

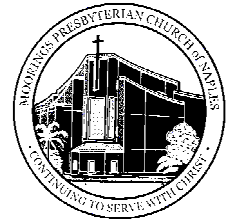
The Moorings Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

791 Harbour Drive • Naples, Florida 34103

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www.moorings-presby.org

Sunday, December 25, 2011 ☩ Traditional Worship: 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary



CHRISTMAS DAY

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

We welcome you as we would welcome Christ Himself, and greet all visitors with a sincere invitation to our programs. Please fill out the information called for in the Friendship Pad and greet one another before and after the service. Guests are encouraged to use temporary name tags available in the Friendship Pad and at the Visitor's Center. *Note: If you have not given us your e-mail address, please include it on the Friendship Pad so we can include you in our weekly e-mails announcing events and activities.*

PREPARATION FOR THE SERVICE

A time of silent preparation readies all worshippers to hear and respond to the risen Christ.
Please silence all cell phones.

PRELUDE

A Child Is Born

Everett Titcomb

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

—Meister Eckhart, 14th Century Dominican Monk

What good is it to me if this eternal birth of the divine Son takes place unceasingly but does not take place within myself? And what good is it to me if Mary is full of grace if I am not also full of grace? What good is it to me for the Creator to give birth to his Son, if I also do not give birth to him in my time and my culture? This, then, is the fullness of time. When the Son of God is begotten in us.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O, that our tongues were like bells to ring out the joy,

All: And our hands like drums to beat a holy rhythm.

One: O, that our voices sounded like the heavenly choir,

All: And our feet were young enough to dance through the night.

One: O, that our knees were strong enough to kneel forever in wonder,

All: And our hearts could forever ponder the joy and share the love.

One: Holy God, take who we are and what we have to offer,

All: And raise us this day and everyday to sing along with the choir of angels, in exultation and joy.

***HYMN 22**

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

**1. *Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye, who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!***

**2. *Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!***

**3. *Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great desire of nations;
Ye have seen His natal star:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!***

**4. *All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!***

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)**

Almighty God, You have wondrously revealed Yourself in the Holy Child of Bethlehem. By faith we kneel beside the manger-throne, hoping that somehow He will be born in us here and now. For Jesus' sake, grant that we may share in a new birth of faith. Teach us to recognize Your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the realm of Your glory, through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymn 28, vss. 2 & 3)**

***Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door,
And we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!***

***Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!***

WORD FOR CHILDREN

Jim Kirk

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

ANTHEM

Here We Come A-Caroling

Traditional Carol; arr. Marie Pooler

Here we come a-caroling among the leaves so green;
Here we come a-wandering so fair to be seen.
Love and joy come to you, and a Merry Christmas too.
And God bless you and send you a Happy New Year.
And God send you a Happy New Year.

We are not daily beggars that beg from door to door.
But we are neighbors' children whom you have seen before.

God bless the master of the house, and bless the mistress too.
And all the little children that 'round the table go.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

The Birthday of a King

W. H. Neidlinger

***DOXOLOGY** (592)

*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.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (in unison)

We believe in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; of Moses and David; of Elijah and Isaiah. We believe in the God of Sarah, Rebekkah and Rachel; of Miriam and Ruth; of Deborah and Esther. We believe in Jesus, the incarnate God, who visited us at Bethlehem, who lived with us in Galilee, who died for us at Calvary, and who exploded the power of death on Easter morning. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of God among us, and is the Spirit of Christ within us. This we believe.

***HYMN 56**

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

Stanzas 1 and 6, All

Stanzas 2 and 4, Women and Girls

Stanzas 3 and 5, Men and Boys

Refrains for All

1. *The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay a-keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.*

4. *This star drew nigh to the northwest;
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay. (Refrain)*

*Refrain:**

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*

5. *Then entered in those wise men three,
Fell reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in His presence,
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. (Refrain)*

2. *They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. (Refrain)*

6. *Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth of nought,
And with His blood our life hath bought. (Refrain)*

3. *And by the light of that same star,
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went. (Refrain)*

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2: 1-20 (p. 50)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"CHRISTMAS: WHEN GOD BECAME US"

Rev. Dr. Herbert B. Anderson

***HYMN 40**

Joy to the World!

ANTIOCH

1. 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.*

3. 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.*

2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns:
*Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

4. 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.*

***BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE (for all to sing)**

SPIRITUAL

***Follow, follow, rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow the Star of Bethlehem, rise up, shepherd, and follow.***

***POSTLUDE**

God Rest You Merry

Wilbur Held

*Please stand if you are able
