



northside church

OF RICHMOND

December 25, 2016

Scripture Reading

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. **Luke 2:1-14**

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!"

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*Words: Charles Wesley,
George Whitefield, Felix
Mendelssohn*

*Music: Felix Mendelssohn,
William H. Cummings
Public domain*

Luke 2

Song of Gathering

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 heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see:
hail, the incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

Hail the heav'nly 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.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

Call to Worship

Leader: *When the angels went away from them into heaven,
the shepherds said to one another,*

People: *"Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened,
which the Lord has made known to us."*

Leader: *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.*

People: *And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.*

Luke 2:15-18

Please stand if able.

Song of Praise

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.

chorus

Come and behold Him,
born the King of angels;

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

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

Glory to God,
all glory in the highest;

chorus

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,
Lo, He shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father,
begotten, not created;

Confession of Sin

Lord of grace and truth, we confess our unworthiness to stand in Your presence:
The Virgin Mary accepted Your call to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our disobedience to Your will.

Your Son our Savior was born in poverty in a manger.

Forgive our greed and worship of earthy treasure.

The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem.

Forgive our self-interest and apathy to Your call.

The wise men followed the star to find Jesus the King.

Forgive our reluctance to seek You.

Jesus Christ, Light of the world, dispel the darkness of our hearts!
Give us grace to follow You and look for Your second coming. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Offering

O Come All Ye Faithful

*Words: John Francis Wade
Music: John Francis Wade
(probable)
Public domain*

*A time to be honest with
God about our need for
forgiveness.
Please read together*

Galatians 4:4-5

*God designed worship to
include the voluntary giving
of offerings by His people.*

What Child Is This?

*Words: William Chatterton
Dix
Music: traditional English
folk song
Public domain*

Song of Renewal

What child is this, who, laid to rest
on Mary's lap, is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
 This, this is Christ the King,
 whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
 Haste, haste to bring him laud,
 the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
the cross be born for me, for you;
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh,
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come peasant king to own Him,
The King of Kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone Him.
 Raise, raise the song on high,
 the virgin sings her lullaby:
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
 the Babe, the Son of Mary!

*Today's sermon is given by
Pastor Matt Lorish.*

Sermon

Joy To the World

*Words: Isaac Watts
Music: Antioch, arranged by
Lowell Mason, 1836
Public domain*

Song of Rejoicing

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men 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.

*We are sent out to love and
serve God and neighbor.*

Benediction