



# PALMETTO HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Celebrating Life in Christ  
By Reaching Out and Building Up  
For God's Kingdom and Glory*

**December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

## **Christmas Celebration Service**

*Good Christian Men, Rejoice!, arr. Dan Kreider*

Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and  
soul, and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is  
born today;  
Ox and lamb before Him bow; and He is in  
the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and  
soul and voice;  
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ  
was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door, and man is  
blest forevermore.

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for  
this!  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

Good Christian men, 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 His  
everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to  
save!

*Of the Father's Love Begotten, arr. Trevor Manor*

Of the Father's love begotten,  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore.

O that birth forever blessed,  
When the virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
Bore the Savior of our race,

And the babe, the world's Redeemer,  
First revealed his sacred face—  
Evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of Heav'n adore him!  
Angel hosts his praises sing!  
Pow'rs, dominions bow before him  
And extol our God and King.  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Every voice in concert ring—  
Evermore and evermore.

**SCRIPTURAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7*

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 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.

## SONGS OF EXALTATION

We who walk in darkness deep  
now see the light of morning,  
The mighty God,  
the Prince of Peace,  
a Child to us is born.

Behold the Lamb of God,  
who takes away our sin.  
Behold the Lamb of God,  
the life and light of men.  
Behold the Lamb of God,  
who died and rose again.  
Behold the Lamb of God who comes  
to take away our sin.

Wanderers in the wilderness,  
oh hear, a voice is crying.

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 heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come,

## *Behold the Lamb, by Andrew Peterson*

Prepare the way,  
make straight the path,  
your King has come to die

Behold the Lamb of God,  
who takes away our sin.  
Behold the Lamb of God,  
the life and light of men.  
Behold the Lamb of God,  
who died and rose again.  
Behold the Lamb of God who comes  
to take away our sin.

Son of God,  
Son of Man,  
Behold the Lamb, the hope of man,  
Behold the Lamb.

## *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, arr. Molly Ijames*

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. (Refrain)

Hail, the heav'n-born 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. (Refrain)

## *Joy to the World, arr. Molly Ijames*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King.  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n 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.

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,  
and wonders, wonders of His love.

## **INVOCATION**

## **SONGS OF ADORATION**

### *How Great Our Joy, arr. Craig Courtney (Men's Ensemble)*

While by the sheep we watched at night,  
Glad tidings brought an angel bright,  
How great our joy,  
How great our joy.

There shall be born, so did he say,  
In Bethlehem a child today.  
How great our joy,  
How great our joy.

There shall a Child lie in a stall,  
This Child who shall redeem us all.

This gift of God we'll cherish well,  
That ever joy our hearts shall fill.  
Praise we the Lord,  
Praise we the Lord in heav'n' on high.  
Praise we the Lord,  
How great our joy.

## *Away In a Manger (Forever Amen)*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus, laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the sky, looked down where He lay,  
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,  
the dawn of salvation, beginning to break,  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, oh, gift from above,  
the King of the Heavens, forever with us!

I worship You, Jesus, for all of my days!  
The highest of praises be unto Your name!  
My God and my Savior,  
My King and my friend,  
for yours is the glory, forever, Amen!  
For yours is the glory, forever, Amen!

## **SCRIPTURAL CALL TO CONFESSION**

*Isaiah 8:11-15*

For the LORD spoke thus to me with his strong hand upon me, and warned me not to walk in the way of this people, saying: "Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. But the LORD of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he will become a sanctuary and a stone of offense and a rock of stumbling to both houses of Israel, a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And many shall stumble on it. They shall fall and be broken; they shall be snared and taken."

## **CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Lord, you are the Sovereign and Holy God of the ages. Yet we admit that we often fail to honor you and your holy name. Instead of fearing the Lord, which is the beginning of wisdom, we are afraid of losing the idols we hold so tightly, like comfort, power, and pleasure. Instead of trusting you, we fear the same things the world fears, and we have walked in their ways because of it. We confess our sin and ask for your forgiveness. Cleanse us by the blood of Christ, and be the one we fear above all else. Free us from anxious thoughts that focus on ourselves. Enable us to recognize your holiness so that we sanctify every other relationship and aspect of our lives to you. Allow us not to stumble over Christ's commands as the world does, but to take refuge in Him, to love Him, and to keep His commands. O Lord, you are our Rock and our Redeemer. Help us to find our hope in you today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **SCRIPTURAL ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

*Isaiah 12*

You will say in that day:  
"I will give thanks to you, O LORD,  
for though you were angry with me,  
your anger turned away,  
that you might comfort me.

“Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.”

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day:  
“Give thanks to the LORD,  
call upon his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.  
Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

## SONGS OF ASSURANCE

## *Joy Has Dawned*

Joy has dawned upon the world,  
Promised from creation:  
God’s salvation now unfurled,  
Hope for every nation.  
Not with fanfares from above,  
not with scenes of glory.  
But a humble gift of love:  
Jesus born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky  
With the songs of angels,  
As the mighty Prince of Life  
Shelters in a stable.  
Hands that set each star in place,  
Shaped the earth in darkness,  
Cling now to a mother’s breast,  
Vulnerable and helpless.

Shepherds bow before the Lamb,  
Gazing at the glory;  
Gifts of men from distant lands  
Prophecy the story.  
Gold, a King is born today,  
Incense, God is with us,  
Myrrh, His death will make a way,  
And by His blood He’ll win us.

Son of Adam, Son of heaven,  
Given as a ransom,  
Reconciling God and man,  
Christ our mighty Champion.  
What a Saviour, what a Friend,  
What a glorious mystery:  
Once a babe in Bethlehem,  
Now the Lord of history.

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

## The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth;  
of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds:  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made:  
who for us and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.  
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets;  
and we believe in one holy catholic<sup>1</sup> and apostolic church;  
we acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins;  
And we look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

<sup>1</sup>catholic = universal

## SONG OF APPROACH

## *The First Noel*

### **(Choir only)**

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

### **(Congregation)**

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

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

### **(Choir only)**

Noel, noel.

### **(Congregation)**

They lookèd up and saw a star  
Shining in the east, beyond them far;  
Born is the King of Israel.

And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.  
*(Refrain)*

### **(Choir only)**

Noel, noel.

### **(Congregation)**

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
That hath made Heaven and earth of  
naught,  
And with His blood mankind hath bought.  
*(Refrain)*

### **(Choir Only)**

Noel, noel,  
Noel, noel, noel, noel.

## GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

*Chill of the Nightfall, by Timothy Dudley Smith and K. Lee Scott (Choir)*

Chill of the nightfall, lamps in the windows,  
letting their light fall clear on the snow;  
bitter December bids us remember  
Christ in the stable long, long ago.

Silence of midnight, voices of angels,  
singing to bid night yield to the dawn;  
darkness is ended, sinners befriended,  
where in the stable Jesus is born.

Splendour of starlight high on the hillside,  
faint is the far light burning below;  
kneeling before him shepherds adore him,  
Christ in the stable long, long ago.

Glory of daybreak! Sorrows and shadows,  
suddenly they break forth into morn;  
sing out and tell now all shall be well now,  
for in the stable Jesus is born!

**1:14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. **15** (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") **16** For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. **17** For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. **18** No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

## **Jesus Christ Our Incarnate Savior**

I. What

II. How

III. Why

## CLOSING SONG

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.

Women Only:

Silent night, holy night,  
Shepherds quake at the sight;

Men Only:

Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia!

All Sing:

Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!

## *Silent Night, arr. Molly Ijames*

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.

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!  
Choir Only:  
Christ the Savior is Born!

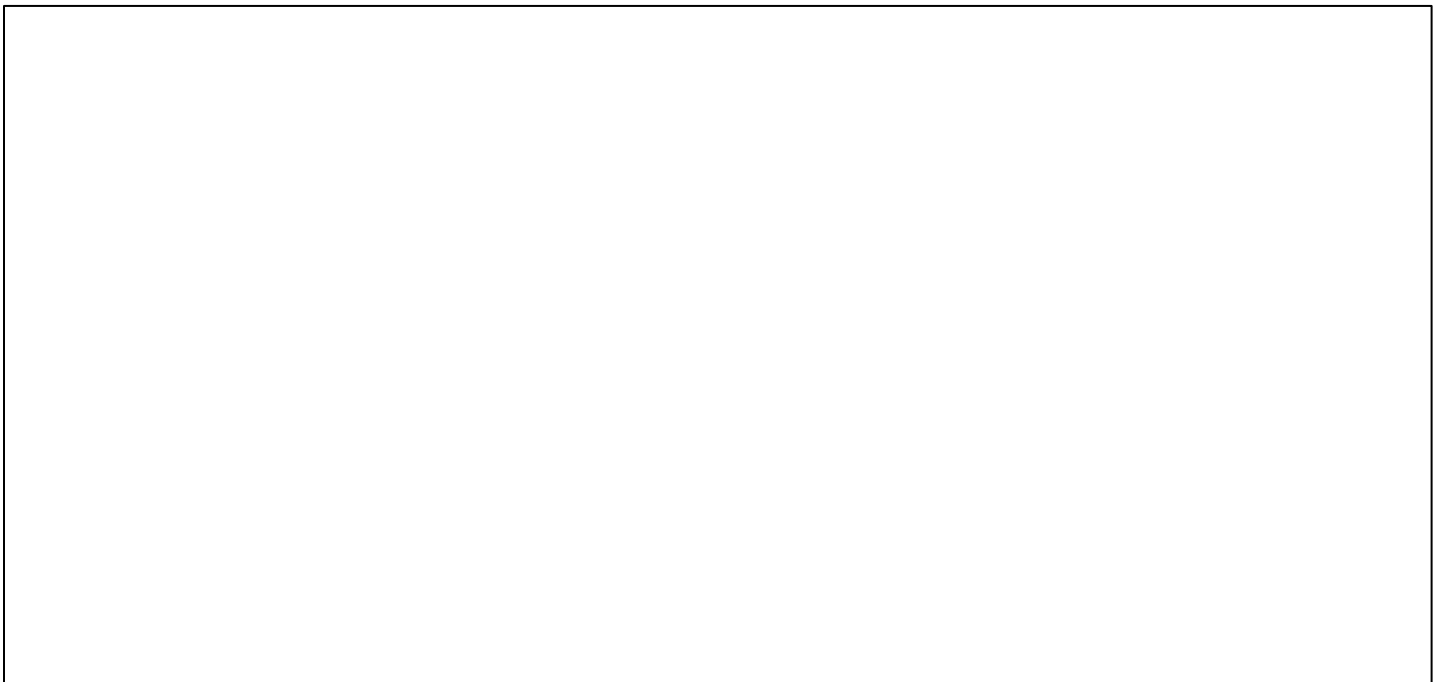
## BENEDICTION

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### INSTRUMENTALISTS

Mark Spears, *Violin* ○ Tara Caton, *violin* ○ Tradd Little, *Violin* ○ Mike Hou, *Viola*  
Kevin Womble, *Cello* ○ Julie Knapp, *Flute*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

<b>Caroling Outreach</b> Wed 12/17 6:30-8:45pm	Join us for an hour of caroling. We will hand out treats with invitations to our Christmas Eve service. We will then reconvene at the church for dessert and cocoa. Please RSVP ASAP.
<b>Missionary Christmas Gifts</b>	This Christmas we have the opportunity to show special love to our missionary families. In the foyer there is a Christmas tree with a gift idea for each family member of our supported missionaries. Please choose a gift to send to our missionaries. Any questions can be directed to Allene Davis.
<b>Ladies' Coffee Fellowship</b>	The ladies' coffee fellowship partners women for one-on-one fellowship with other women, if you are interested, then please see the weekly email for details and sign-up by 31 Dec.
<b>Upcoming Dates</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Service:</b> Wed, Dec 24th

## WEEKLY SERVICE ROTATION

	December 14 <sup>th</sup>	December 21 <sup>st</sup>	December 28 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Infant Nursery</b>	Lauren & Chase H.	Allene & Sadie D.	Abbie & Michael M.
<b>Toddler Nursery</b>	Bethany & Ryan M.		Davis Family
<b>SS Nursery</b>	<i>No Sunday School</i>	<i>No Sunday School</i>	<i>No Sunday School</i>
<b>Deacon on Duty</b>	Keith P.	Scott R.	Perry E.
<b>Sound Room</b>	Dwayne T.	Tommy C.	Tommy C.
<b>Refreshments</b>	Lorie A. & Shannon R.	Mary & Craig T.	Allene D. & Cathey H.

## THIS WEEK AT PHPC

Mon Dec 15	Tues Dec 16	Wed Dec 17	Thurs Dec 18	Fri Dec 19	Sat Dec 20	Sun Dec 21
		<i>Caroling Outreach 6:30pm</i>				

## GIVING AND ATTENDANCE

Last Week's Giving	Last Week's Budget	Fiscal YTD Giving	Fiscal YTD Budget	Last Week's Attendance

Visiting PHPC?  
Please consider  
filling out a  
visitor form.



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