

DECEMBER 16, 2007
CHRISTMAS CANTATA

*When the Wisemen saw that the star
had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.”
Matthew 2: 10*

PROCESSIONAL INTROIT Organist Miah Han
““Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us”
Arr. by Paul Manz

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Roxie
We extend a special welcome to all guests. **You come as a guest and
leave as family.** CDs (\$2.00) & DVDs (\$5.00) are available of today’s
worship. **Please put your cell phone on vibrate or turn it off. God will
find another way to reach you today.**

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME

PREPARING OUR HEARTS AND MINDS
CHIMES OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE Handbell Choir
Becky Ball and Christian Ball, percussions
“Fum, Fum, Fum”
Arr. by Patricia A. Sanders

*CALL TO WORSHIP Pastor Roxie
L: “The angel said to the shepherds:
P: **‘Do not be afraid; I bring you good news of
great joy which is for all people.**
L: To you is born this day in the city of David,
a Savior who is Christ the Lord.’
P: **Suddenly there was a multitude of angels, praising
God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest,
And peace on earth with whom He is pleased.”**

Choir: Praise the Lord!

People: The Lord's name be praised!

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Congregation

#41 O Come, All Ye Faithful

*THE PEACE

Congregation

Pastor: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Please stand and greet one another, saying, "The Peace of the Lord be with you" or some other appropriate phrase.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Bill

(After the Children's Message and Prayer, the Preschool children return to the Room B05 downstairs, K-5th graders go upstairs to Room 203. Parents who are visiting and wish to take advantage of classes offered to their children may take their children to class. Christian Education Director, Ms. Peggy is available to help you.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Pastor Roxie and Congregation

We see the gifts to buy in the store. We don't always acknowledge the gift of Your Son. We hear the common Christmas carols. We don't always put those words into practice. We see the lights on houses. We don't always see the light of Your "star," leading us to You. We feel the cold of winter days. But in our busyness we sometimes leave You out in the cold. Forgive us when we fail You. Amen.

SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

(Let us travel through our memories and confess any sins we come upon.)

THE KYRIE p. 574

Congregation

Lord have mercy upon us,

Christ have mercy upon us,

Lord have mercy upon us.

*RESPONSE: Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

*HYMN

Congregation

#57 The Snow Lay on the Ground

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

"Behold That Star!"

written and arranged by

Jay Althouse and Sally K. Albrecht

Chancel Choir with Instrumental Ensemble

Narrators: Jim and Julie Huttenlocher

Introduction: Numbers 24: 17

Narrator: I shall see Him, but not now;
I shall behold Him, but not near;
There shall come a Star out of Jacob,
And a Scepter shall rise out of Israel.

1. Chorus: One Star

First Reading: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley, 1744

Narrator: Come, Thou long expected Jesus,

People: Born to set Thy people free;

Narrator: From our fears and sins release us;

People: Let us find our rest in Thee.

Narrator: Israel's strength and consolation;

People: Hope of all the earth Thou art;

Narrator: Dear desire of every nation,

People: Joy of every longing heart.

2. Chorus: Who Is This, A Tiny Baby?

3. Carol: The First Noel (Congregational Sings)

The first Noel the angels 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.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

They looked on high and saw a bright star shining in the east
beyond them far. And to the earth it gave great light, and
so it continued both day and night.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. Born is the King of Israel.

Born is the King of Israel.

Second Reading: Isaiah 9: 2,6

Narrator: The people that walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
They that dwell in the land of the shadow of death,
upon them has the light shined.

**People: For unto us a Child is born,
unto 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.**

4. Chorus: Hodie

Third Reading: O Little Town of Bethlehem –Phillips Brooks, 1868

Narrator: 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 ever-lasting
Light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in
thee tonight.

5. Chorus: Follow the Star

Fourth Reading: Luke 2: 15-18

Narrator: And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another:

Shepherds: "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us."

Narrator: And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they had seen him, they spread the word about the child;

People: And all that heard it were amazed at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

6. Chorus: Shepherds, Go Tell!

Fifth Reading: As with Gladness men of Old

William C. Dix, 1858

We Three Kings of Orient Are

John H. Hopkins, 1857

Narrator: As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold; as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright, so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led by Thee.

People: Star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

7. Chorus Behold That Star of Glory

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER Pastor Bill

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.

AMEN RESPONSE

Choir

RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS

Pastors

Bradly Guldemon
Mary Murphy
Karen Norberg

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

OFFERING

Pastor Roxie

(As the offering plates are being passed, please pass the Friendship pads and sign, with your name, address, e-mail and phone, so we can properly greet you if you are visiting with us today).

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

Organist

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”
Arr. by Diane Bish

*OFFERING RESPONSE

**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 THANKSGIVING

Pastor Roxie

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN

Congregation

#40 Joy to the World!

*CHARGE/BENEDICTION

Pastors

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Choir

(Please remain standing for the Choral Response)

POSTLUDE

Organist

“Fantasia on a French Carol”
Robert J. Hughes

* Congregation stands.