

FAITH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 24, 2017
11:00 AM

1307 BLANCO WOODS, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78248 - (210) 492-8038

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Christmas Service

Prelude

Welcome

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn No. 210 and 195 (Children's Choir)

“Silent Night! Holy Night! (vs 1)

“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”(vs 1)

Shout for joys to the Lord, all the earth. Ps. 98:4

Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

First Reading (Seated)

The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” (Gen. 3:14-15)

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)

And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, “You shall not eat of it, cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

The Birth of Jesus Christ

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus. (Matthew 1; 18-25)

Hymn No. 195 (Standing)

“Joy to the World! The Lord is Come” (vs 2,3)

Shout for joys to the Lord, all the earth. Ps. 98:4

Second Reading (Seated)

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. (Micah 5:2)

In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. And the LORD said to you, "You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over Israel." (2 Samuel 5:2)

The Visit of the Wise Men

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way. (Matthew 2:1-12)

Hymn (overhead) (Standing)

“O Holy Night”

“The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins,” declares the Lord. Is. 59:20

Third Reading (Seated)

The LORD's Love for Israel

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. (Hosea 11:1)

The Flight to Egypt

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son." (Matthew 2:13-15)

Hymn No. 213 (Standing)

“What Child Is This”

Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? Matt. 2:2

Fourth Reading (Seated)

Thus says the LORD: "A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping

for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more."(Jeremiah 31:15)

Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more." (Matthew 2:16-18)

Hymn No. 201 (Standing)

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

“Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small...out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.” Mic.5:2

Fifth Reading (Seated)

The Return to Nazareth

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was

spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: "He shall be called a Nazarene." (Matthew 2:19-23)

Sixth Reading (Seated)

And the Lord said to Moses, "I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.' In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, 'It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat. (Exodus 16:11-15)

So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. (John 6:30-35)

Hymn No. 208 (Standing)

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about. Luke 2:15

Homily

KEITH HOWARD

God Communes with Us in the Lord's Supper (Seated)

Preparing for the Lord's Supper

KEITH HOWARD

Words of Institution

Partaking of the Bread

Hymn No. 210 (Seated)

“Silent Night! Holy Night!” (vs. 1-2)

They hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. Luke 2:16

Partaking of the Cup (vs. 3-4)

“Silent Night! Holy Night!” (vs. 3-4)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn No. 211 (Standing)

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Luke 2:10

Benediction (Standing)

KEITH HOWARD

Closing Hymn: No. 203 (Standing)

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

A great company of the heavenly host [was] praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.” Luke 2:13,14

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