

*this night, we are*  
THOSE WHO  
DREAM  
*christmas Eve*

**Heritage Presbyterian Church**

**Dec. 24, 2020**

**Christmas Eve**

**4:30 p.m.**

*This Night, We Are Those Who Dream*

*Much of today's liturgy is written by or adapted from  
Rev. Sarah Are of A Sanctified Art.*

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**We Gather in God's Name**

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**As We Prepare for Worship**

The Christmas story reminds us that we are all dreamers. Like those gathered around the manger, we come to this night each year with awe, wonder, and holy imagination for what is possible. Like Mary, we treasure God's dream in our hearts and commit to keeping it alive. Like the holy family, we believe and trust in a God who comes to us in the vulnerability of a child.

*~ A Sanctified Art*

**Prelude**            “Angels from the Realms of Glory”  
                         Mendelssohn arr. Loree

## **Christmas Welcome**

### **Gathering Words**

Rev. Sarah Are

This year, we dreamed of world peace. We dreamed of deep breaths and restful sleep. We dreamed of love that lasts and suffering that passes. We dreamed of doors open wide and a cure to disease. We dreamed, because to dream is to believe.

**For to dream is to hope; to dream is to see.**

So make room in your being to dream yet again, of a world without fear, and a God who draws near. For it is almost Christmas.

**Love is almost here.**

May we dream to see and hope to believe.

**Let us worship Holy God.**

**Gathering Carol #110** “Love Has Come” vv.1-2  
*(The music is printed on page 10 of the bulletin.)*

### **Candle Lighting Liturgy | The Christ Candle**    Rev. Sarah Are

In the beginning, God dreamed of a beautiful world.

In Egypt, the Israelites dreamed of freedom.

In the wilderness, the people dreamed of safety.

In Jerusalem, the people dreamed of a Messiah.

In Bethlehem, the shepherds and Wise Men dreamed of a new beginning.

Then, several years later, Jesus walked this earth and dreams came true.

The sick were healed.

The poor had food.

The forgotten and ignored were seen.

The children were welcomed.

Everyone was invited to the table, and the world has never been the same.

So tonight, we are those who dream.

Tonight, we dream the same dreams of our ancestors before us.

Tonight, we dream of justice and mercy, of love and kindness, of peace and hope.

Tonight we dream of a God who draws near to us out of unfailing love.

May this candle be a reminder that there will be a day when every dream will be fulfilled. And until then, we will be those who dream.

Let us worship Holy God.

**Our Response #134** “Joy to the World” vv. 1-2

*(The music is printed on page 11 of the bulletin.)*

**Call to Prayer**

Let us join our voices with the angels as we come to the Lord in prayer.

**Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Sarah Are

Ever-present God, from time to time we dream radical dreams. We dream of freedom for the imprisoned, food for the hungry, and equality for all.

**We dream bold, radical dreams, until the world tells us that these dreams are impossible.**

And when that happens, we are tempted to tuck our dreams into coat pockets and let them collect dust on the shelves of our hearts. Forgive us for giving up so easily, for on this night we remember and celebrate a radical dream – that you dwelled among us.

**Give us the courage to dust old dreams off the shelf with the confidence that with you, the impossible is possible.**

With you, a light always shines in the darkness.

**With you, even an unwed teenage couple and a band of shepherds can bring joy to the world.**

Thanks be to God for a dream like that.

**Amen.**

**Words of Life** Isaiah 9:2 (CEB)

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we have been restored to the light of God’s salvation.**

**Our Response #133** “O Come, All Ye Faithful” refrain

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;

O come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

**The Peace**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

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**God’s Word Comes Alive**

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**Prayer for Illumination**

Rev. Sarah Are

Holy God, if we listen closely, we can almost hear the angels sing. If we listen closely, we can almost hear the bleats of sheep following shepherds, and the hooves of confused barn animals.

**If we listen closely, we can almost hear the innkeeper say,  
“No room.”**

If we listen closely, we can almost hear the star whisper,  
“Follow me.”

**If we listen closely, God, we can almost hear you.**

*Pause for a moment of silence.*

So as we turn to your Word, Holy Writer, don't let us miss a thing – the smell of the hay, the cool of the air, the way Mary cherished this wild dream in her heart. We want to hear it all; we don't want to miss a thing.

**So today we pray – can you help us listen closely?  
Amen.**

**Carol #113** “Angels We Have Heard on High” vv.1, 3  
*(The music is printed on pages 12-13 of the bulletin.)*

**A Reading from the Gospels** Luke 2:1-20 (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup> In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup> Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all

the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,  
<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told.

**Message** “This Night, We Are Those Who Dream”  
Rev. Michelle Henrichs

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**God Is Made Known to Us through the  
Breaking of Bread**

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**Communion**

**Choir Anthem** “Let Heaven and Nature Sing” arr. Podd

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**God’s Gifts Are Recognized with Thanks**

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**Call to Offering**

With the joy of the heavenly host and the wonder of the shepherds, let us worship with our offering.

**Doxology #136** “Go Tell It on the Mountain” vv. 1, 3  
*(The music is printed on page 14 of the bulletin.)*

**Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

**We love because God first loved us. We are able to offer these gifts with open hands because perfect love drives out all fear. God’s love for the world became flesh in Jesus and dwelt among us. In the same way, may these gifts become an incarnate sign of God’s continued work and love in the world.**

**We also dedicate our Christmas Joy Offering tonight, supporting past, present, and future leaders of the Church. Amen.**

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**God Goes with Us into the World**

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**Sharing the Light with the World**

**#122** “Silent Night, Holy Night” vv.1, 4

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!  
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.

**Sending Song #134** “Joy to the World” vv. 3-4  
*(The music is printed on page 11 of the bulletin.)*

## **Benediction**

**Postlude**      “Amahoro”      Words and music by Tracy Howe



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**Next Sunday at Heritage, Dec. 27**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas**

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10:00 a.m. At-Home Service      Creative Reflection,  
Rev. Sarah Are

11:00 a.m. Fellowship via Zoom

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**Announcements**

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*Important News from Heritage*

While Tudor Oaks is closed to outside visitors, we will still be worshipping. Pastor Michelle will prepare a video worship service that will be available on our website:

(<https://www.heritagechurchmuskego.com>) by 10:00 a.m. each Sunday. Even if we can't be together in person, we can still be together in Spirit.

If you have any questions or are in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Michelle ([mahenrichs@gmail.com](mailto:mahenrichs@gmail.com)).

*Prayer and Meditation via Zoom*

Please join us on Wednesday, Jan. 6 at 3:00 p.m. for a Prayer and Meditation gathering via Zoom. No meeting on Dec. 23. The information is below (same link each week) and it is also set up as an event on our Facebook page.

<https://zoom.us/j/730001908?pwd=a2Y2K2thUUxzZnR1L01kL0pwdjQ2QT09>

Audio only using any phone (you will need to enter meeting ID and password): 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 730 001 908 | Password: 0561

## Copyright Notice

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“Love Has Come”

Text: Ken Bible, 1996

Music: French melody, arr. Eric T. Myers, 2012

*Text © 1996 LNWhymns.com (admin. Music Services)*

*Music: Arr. © 2012 Eric T. Myers*

“Joy to the World”

Text: Isaac Watts, 1791, alt.

Music Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742; arr. Lowell Mason, 1836

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Text: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, alt.

Music: John Francis Wade, c. 1743; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Text: French carol; trans. James Chadwick, 1860, alt.

Music: French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

African American spiritual; stanzas, John W. Work II, 1940

Music: African American spiritual; arr. John W. Work II, 1940; harm. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987

*Music Harm © 1989 Melva Wilson Costen*

“Silent Night, Holy Night!”

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1816; stanzas 1-3, English trans. John Freeman Young, 1863; stanza 4, English trans. Jane Montgomery Campbell, 1863, alt.

Music: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1818

Verses 1 and 2

# Love Has Come

110

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm7) Dm7 (Em7) Gm7 (A) C

1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!  
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.  
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) (Bm7) (Em) (A7) (D)  
 F Dm7 Gm C7 F

Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all  
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the  
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A) (G) (D)  
 C F Dm F C B<sup>b</sup> F

heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of  
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her  
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7) (F#7) (G) (A) (Bm) (A7)  
 Gm7 A7 B<sup>b</sup> C Dm C7

joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a  
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she  
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

(D) (A) (G) (A) (D) (A) (A7) (Dsus) (D)  
 F C B<sup>b</sup> C F C C7 Fsus F

Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.  
 Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Candle Lighting Response, vv. 1-2; Sending Song, vv. 3-4

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,  
 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,

Verses 1 and 3

# 113 Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heaven - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

*Refrain*

Glo - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

The image shows a musical score for a vocal line. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef and includes a long note with a slur over it, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!' are written below the treble staff. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

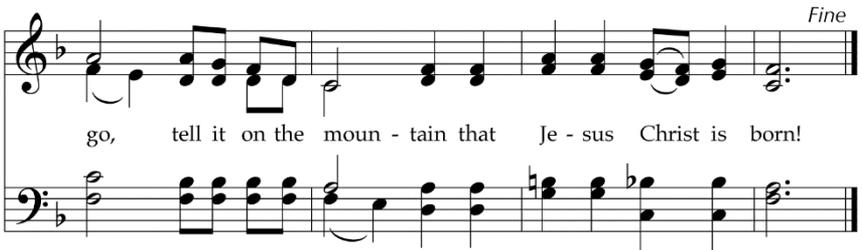
Verses 1 and 3

# 136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain 

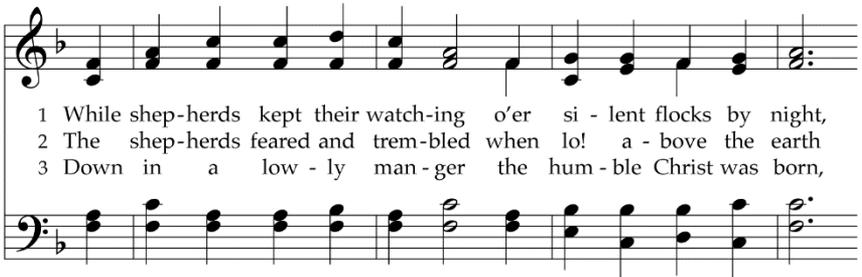


Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

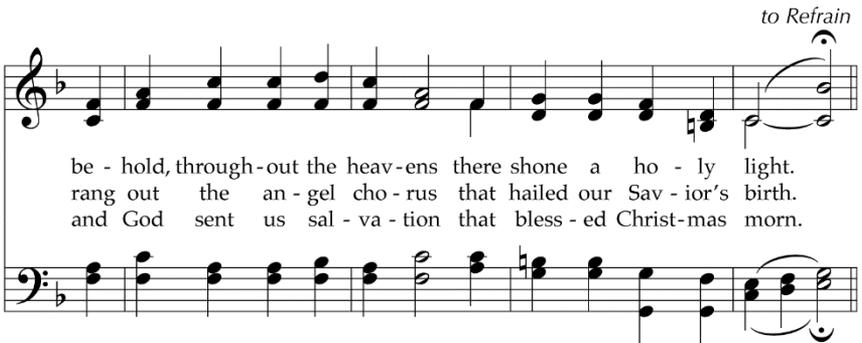


go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

*Fine*



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

*to Refrain*