

Director..... *Stan Pylant*
 Organist..... *Laura Doss*
 Pianists..... *Laura Doss & Cathie McClure*

Sanctuary Choir

Sopranos	Altos	Tenors	Basses
<i>Lynn Black</i>	<i>Stephanie Baxter</i>	<i>Adam Doss</i>	<i>Harold Benge</i>
<i>Gloria Gill</i>	<i>Anne Bowen</i>	<i>John Dunsmore</i>	<i>Charles Caruso</i>
<i>Martha Holley</i>	<i>Julie Dey</i>	<i>McDonald Law</i>	<i>Scott Doss</i>
<i>Margaret Johnson</i>	<i>Susan LaFrance</i>	<i>Richard Turner</i>	<i>Eld Evans</i>
<i>Kay Lovingood</i>	<i>Iona Law</i>	<i>Les Yerger</i>	<i>Dennis Hillesland</i>
<i>Cathie McClure</i>	<i>Sue Moncrief</i>		<i>Al Lovingood</i>
<i>Natalie Parish</i>	<i>Kirsten Pylant</i>		<i>Ron Moncrief</i>
<i>Joanne Pierce</i>	<i>Karen Stewart</i>		<i>Ora Parish</i>
<i>Brianna Pylant</i>	<i>Barbara Volpitto</i>		
<i>Carol Rezzelle</i>			
<i>Desiree Wiggill</i>			

Children's Choir

<i>Esther Doss</i>	<i>Noah Doss</i>	<i>Derrick Smits</i>
<i>Hannah Doss</i>	<i>Peter Doss</i>	<i>Gloria Smits</i>
<i>James Doss</i>	<i>William Dyer</i>	<i>Sophia Smits</i>
<i>Joseph Doss</i>	<i>Claramae Parish</i>	<i>Avery Weidman</i>
	<i>Nichols Parish</i>	

Festival Orchestra

Violin 1	Flute
<i>Ryan Kho</i>	<i>Alicia Markyna</i>
<i>Laura Tomlin</i>	<i>Desiree Wiggill</i>
Violin 2	Oboe
<i>Jonathan Aceto</i>	<i>Kelly Odell</i>
Viola	Clarinet, Soprano Sax
<i>Carl Purdy</i>	<i>Rob Foster</i>
Cello	Horn
<i>Christine Crookall</i>	<i>Rachel Misner</i>
<i>Hildemarie Wiggill</i>	Percussion
Bass	<i>Stephanie Baxter</i>
<i>Sara Neal Lokey</i>	<i>Kirsten Pylant</i>

The Birth of Jesus Christ

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.

The Shepherds and the Angels

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. 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!" 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." 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.

And at the end of eight days, when He was circumcised, He was called **Jesus**, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.



Staff

The Rev. Robert Hendrick, *Pastor-Elect*
 Dr. Stan Pylant, *Director of Music*; Mrs. Laura Doss, *Organist*
 Mr. Chris Nabholz, *Interim Director of Student Ministries*
 Mrs. Shirley McBride, *Secretary/Bookkeeper*
 Mr. Scott Doss, *AV & Digital Media Director*; Mr. Charles Caruso, *Sexton*

Christ Church, Presbyterian

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 Phone (706) 210-9090 • Facsimile (706) 364-9086
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Evensong



Sunday, December 17, 2017
 6:00 p.m.

Come, Thou Redeemer of the Earth

Come, Thou Redeemer of the earth,
 And manifest Thy Virgin Birth:
 Let every age adoring fall;
 Such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will,
 But of the Spirit, Thou art still
 The Word of God in flesh arrayed,
 The promised fruit to man displayed.

From God the Father He proceeds,
 To God the Father back He speeds;
 His course He runs to death and hell,
 Returning on God's throne to dwell.

O equal to Thy Father, Thou!
 Gird on Thy fleshly mantle now;
 The weakness of our mortal state
 With deathless might invigorate.

— St. Ambrose, 4th Century, A. D.

A Christmas Festival

**Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son,
and shall call His name Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14**

(† Indicates the congregation standing)

The Orchestral Preludesarr. Dan Goeller
Burgundian Carol and Appalachian Carol

The Anthem – O Come, Emmanuel.....arr. Alice Parker
O come, O come Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel.
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Dayspring come and cheer,
And cheer our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night. And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O Israel.

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

The Bidding Prayer *(said by pastor)*

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe, lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought to us by His Holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of His birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of His whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which He died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice His heart, let us at this time remember in His Name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love Him not, or who by sin have grieved His Heart of Love.

Lastly, let us remember before God His pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we forever more are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer to the Throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ Himself hath taught us:

The Lord's Prayer *(in 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.**

† The Hymn – Once In Royal David's City, vv. 1–3 *(Trinity Hymnal, No 225)*..... IRBY

The First LessonMicah 5:2–4 *(Pew Bible, page 779)*

† The Hymn – Once In Royal David's City, vv. 4–5 *(Trinity Hymnal, No 225)*..... IRBY

The Second Lesson Isaiah 40:1–5 *(Pew Bible, page 599)*

The Anthem – And the Glory of the Lord from MessiahG. F. Handel
And 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.

The Anthem –O Little Town of Bethlehem..... Setting: Dan Forrest

O little town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie.
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all the earth.

How silently, how silently, the wond'rous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessing of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray!
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell!
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.

† The Hymn – (Trinity Hymnal, No. 230) FRENCH CAROL MELODY
Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor

The Anthem –Listen to the Lambs Ruth Elaine Schram

We have waited for the King, our Messiah. We have heard the angels sing of His birth.
But, here we are in a stable, surrounded by gentle lambs.
By some miracle, they seem to understand. Listen to the lambs.

Refrain: Some see a child, but we see the Great Shepherd.
Some hear a baby's cry, but we hear our Maker.
We know we stand in the presence of the great I AM.
So, listen, listen to the lambs.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes. Cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes.

But the lambs hear the voice of God in the cries that He makes.
These innocent, simple creatures; it seems they know their Creator.
O Jesus, give us the faith to see and accept Your deity. *Refrain*
With the Children's Choir; Kay Lovingood, *Director*

The Children's Choir – Angel Song..... arr. Donald Moore

Christmas evening long ago, in the dark of night,
Shepherds with their flocks in tow saw a wondrous sight.
Angel choirs up in the sky suddenly appeared;
And the angel hosts on high sang this song of cheer.
They sang "Glory, glory! Peace on earth! Hear what we say:
Glory, glory! Peace on earth! The Savior's born today!"

Shepherds ran to see the Babe, Jesus Christ the Lord.
Gathered 'round with beasts and men, they worshipped and adored.
They sang "Glory, glory! Peace on earth! Hear what we say:
Glory, glory! Peace on earth! The Savior's born today!"
Kay Lovingood, *Director*

The Third Lesson..... Isaiah 7:10–15 *(Pew Bible, page 572)*

The Anthem – The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boyarr. Mack Wilberg

The Virgin Mary had a baby boy, the Virgin Mary had a baby boy,
The Virgin Mary had a baby boy, and they said that His name was Jesus.
He come from the glory, He come from the glorious Kingdom,
He come from the glory, He come from the glorious Kingdom,

The wise men saw where the baby was born, the wise men saw where the baby was born,
The wise men saw where the baby was born, and they said that His name was Jesus.
He come from the glory, He come from the glorious Kingdom,
He come from the glory, He come from the glorious Kingdom.

Oh, yes, believer, Oh, yes, believer, He come from the glory, He come from the glorious Kingdom.
Yes, believer, yes, believer, Yes, believe, and they said that His name was Jesus.

The angels sang when the baby was born, the angels sang when the baby was born,
The angels sang when the baby was born, and they said that His name was Jesus.
He come from the glory, He come from the glorious Kingdom,
Oh, yes, believer, He come from the glory, He come from the glorious Kingdom.

The Anthem – All My Heart This Night Rejoicesarr. Trevor Manor

All my heart, all my heart rejoices, rejoices:
All my heart this night rejoices.
As I hear far and near sweetest angel voices.
All my heart, my heart rejoices.
"Christ is born," their choirs are singing,
Till the air ev'rywhere now with joy is ringing. Christ is born!

And all my heart rejoices. Softly from His lowly manger
Jesus calls one and all, "You are safe from danger."
"Children from the sins that grieve you,
You are freed; all you need I will surely give you!"
And all my heart rejoices!

Come then, banish all your sadness;
One and all, great and small, come with songs of gladness.
Love Him Who with love is glowing;
Hail the Star, near and far light and joy bestowing!
All my heart, my heart rejoices!
Choirs are singing, joy is ringing: Christ is born!

The Offering and the Prayer of Consecration

The Orchestral Offertory – Infant Holy, Infant Lowlyarr. Dan Goeller

† The Hymn – Away in a Manger *(Trinity Hymnal, No. 205)*CRADLE SONG

The Fourth Lesson.....St. Matthew 1:18–25 *(Pew Bible, page 807)*

The Homily – A SALVATION NAME.....Dr. John W. P. Oliver, *Missioner*

The Anthem – Joy to the Worldarr. Mack Wilberg

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth receive her King!
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n 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.

† The Prayer *(in unison)*

**Blessed Lord, Who hast caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning;
grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest
them, that by patience and comfort of Thy Holy Word, we may embrace, and ever
hold fast, the blessed hope of everlasting life, which Thou hast given us in our Savior,
Jesus Christ. Amen.**

† The Benediction

The Organ Postlude – Angels from the Realms of Glory.....arr. Hobby
Laura Doss

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

Our Savior is born! You are invited to join us on Sunday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m., for a candlelight service as we worship and celebrate our Savior and Lord on the eve of His birth. There will be heartfelt music involving a string ensemble, special music, and a homily by the Rev. Richard Hammond.