



*The Christmas Poinsettias
in the sanctuary this evening
are given by:*

Donna Amonett in honor of George & Deloris Maurer; Ashley, Ro & Juliett Amonett
Geraldine Besecker in memory of her parents
Roberta Betts in memory of Mallory Salazar & Greg Wool
Connie Durocher in celebration of Christmas
Sherry Haglund in memory of Phyllis Marshall (mother)
Barry & Jan Hamill in memory of Mallory Salazar & John A. Cavazos
Peggy Hudson in memory of Gary Hudson
Mayra Lopez in memory of Anthony Lopez & Roger Tatsch
Ken & Judy Maynard in memory of Chuck & Barbara Maynard; Johnny & Mary Heide
Sandra Murray in memory of William Murray
Vanessa Lambert Nussel in memory of Bonnie Jean & Claude Lambert (parents)
Richard & Kathy Petitt in memory of Don Barton
Greg & Pauline Schneider in memory of Julie Schneider
Anne Speights in celebration of Oak Hills Church family; families past & present

*please be sure to take your beautiful Christmas poinsettias home tonight.

LiturgistMichael Jenson
Greeters..... Vanessa Nussel
Judith Grant
Elder-in-Charge.....Robert Stull
Live stream operator...Chris Huntley

**Christmas and New Year
Church Office Hours**

Closed December 25 & 26 for
Christmas & January 1 for
New Year's Day.

We pray you have a safe and blessed
holiday!

OHPC Staff

Pastor, Rev. Rachael Huntley
Music Director and Organist, Gregory A. Nussel
Office Administrator, Angela Martinez
Maintenance, Rene Flores

Rejoice!



*For unto you is born this day in the city of David
a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.*

Luke 2:11

CHRISTMAS EVE 2023

CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION SERVICE

*please stand if you are able

GATHERING MUSIC *The Coventry Carol*

Southbridge

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Jenson Family

One: As we light the Christ candle,

All: we watch for the Christmas story around us.

One: Emmanuel has come and is coming.

All: Come, all ye faithful, and worship God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the holy darkness of this night,

All: amid labor pains and newborn cries,

One: angel songs and tremors of fear,

All: tears of relief and looks of amazement,

One: our Savior takes his first breath.

All: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come to us.

*HYMN #133 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Emmanuel, you have given us a gift that we can never deserve.

All: You do not ask us to be worthy.

One: You do not ask us to earn your love.

All: Yet the ways we have fallen short threaten to overtake us.

(Time for personal prayer of confession)

One: We know we can come to you, even on this holiest of nights,

All: to seek the forgiveness you offer so freely, grateful for your mercy.

Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the promise of the Lord: See, your salvation has come! You are a holy people, redeemed by God, sought out, not forsaken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God!

CHORAL RESPONSE: HYMN # 113 (vs. 1 & refrain)

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing over the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.*

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

One: Gracious God, by the gift of your Holy Spirit show us the Word made flesh, good news of great joy for all, so that we may sing with the angels: glory to God in the highest and peace on earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 9:2-7

CHOIR ANTHEM *O Holy Night* (Ann Stull, Soprano)

A. Adam

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

Rev. Rachael Huntley

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

In the Bleak Midwinter

G. Holst

*DOXOLOGY HYMN #606, *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye Heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S TABLE *(please see insert)*

PASSING OF THE CANDLELIGHT

When lighting your candle, please turn your candle sideways so the lit candle can remain upright. Then, pass the flame on to your neighbor in the same manner.

HYMN #122

Silent Night (vs. 1-3)

Verse 1

***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.***

Verse 3

***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.***

Verse 2

***Silent night, holy night.
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born."***

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN #134 *Joy to the World*

POSTLUDE *Christmas Postlude on 'In Dulci Jubilo'*

Martin

O Come, All Ye Faithful 133

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!
glo-ry in the high-est! O come, let us a-dore him; O come, let
now in flesh ap-pear-ing!

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

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

TEXT: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, alt.
MUSIC: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

ADESTE FIDELES
Irregular

134 Joy to the World

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

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,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.
MUSIC: Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742; arr. Lowell Mason, 1836

ANTIOCH
CM with repeat
(alternate tune: RICHMOND, 266)

THE COMMUNION SERVICE

THE INVITATION

Leader: This is the joyful feast of the people of God.
People: ***They will come from east and west, and
from north and south to sit at the table in
the kingdom of God.***

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: ***And also with you.***
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: ***We lift them up to the Lord.***
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: ***It is right to give thanks and praise.***
Leader: Holy God, we praise you . . .
. . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:
People: ***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND CUP

THE PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Leader: You have given yourself to us, Lord.
People: ***Now we give ourselves for others.***
Leader: Your love has made us a new people;
People: ***as a people of love we will serve you with joy.***
Leader: Your glory has filled our hearts;
People: ***help us to glorify you in all things. Amen.***