



Christmas Eve
December 24, 2013



Merry Christmas!

We're glad you're here.

As we gather to worship tonight, the words that the angels proclaimed to the shepherds two millennia ago capture the heart of our celebration: Unto us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord!

Restoration is a young church, a community of both the convinced and the curious who are seeking to know and to follow Jesus: Emmanuel, God-with-us, the one who loves us and forgives us and calls us to follow him in all that we do.

We began worshipping together on Christmas Eve 2008. Since then, we have pursued the vision God has given us for this church: to be a community of people in Arlington that connects people to God, to others, and to the needs of the world. We do this through worship on Sundays, small groups that meet in people's homes throughout the week, and service activities both here in Arlington and around the world.

We value authenticity and grace in relationships and beauty and honesty in worship. We hope to be a church where laughter and tears are equally welcome. We believe that God is making all things new, and we long to be part of his restoration work.

If you're visiting and are interested in learning more about Restoration, please fill out the green welcome card in this program, and we'll be delighted to contact you. We'd love for you to join us for our regular Sunday worship. While we're building a new facility on N. Quincy Street, we worship at one service at 5 pm at Little Falls Presbyterian Church (6025 Little Falls Rd., Arlington, VA 22207).

You can also learn a lot about what's going on at the church and ways you can get involved through our website, restorationarlington.org.

A word about tonight's offering

It's our custom at Restoration to give away all of the offerings we receive during our Christmas Eve services to a local organization that serves the vulnerable in our community. This year, we are pleased to give our offering to Courtney's House, a DC-based organization that rescues and cares for local children who have been caught up in trafficking. We are grateful for the way Courtney's House offers God's love and healing to these children, and we are delighted to be able to support their work.

You can participate in this offering with cash or a check (made out to "Restoration Anglican Church" with "Courtney's House" in the memo line) placed in the offering basket. If you'd like to contribute online, scan the QR code to the right or go to restorationarlington.org/give, and choose "Courtney's House" from the drop-down menu.



Our kids are also donating items requested by Doorways for Women and Families, an Arlington organization that provides shelter and resources to abused or at-risk women and families. We're proud to support Doorways and the valuable services it provides.

To learn more about Courtney's House, go to www.courtneyshouse.org. To learn more about Doorways, go to www.doorwaysva.org. To learn more about Restoration's outreach efforts and how you can get involved, go to restorationarlington.org/ministries/outreach.

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A Eucharist Service of Lessons and Carols

The Call to Worship

Welcome

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity

Leader For unto us a child is born.

People To us a son is given!

All Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song of Praise

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;

Chorus:

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

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
'Glory to God, all glory in the highest!'

Chorus

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born that happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given.
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

Chorus

Collect of the Day

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lessons and Carols

The First Lesson

Genesis 3: 1–19

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Carol

By Thy Mercy

Jesus, Lord of life and glory,
Bend from Heav'n thy gracious ear;
While our waiting souls adore Thee,
Friend of helpless sinners, hear:

Chorus

*By Thy mercy, O deliver us,
Good Lord, good Lord;
By Thy mercy, O deliver us,
Good Lord, good Lord.*

From the depth of nature's blindness,
From the hardening power of sin,
From all malice and unkindness,
From the pride that lurks within:

Chorus

The Second Lesson

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.
You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

Carol

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining;
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope; the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

When the world around is smiling,
In the time of wealth and ease,
Earthly joys our hearts beguiling,
In the day of health and peace:
Chorus

In the solemn hour of dying,
In the awful judgment day,
May our souls, on Thee relying,
Find Thee still our rock and stay:
Chorus

Isaiah 9: 2-7

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

O Holy Night

Fall on your knees;
O hear the angel voices.
O night divine,
O night when Christ was born
O night, O holy night,
O night divine

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother
And in his name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we;
Let all within us praise His holy name.

Christ is the Lord;
O praise His name forever.
His pow'r and glory
Evermore proclaim;
His pow'r and glory
Evermore proclaim.

The Third Lesson

Micah 5: 2–5a

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
 who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
 one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
 from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
 when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
 to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord,
 in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
 to the ends of the earth.
And he shall be their peace.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Carol

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary;
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth;
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still,
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord, Emmanuel.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Luke 2:1–20] 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.

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!”

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” 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. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

[Matthew 2:1–12] Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Carol

Silent Night

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.

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.

Message

Christmas Prayer

Confession

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Absolution

The Peace

Leader The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

Announcements

The Offering

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains;
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains:
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo,
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyful strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo,
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo,
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!

See within a manger laid:
Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
With us sing our Savior's birth:
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo,
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!

Doxology

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 Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you..
People And with your spirit.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is just and right so to do.

Celebrant

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the working of the Holy Spirit, was made truly man, taking on the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother, and yet without the stain of sin, to make us clean from sin.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth and sky and sea;
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity.

The Prayer of Consecration

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in your tender mercy, you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He offered himself and made, once for all time, a perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. He instituted this remembrance of his passion and death, which he commanded us to continue until he comes again. So now, Father, we ask you to bless and sanctify, with your Word and Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine that we may partake of his most blessed Body and Blood.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

Lord and heavenly Father, with these holy gifts we celebrate the memorial instituted by your beloved Son, remembering his passion and death, his resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again. Grant that by his merits and death, and through faith in his Blood, we and your whole Church may receive forgiveness of our sins and all other benefits of his passion, making us one body with him that he may dwell in us, and we in him. And here we offer to you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a living sacrifice, through Jesus Christ our Lord. By him and with him and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray

Celebrant and People together pray

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Fraction

Celebrant Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed, once for all upon the cross.

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, who always delights in showing mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Agnus Dei

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

People Have mercy on us.

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

People Have mercy on us.

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

People Grant us your peace.

The Distribution

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 borne for me, for you;
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
 The Babe, the Son of Mary.

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

Chorus
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the king of Israel.

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.
Chorus

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!"

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

The First Noel

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.
Chorus

This star drew nigh to the northwest;
 O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
 And there it did both stop and stay
 Right o'er the place where Jesus lay.
Chorus

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Christ by highest heav'n adored,
 Christ the everlasting Lord;
 Late in time behold Him come,
 Offspring of the virgin's womb.
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
 Hail, th'incarnate Deity;
 Pleased as man with men to dwell,
 Jesus, our Emmanuel.
 Hark! The herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the newborn King!"

Adam's likeness, Lord, erase;
Stamp Thine image in its place.
Second Adam from above,
Reinstate us in Thy love.
Let us Thee, though lost, regain,
Thee, the Life, the inner man:
O, to all Thyself impart,
Formed in each believing heart.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace,
Hail the Son 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!"

Prayer After Communion

Celebrant and People

Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out into the world to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Leader Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
People Thanks be to God.