

Christmas Eve Service

Aisquith Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2024

6:15 PM

We welcome you to worship this evening. It is a privilege to have you as our guest.

As you join us today, begin to worship quietly with personal prayer.

Please turn off your cell phone and turn your hearts and minds toward God.

Musical Preparation

Away in A Manger

Mueller
Ms. Hannah Fisher, Organ

Recitative

For Behold Darkness Shall Cover The Earth

Handel
Mr. Jeffrey Soule, Bass

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee And Gentiles shall come to Thy light, and kings to the brightness of Thy rising.

Overture

Messiah

Handel
Instrumental Ensemble and Organ

Recitative

Comfort Ye My People

Handel
Mr. Robert Brown, Tenor

Comfort ye, Comfort ye my people, saith your God, saith your God; Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare, her warfare is accomplish'd, that her iniquity is pardon'd, that her iniquity is pardon'd. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Air

Ev'ry Valley Shall Be Exalted

Handel
Mr. Robert Brown, Tenor

Ev'ry valley, ev'ry valley shall be exalted, shall be exalted, shall be exalted, shall be exalted, ev'ry mountain and hill made low the crooked straight, and the rough places plain, the crooked straight, the crooked straight, the rough places plain, and the rough places plain. Ev'ry valley, ev'ry valley shall be exalted, Ev'ry valley, ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight, the crooked straight, the crooked straight and the rough places plain, and the rough places plain, the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

Chorus

And The Glory Of The Lord

Handel
The Aisquith Choir

And the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, And the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it; and all flesh shall see it together, and all flesh

shall see it together, For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it, And the glory, the glory of the Lord, and all flesh shall see it together, and the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it, and all flesh shall see it together, and the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, together, For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it, for the mouth of the Lord, the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Chorale

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Bach
The Aisquith Choir

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, and usher in the morning; O shepherds, shrink not with affright, but hear the angel's warning. This child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be, the power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making.

Service of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Prayer of Invocation

Opening Hymn: No. 207

Good Christian Men Rejoice

In Dulci Jubilo

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Earth and heav'n before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

The Names of Christmas

Theme Text

Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Special Music

List! The Cherubic Host (from The Holy City)

Alfred R. Gaul

List! The cherubic host, in thousand choirs, Touch their immortal harps of golden wires, With those just spirits that wear victorious palms, Singing everlastingly devout, devout and Holy psalms. (Repeat) And I heard the voice of harpers, harping with their harps, And they sang as it were a new song, before the throne, before the throne, And no man could learn that song, but they, but they which were redeemed, they which were redeemed. List! The cherubic host, I heard the list! The cherubic host touch their immortal harps of golden wires.

Wonderful Counselor

Reading

John 14:16-17 (RSV)

¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you for ever,
¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you.

Hymn No. 230

Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor

French Carol

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor;
Thrones for a manger didst surrender, sapphire paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who was rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor.

Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man;
Stooping so low, but sinners raising, heav'nward by thine eternal plan.
Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man;

Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling, make us what thou wouldst have us be.
Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.

Mighty God

Reading

John 14:1-7

¹ "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Hymn No. 194

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.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

O come, thou Day-spring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high and close the path to misery.

The Offering of Our Gifts and Prayer of Dedication

The Offertory

Gloria in Excelcis (12th Mass)

W.A. Mozart
The Aisquith Choir

Glorious is thy name, Almighty Lord.
All the angels stand about thy throne.
Let all nations bow before thee, and declare thy wondrous works.
we praise thee
We give thanks to thee
Lord we adore thee, we bless thee. We thank thee for thy great glory.
Heaven is thy throne and earth is thy footstool.
Thou art King over all the world
Glorious is thy name O Lord
Blessing and honor be to God for ever and evermore.

Everlasting Father

Reading

John 14:8-11

⁸ Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

Hymn No. 208

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:

***O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.***

God of God, Light of Light;

lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb:
very God, begotten, not created;

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of hea'v above;
glory to God in the highest;

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing;

Prince of Peace

Reading

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Hymn No. 203

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

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!"

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel.

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.

Candle Lighting & Hymn No. 210

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! 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 and Three-Fold Amen (Hymnal, pg. 740)

Danish

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Postlude

Hallelujah!

Handel

The Congregation is encouraged to stand and join in the singing of the Postlude.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

The kingdom of this world is become
the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and of His Christ;
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever

King of Kings,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
and Lord of Lords,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
and Lord of Lords,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

and Lord of Lords,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever

King of Kings
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And He shall reign for ever and ever,
for ever and ever,
King of Kings,
and Lord of Lords,
King of Kings,
and Lord of Lords,
and He shall reign for ever and ever,

King of Kings,
and Lord of Lords.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

A very special thanks to those who contributed to the service this evening:

Director of Music Ministries: Dr. Kenneth Dean, Jr.

Music Arranger and Conductor: Mr. James Green

Vocalists: Mr. Robert Brown

Mr. Jeffrey Soule

Musicians: Ms. Hannah Fisher – Organ

Mrs. Yuki Fisher – Piano

Mr. Russell Graham – Violin

Ms. Chanel Kelly – Cello

Mr. Gary Richardson – Bass

Mr. Ronald Rolling – Trumpet

Mr. David Russell – Trumpet

Ms. Marta Samuel – Viola

Mr. Samuel Thompson – Violin

Our Christmas Offering will go to the *PCA Ministerial Relief Fund*.

If you donated a poinsettia for this year's service, thank you! You are welcome take it home after the service.

Christmas cards and the 2025 offering envelopes are in the narthex. If you would like to begin using envelopes for your giving, please speak to Pastor Ceselsky.

Please pick up your Christmas Cards!

Poinsettias for Christmas 2024

From

Angela & Noe Andrade
Sylvia Barfield
Sylvia Barfield
Sylvia Barfield
George & Ruth Ellen Beerli
George & Ruth Ellen Beerli
John & Christine Clark
John & Christine Clark
Gus & Debbie DeFord
Gus & Debbie DeFord
Anna Graham
George & Janet Johnson
The Oswinkle Family
The Oswinkle Family
The Oswinkle Family
The Oswinkle Family
John Schaller
John Schaller
John Schaller
Jeff & Libby Soule
The Wickham Family

Memorial

In memory of Giovanni Noe & Adrian Rogelio Andrade
In Memory of Rosa & George Beerli
In memory of Husband Darl Barfield
In memory of Genevive Barfield
In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Gronenthal
In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Gebhard & Rosa Beerli
In loving memory of Ralph Clark III
In memory of John Clark Sr.
In memory of Gus' Loved Ones
In memory of Debbie's Parents & Brother
In memory of Pastor Tom Graham
In memory of Loved Ones
In memory of parents, John & Anna Oswinkle
In memory of parents, Andy & Francis Zebrowski
In memory of brother, Joseph Zebrowski
In honor of grandson, Tomas Oswinkle
In loving memory of Sandy
In loving memory of Sandy
In loving memory of Sandy
In memory of our dear son, Joe Soule
In memory of Joseph