



UNIVERSITY



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

December 24, 2019
Christmas Eve
11:00 p.m.

OPENING OURSELVES TO GOD'S SIGN

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Jean-François Dandrieu
1682-1738

Seven Noël's

Tous les Bourgeois de Chartres (*All the people of Chartres*)

Chantons je vous prie (*Sing, I pray you*)

Savez-vous mon cher voisin? (*Do you know my dear neighbor?*)

O Nuit heureuse Nuit (*O night, happy night*)

Puer nobis nascitur (*Unto us a Son is born*)

Mais on sans es allé Nau (*But we've left without Nau*)

Michau qui causoit ce grand bruit (*Michau who caused this big noise*)

God is on the way:

the mother is laboring,
the father pacing,
the stable preparing,
the Word waiting,
the light breaking forth,
the promise is shining through.

God is on the way!

Listen. . .

*HYMN 133

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Adeste fideles

*UNISON PRAYER

**We are heavy with sorrow, but joy interrupts.
We are deep in the night, but a star has appeared.
We are silent with sadness, but the heavens ring.
We are hardened by conflict, but love intervenes.
We are haunted by fear but a child brings us hope.
We are cruel, and clumsy but grace makes all things new.**

**God, your good news of great joy is beyond our words.
Gratitude catches in our throat, too big to get out.
Love overmatches our ability to articulate.
Hope hushes all our muttering.**

Silence

**Still, still, still, he sleeps this night so chill!
The virgin's tender arms enfolding,
warm and safe the child are holding.
Still, still, still, he sleeps this night so chill.**

*Assurance of Grace and Passing the Peace

*Response of Praise

(*Hymnal*, 110)

**Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to you God on High!**

PROCLAIMING THE SIGNS OF WONDER

THE SPREADING OF LIGHT

As the ushers light the pew candles, we will sing Hymn 114, "Away in a Manger," followed by Hymn 122, "Silent Night, Holy Night!"

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:1-12 p. 2
(Children's Bible, p. 1111)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION "The Visitors" Meg Peery McLaughlin

Time is provided following the sermon for a few moments of personal reflection and prayer.

*HYMN 123 "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" Carol

RESPONDING TO GOD'S SIGN

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

A Carol

John Rutter
b.1945

1. What sweeter music can we bring
Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?
Awake the voice! Awake the string!
Dark and dull night, fly hence away,
And give the honour to this day
That sees December turned to May.
2. Why does the chilling winter's morn
Smile, like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly shorn
Thus on the sudden?
Come and see
The cause, why things thus fragrant be:
'Tis He is born, whose quickening birth
Gives life and lustre, public mirth,
To heaven and the under-earth.
3. We see Him come, and know Him ours,
Who, with His sunshine and His showers,
Turns the patient ground to flowers.
The darling of the world is come,
And fit it is, we find a room
To welcome Him.
4. The nobler part of all the house here is the heart,
Which we will give Him; and bequeath
This holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do Him honor; who's our King,
And Lord of all this reveling.

~ Robert Herrick, 1591-1674

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wiseman, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

**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.**

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Tonight we will receive the sacrament by means of intinction (dipping the bread in the cup). As the servers say, "the bread of life," and "the cup of salvation," you are invited to respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God." The elements are gluten-free; all cups contain grape juice.

Prayer of Response

TAKING THE SIGNS INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 134

"Joy to the World"

Antioch

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*ORGAN POSTLUDE

**You are invited to stand, as able.*

Worship Notes

AS A COURTESY TO OTHERS, please turn off or silence all cellular phones, pagers, and other electronic devices for the duration of worship.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP TONIGHT: *Preacher:* Meg Peery McLaughlin, Co-Pastor. *Liturgists:* Jarrett McLaughlin, Co-Pastor; Kate Fiedler, Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries, Kim Rubish, PCM Intern. *Choir Director and Organist:* Thomas Brown, Minister of Music.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY: *Ushers:* Linda Lane (captain), Mike and Sharon Edmiston, David Lane, Lewis Lampiris.

THIS EVENING'S ORGAN VOLUNTARY: The French *Noël* was a semi-religious Christmas song (or *Carol*) written in the vernacular (during the time when the Catholic Mass was offered in Latin) that was set to mostly popular music of the period that included plainchant, dance music and even popular drinking songs. They were the secular Christmas Carols of the time, as opposed to the more formal Christmas music of the Church. The French organ *Noël* utilized the same Christmas melodies that were well-known to the church-going public. They offered a variety of moods and opportunities to exploit the colorful stops of the French organs of the period, and were intended to be played as the Prelude to the Christmas Eve Mass. Jean-François Dandrieu, one of many famous composers of *Noëls*, was also a popular organist and held (at the same time) several posts as organist for important Parisian churches. So celebrated was Dandrieu that, much to the consternation of the clergy, after he played his *Noëls* at one church, many of the congregation would leave with him and follow to hear him play at the next!

A WORD ABOUT THIS EVENING'S OFFERING: The Christmas Eve Offering, as designated by the Session, will be divided to support the following ministries. The **Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Fund:** In recent years, this fund has helped give dozens of scholarship awards to students from Chapel Hill high schools. The recipients are students whose character and activities exemplify Dr. King's legacy of community-building. Awards are given by a university/community foundation to students regardless of gender, race, or economic status. **The Pastors' Discretionary Fund:** This fund is used by the church program staff to provide assistance to individuals and families in crisis, usually in collaboration with other local helping agencies.

HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES are set aside on Sunday directly in front of the church on Franklin Street, and four spaces are available in the church parking lot off Robertson Lane. Please reserve these spaces for those with handicap parking permits.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNALS and portable hearing devices are available in the narthex.

Welcome to the Fellowship of University Presbyterian Church

SUNDAYS AT UPC OFFER MANY opportunities for children, youth, and adults. We hope you'll join in the education, fellowship, and fun offered here. Please read below to learn more about how you can stay connected with everything happening at UPC.

SUNDAY MORNING OFFERS A TIME for all of us to engage in Christian education and worship at UPC. Worship, Sunday School for all ages, and childcare are offered each Sunday. **8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.:** Worship is held in the Sanctuary. Childcare is available for infants to 4-year-olds. During the 11:00 service, kindergarteners and four-year-olds go to Godly Play following the Time with Children. **9:45-10:45 a.m.:** Sunday School takes place for 3-year-olds through adults. Nursery is available for infants to 2-year-olds. Contact Nancy Myer at nancy@upcch.org for more information.

THE YOUTH, JUNIOR, AND CHILDREN'S CHOIRS will resume their regular rehearsals on Sunday, January 5. The new year is a great time to join the choir! Contact Kathleen Jasinskas at kathleen@upcch.org for more information about choirs.

PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH CONNECTION (PYC) strives to help young people discern their call to be faithful disciples of Christ in the world. PYC connects youth to one another and to adults in the congregation that can support them on their journey of faith. This group offers our youth a safe place to ask questions, to seek answers and to be part of a community of faith that is focused on their specific needs. Contact Kim McNeill at kim@upcch.org for more information.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAMS is available on the church website at upcch.org. Join us on Facebook at facebook.com/upcch and Instagram [@UPC_CH](https://instagram.com/upc_ch) (instagram.com/upc_ch). Join Presbyterian Youth Connection on Twitter [@UPCPYC](https://twitter.com/upcchpyc) (twitter.com/upcchpyc) and Instagram [@UPCPYC](https://instagram.com/upcchpyc) (instagram.com/upcchpyc).



Ministers—All Followers of Christ University Presbyterian Church Program Staff

Meg Peery McLaughlin, *Co-Pastor*

Thomas Brown, *Minister of Music*

Jarrett McLaughlin, *Co-Pastor*

Kim McNeill, *Staff Associate
for Youth Ministries*

John Rogers, *Associate Pastor
for Campus Ministry*

Nancy Myer, *Staff Associate
for Children's Ministries*

Kate Fiedler, *Associate Pastor
for Adult Ministries*

Kathleen Jasinskas, *Director of
Children's and Youth Choirs*

Missionaries

The Rev. Dr. Karla Koll, *Costa Rica*

The Rev. Jo Ella Holman, *The Caribbean*

Two mission co-workers, *The Middle East*

University Presbyterian Church is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
and is a Stephen Ministry Congregation.