EPLING

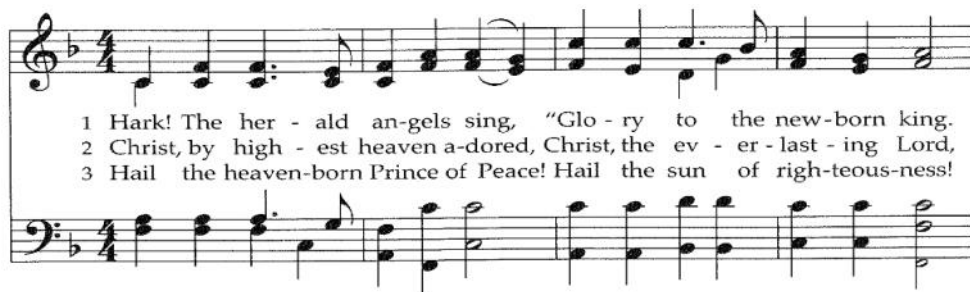
## WE RESPOND

### \*HYMN 119

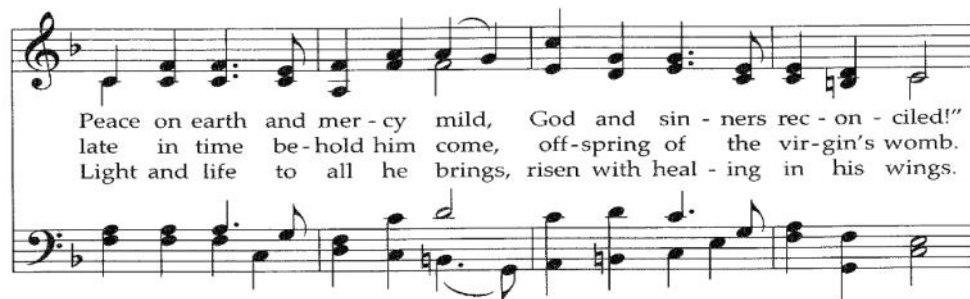
HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

MENDELSSOHN

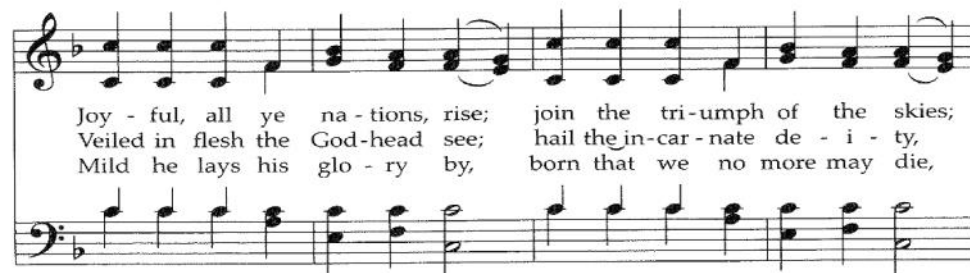
Charles Wesley (1707-1788), one of the founders of Methodism, wrote over 6000 hymns. *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* is generally sung to a tune by the 19th century German composer Felix Mendelssohn. Mendelssohn is regarded as one of the outstanding composers of classical choral music.



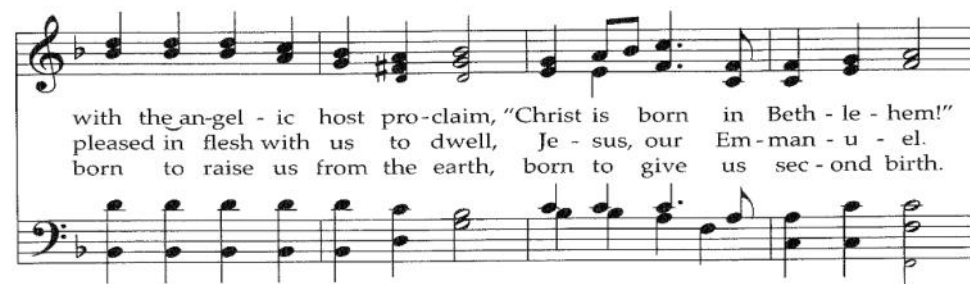
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king.  
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate de - i - ty,  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

*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.*

## OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

(PLEASE SIGN THE FRIENDSHIP PAD.)

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

WALK IN THE LIGHT

ARR. ANDRE' THOMAS

## \*DEDICATION OF GIFTS

CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY

O TANNENBAUM

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, in every generation. Praise

God, all creatures here below, who gives to us salvation. Praise

God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Let

all creation praise the Lord with love and adoration.

Faith Des Peres is participating in the **Christmas Joy Offering** of the Presbyterian Church (USA) as a means of expressing and experiencing God's love. If you would like to contribute, please make your check payable to "Faith Des Peres" and note that the gift is for the "Joy Offering", and place it in the special "Joy Offering" envelope or place it in the offertory plate. Thank you.

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

UNISON

We give you thanks, Holy One, for the world of wonder you have made—forest and field, sea and sky, and for the gift of grace that you have given—a little child, lying in a manger. Receive these gifts of tenderness and love, of gratitude and praise, and use them for your glory; in the name of Jesus Christ, the child of Bethlehem, we pray. Amen.

# WE ARE SENT

Members of the worship team will assist with the candle lighting during the fourth lesson.

## \*FOURTH LESSON

JOHN 1:1-5

## \*CLOSING HYMN 122

*SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT!*

STILLE NACHT

The text of *Silent Night* was written in 1816 by Joseph Mohr, an Austrian priest. Franz Xavier Gruber, a headmaster and church musician, provided the tune.

Mohr, accompanying on guitar, and Gruber, together with the church choir, provided the first performance of the hymn at the Church of St. Nicholas in Oberndorf, Austria on Christmas Eve in 1818.

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light  
4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and  
glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -  
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing  
with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"  
grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.  
King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*JOY TO THE WORLD!*

ARR. DON HUSTAD

*At the conclusion of the service, please extinguish your candle.  
You may take it with you or leave it in one of the baskets at the door.*

# WE WELCOME YOU TO FAITH DES PERES FOR WORSHIP!

## WHO WE ARE...

We are an inter-generational community. Adults and youth know each other on a first-name basis. We come from across the St. Louis metropolitan area. Some of our members have been here a long time, and some of them are new. We accept people for who they are and where they are on their faith journey. We are inquisitive by nature. We are not content with the same old answers to the same old questions, and we are OK with not having all the answers. We welcome young and old, singles and families, regardless of race, nationality or sexual orientation.

## WHAT WE BELIEVE...

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. (*from the PC(USA) Brief Statement of Faith, 1983*)

## COMMUNION...

Because we believe Christ welcomes everyone to the table, we welcome everyone to the table. Anyone who trusts in Jesus Christ is welcome to take communion at Faith Des Peres; you do not need to be a member of this church to receive communion, and children may also receive communion.

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## TOGETHER AT FAITH DES PERES

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Helen Barks | Joanna Gerst | Toy & Jerry Kircher | Barbara Moorman | Mackenzie Prophete  
Mallorie Prophete | Jasmine Reece

### THANK YOU!

**Worship Teams 1 & 2:** Terry & Jim Baker, Kathy Sherrick, Dianne Modrell, Katy Spears, and Randi & Keith Weber

**Music:** Katy Spears, Glockenspiel and Jared Spears, Drums

**Special Music Fund Donors:** Faith Des Peres would like to acknowledge the donors and supporters of our Special Music Fund: The Janet Boyer Fund was established in memory of longtime Faith Des Peres member Janet Boyer, who was an accomplished musician and founder of Music Folk in Webster Groves. Gifts to the Boyer fund make appearances of musicians such as *A Fifth Above*, the *Jim Dandys*, and brass musicians for Easter possible, and in the past, gifts have funded the purchase of our electric keyboard. We thank the following donors for your generous support in 2013: Ron and Marilyn Scott, John and Beth Willock, Bill and Pat Malkemus, and Bernie and Leila Davis. Gifts were given by the following donors in honor of Clare Dingus upon her graduation from high school: Bernie and Leila Davis, Will and Charlotte Ridley, James and Terry Baker.

**Poinsettias in the Sanctuary** have been given by the following individuals and families: Barb Abbett, in memory of Ed and our parents | Erica Abbett, in honor of my mom and in memory of my dad | Jim & Terry Baker, in memory of our parents | Leslie Barnes, in memory of Shirley Barnes | Nancy Bender, in honor and memory of family | Dorcas Case, in memory of Jim | Leila & Bernie Davis, in memory of our parents | Joanna & Jim Gerst, in memory of our parents | Nancy Hope, in memory of parents | Lindsay & Joe Marting, in memory of our parents | Phil & Dianne Modrell, in memory of Tony Modrell | Jean & Susan Neunreiter, in memory of Bob Neunreiter | Sean & Sako O'Rourke, in honor/memory of parents and grandparents | Whitney & Phil Payne, in memory of Roger & Fran Beal | Charlotte & Will Ridley, in honor/memory of parents and grandparents | Judy & Rufus Sisson, in memory of Dale R. Sisson and John "Doc" Graham | Suzy Standley, in memory of Marvin Standley | Barb Wright, in memory of parents

If you donated poinsettias (above), please remember to take yours with you at the end of the service.

*Acknowledgements:*

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

## TODAY

**Year-end donations to the church:** Contributions that you wish to include on 2013 tax documents must be in the church office no later than Sunday, December 29, or in the mail postmarked no later than December 31.

Pastor Annie will be on vacation from December 25th through January 1st, though you may still contact her in an emergency. Many thanks to **Rev. Joe Marting** for leading worship on Sunday, December 29th. The church office will be closed on December 25th and January 1st.

Congratulations to section leader **Samantha Stout**. Sam has completed the Master of Education degree at Lindenwood University. In addition to her work at Faith Des Peres, Sam is an elementary music teacher for the Parkway School District and also serves as an assistant director for the Kirkwood Children's Chorale. We're proud of your accomplishment, Sam!

## THIS WEEK

Wed, 12/25 *Christmas Day—church office closed.*

Sun, 12/29 10:00 am Childcare

10:30 am Worship (Rev. Joe Marting will be preaching.)

*Sunday School and Tweens Class do not meet today.*

11:30 am Coffee and Fellowship

## THIS MONTH

**Have you thought about a new year resolution?** How about reading the entire Bible in one year? If that sounds challenging, it is! But, it's doable . . . and more fun with a group of people. It takes about 20 minutes a day. Of course, it also requires some energy to plan reading time into your daily schedule. If this is something you'd like to try, e-mail Annie at [pastor@faithdesperes.org](mailto:pastor@faithdesperes.org) or sign-up in the Gathering Space. Reading schedules are provided, and monthly get-togethers to touch base are optional (time to be decided by participants). Readings begin January 1st. Together, we can do this!

### January 5, 2014

The **Annual ADG Book Study** will be on three consecutive Sunday afternoons (January 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>) from 12:00 – 1:30 PM in the Gathering Space. Lunch (sandwiches, salad and drinks) will be available for a small fee, and the discussion will be from 12:30 – 1:30. This year's book is *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth*, by Reza Aslan.

Copies of the book can be obtained from the church office for \$16.50. The book can also be purchased at local bookstores (\$27.00), or ordered from Amazon (\$16.36 for a hardback copy, or \$11.75 for a Kindle version). A sign-up sheet for lunch is in the Gathering Space. Please let Marie in the church office know that you'll be attending so she can send you a reading guide ([adminasst@faithdesperes.org](mailto:adminasst@faithdesperes.org)).

### January 10, 2014

The next TNT (20s and 30s something) dinner will be on Friday, January 10th at 7:00 pm. Childcare will be available at the church beginning at 6:30pm. Place to be determined – look for an e-mail or upcoming blogs for a location announcement.

## COMING SOON

### March 26, 2014

**Tour Churches of Soulard** with the History Team and find out why St. Louis was once called the "Rome of the West." Visit Trinity Lutheran, St. John Nepomuk, St. Vincent De Paul, St. Mary of Victories and St. Raymond's. Have a Lebanese feast for lunch (at your expense) and see the "Who's Who" of St. Louis. Cost is \$49. Make reservations with Betsy Stoll ([stolldickandbetsy@att.net](mailto:stolldickandbetsy@att.net)) or call 314-821-0533.

## FAITH DES PERES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

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