



A CEREMONY OF CAROLS

PRESENTED BY THE COMBINED CHOIRS AND SOLOISTS

**THE CHAPEL CHOIR
EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONYERS, GEORGIA**

**THE SANCTUARY CHOIR
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
COVINGTON, GEORGIA**

Order of Worship

PRELUDE *Savior of the Nations, Come* J. S. Bach Alice Walker, Organ
Advent Hope Derek K. Hakes Handbell Choir
Christmas Medley arr. Daniel Burton Dania Lane, harp

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Tabb and Jones Family

Christians around the world begin this day to await the Advent of Christ. We join with a joyous and hopeful throng in lighting the Advent candles, symbols of our faith and signs of God's love.

We gather as a people of hope.

Christian people around the world stand today in breathless anticipation of a miracle that has been repeated for hundreds of years, yet that astounds us anew each year.

Our hope springs anew from an ancient vision.

As we light the first Advent candle, let it stand for hope based not on wishful thinking, but on deep conviction. We believe, we have seen, we have received the Promise and the Great Gift, and therefore, in the midst of darkness and imperfection, we hope.

We gather expectantly, joyfully, and with deep commitment, for we have heard that a special Child is to come, that God is to be among us, and that soon we will see a new creation on earth. We are a people of hope.

May this candle of hope give light to the world.

Listen to the words of the prophet Jeremiah chapter 31:31-34...

I now light the candle of prophecy and hope.

✦ **HYMN 82** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

✦ **SCRIPTURE**

John 1:14

A Ceremony of Carols, Opus 28 Benjamin Britten

1. Hodie Christus

Hodie Christus natus est:
hodie Salvator apparuit:
hodie in terra canunt angeli:
laetantur archangeli:
hodie exsultant justi dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
--Gregorian antiphon to the Magnificat Vespers

Translation: #1

Today Christ is born;
Today the Savior has appeared;
Today the angels sing,
The archangels rejoice;
Today the righteous rejoice, saying,
Glory to God in the highest, Alleluia!

2. Wolcum Yole!

Wolcum, Wolcum,
Wolcum be thou hevenè king,
Wolcum Yole! Wolcum, born in one morning,
Wolcum for whom we shall sing!
Wolcum be ye, Stevene and Jon,
Wolcum, Innocentes every one,
Wolcum, Thomas marter one,
Wolcum be ye, good Newe Yere,
Wolcum, Twelfthe Day both in fere,

Translation: #2

Welcome Yule!
Welcome, Welcome,
Welcome to You, our heavenly King.
Welcome, you who was born one
morning,
Welcome, for You, shall we sing!

2. continued

Wolcum be ye, Stevene and Jon,
Wolcum, Innocentes every one,
Wolcum, Thomas marter one,
Wolcum be ye, good Newe Yere,
Wolcum, Twelfth Day both in fere,
Wolcum, seintes lefe and dere,
Wolcum Yole, Wolcum Yole, Wolcum!

Candel messe, Quene of bliss,
Wolcum bothe to more and lesse.
Wolcum, Wolcum,
Wolcum be ye that are here,
Wolcum Yole, Wolcum alle
and make good cheer,
Wolcum alle another yere,
Wolcum Yole, Wolcum!

--Anonymous, 14th century

3. There Is No Rose

There is no rose of such vertu
as is the rose that bare Jesu.
Alleluia, alleluia.

For in this rose containèd was
heaven and earth in litel space,
Resmiranda, resmiranda.

By that rose we may well see
there be one God in persons three,
Pares forma, pares forma.

The aungels sungen the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelsis, Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gaudeamus, gaudeamus.

Leave we all this werldly mirth,
and follow we this joyful birth.
Transeamus, transeamus, transeamus.
Alleluia, resmiranda, pares forma, gaudeamus,
transeamus, transeamus.

--Anonymous 14th century

4a. That Yongë Childe

That yongë child when it 'gan weep
with song she lulled him asleep:
That was so sweet a melody
it passèd alle minstrelsy.
The nightingale sang also:
Her song is hoarse and nought thereto
Whoso attendeth to her song
and leaveth the first...then doth he wrong.

Translation #2

Welcome, to you, Steven and John,
Welcome all innocent children,
Welcome, Thomas, the martyred one,
Welcome, good new year,
Welcome Twelfth Day, both in fear . . .
Welcome Saints left and dear.

Candle Mass, Queen of bliss,
Welcome both to more and less.
Welcome you that are here,
Welcome all and make good cheer.
Welcome all another year.



Translation #3

There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bore Jesus.
Alleluia.

For inside the Rose (called Mary)
Were heaven and earth in a single,
little space.
Miraculous thing.

By that rose, we now may see,
There be one God in persons three.
Created in the Parent's image.

The angels sang to the shepherds,
Glory to God in the highest!
We rejoice.

Leave we all this worldly mirth,
And follow we this joyful birth.
We cross over to Christ's world.

Translation: #4a

When that young child began to weep
With song, she lulled him to sleep
It was such a sweet melody,
It was so very merry.
The nightingale sang also,
But her song was hoarse,
it was not the same:
Whoever listens to the nightingale's
song instead of Mary's, does wrong.

--Anonymous, 14th century

4b. Balulalow

O my deare hert, young Jesu sweat,
Prepare thy creddil in my spreit,
And I sall rock thee to my hert,
And never mair from thee depart.

But I sall praise thee evermoir
With sanges sweit unto thy gloir;
The knees of my hert sall I bow,
And sing that richt Balulalow.

--Saint James, Saint John,
and Robert Wedderburn, 1548-1561

5. As Dew in Aprille

I sing of a maiden that is makèles:
King of all kings to her son she ches.

He came also stille there his moder was,
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the
grass.

He came also stille to his moder's bour,
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the
flour.

He came also stille there his moder lay,
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the
spray.

Moder and mayden was never none but
she: Well may such a lady Goddes
moder be.

--Anonymous, c. 1400

Translation: #4b

O love of my heart, young Jesus sweet
Prepare your place in my heart,
And I shall rock thee with great love,
And I shall never leave your side.

I shall praise you forever,
With sweet songs of your glory
The knees of my heart shall I bow
And sing the right "Lullaby".

Translation: #5

I sing of a maiden that is mateless,
Her son was the King of all Kings.

From his mother he came to us quietly
As dew in April that falls on the grass.

His mother's labor was painless and quiet,
As dew in April that falls on the grass.

As His mother lay there, he came quietly,
As dew in April that falls on the flower
branches.

Never has there been such a mother and
maiden; How fitting it is that this be God's
mother.

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

p. 35 in front of hymnal

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Hymn 115, stanza 3

MUELLER

*Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.*

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY Interlude (Zwischenspiel) from "Ceremony of Carols"

Dania Lane, harp

♦ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** Hymn 104, stanza 1

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

*O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you
aright? Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's
delight! O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast,
to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.*

◆ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We rejoice in the hope of these days, O God, as your realm unfolds its promises among us. Receive these offerings, we pray, as signs of our love, and keep us faithful in our receiving and in our giving, in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

7. This Little Babe

This little Babe so few days old,
is come to rifle Satan's fold;
All hell doth at his presence quake,
though he himself for cold do shake;
For in this weak unarmed wise
the gates of hell he will surprise.

With tears he fights and wins the field,
His naked breast stands for a shield;
His battering shot are babish cries,
His arrows looks of weeping eyes,
His martial ensigns Cold and Need,
and feeble Flesh his warrior's steed.

#7 continued...

His camp is pitched in a stall,
His bulwark but a broken wall;
The crib his trench, haystalks his stakes;
of shepherds he his muster makes;
And thus, as sure his foe to wound,
the angels' trumps alarum sound.

My soul, with Christ join thou in fight;
stick to the tents that he hath pight.
Within his crib is surest ward;
this little Babe will be thy guard.
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,
then flit not from this heavenly boy.

--Robert Southwell, 1561?-1595



8. In Freezing Winter Night

Behold, a silly tender babe,
in freezing winter night,
In homely manger trembling lies.
Alas, a piteous sight!

The inns are full; no man will yield
This little pilgrim bed.
But forced he is with silly beasts
In crib to shroud his head.

This stable is a Prince's court,
this crib his chair of State;
The beasts are parcel of his pomp,
the wooden dish his plate.
The persons in that poor attire
His royal liveries wear;
The Prince himself is come from heaven;
This pomp is prized there.

With joy approach, O Christian wight,
Do homage to thy King,
And highly praise his humble pomp,
which he from Heaven doth bring.

--Robert Southwell, 1561?-1595

Translation: #8

In freezing winter night
Behold, a helpless tender babe,
In freezing winter night,
In homely manger trembling lies –
Alas, a piteous sight!

The inns are full; no man will yield
This little pilgrim bed.
But forced is he with silly beasts
In crib to shroud his head.

This stable is a Prince's court,
this crib his chair of State;
The beasts are parcel of his pomp,
the wooden dish his plate.
The persons in that poor attire
His royal liveries wear;
The Prince himself is come from heaven;
This pomp is prized there.

With joy approach, O Christian being,
Do homage to thy King,
And highly praise his humble pomp,
which he from heaven doth bring.

9. Spring Carol

Pleasure it is to hear iwis, the Birdes sing,
the deer in the dale, the sheep in the vale,
the corn springing.
God's purveyance for sustenance,
it is for man, it is for man.
Then we always to give him praise,
and than him than.
--William Cornish 14? - 1523

10. Deo Gracias

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
Adam lay ibounden, bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter thought he not to
long.
Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
And all was for an appil,
an appil that he tok,
As clerkes finden written in their book.
Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
Ne had the appil take ben,

the appil take ben,
Ne hadde never our lady a ben hevene que-
ne.

#10 continued...

Blessed be the time that appil take was.
Therefore we moun singen.
Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
Deo gracias! Deo gracias!
---anonymous 15th century

Translation: #10
Give thanks to God!
Adam was bound in sin for
four thousand years,
although he thought this not too long.
It was all for an apple that he took,
As clerics find written in their books.
Had the apple never been taken,
Then our Lady would have
Never been a heavenly queen.

Blessed be the time
The apple was taken.

11. Recessional

Hodie Christus natus est:
hodie Salvator apparuit:
hodie in terra canunt angeli:

✦ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

✦ **POSTLUDE** *Toccata on "Adeste Fideles"* John E. Wade Alice Walker, organ

Worship Notes

- ✦ Please enter the sanctuary in a spirit of reverence as we prepare to worship God. Remember to **turn on your cell phones** when you leave.
- ✦ Recordings of today's service can be accessed on the church website: www.fpccov.org.



Chapel Choir

Epiphany Lutheran Church, Conyers

- Gene Bahls
- *Lane Carlisle
- June Edwards
- *Krista Firkus
- Mary Lou Gomes
- Kerry Gibson
- Jeanette Hinckson-Fraser
- Bruce Hefner
- Margaret Hill
- *Cathy Hubbard
- Robert Lange
- *Teresa Lyons
- *Greg Portratz
- William Schroeder
- *Michael L. Thompson

Donald Harris, Music Director/Organist

Sanctuary Choir

First Presbyterian Church, Covington

- Janet Carmichael*
- Day Kennon
- Teresa McCurry*
- Joe Moon
- Jon Paschal
- Jim Patrick*
- Bob Tabb
- Darcel Tabb
- Perri Walden
- Cy Wolverton
- Jean Wolverton

Jim Patrick, Interim Choir Director
 Alice Griffin Walker, CAGO, AAGO
 Ken Walker, Soound Engineer

Dania Lane, Harpist

*soloists



Front Cover Art: Angeli Laudante. Sir Edward Burne-Jones and John Henry Dearle, Birmingham, England, 1898.



<p>+Dave Gregory-heart issues, Piedmont in Atlanta +the Bryant Family- friends of Warren and Jeanie Liem +Danny Vining-Mohs surgery, Dec. 4 +Adriane Ivey-home, recovering from surgery +Pat Patrick-home +Steve Bozarth-ill (father of Debra Arnold) +Jeanette Davis-hospice (mother of Maria Davis) +Ethan Lassiter (8)-brain tumor (grandson of E. G. and Maryanne Lassiter) +Rick Gunter-Glory Personal Care (Cov) +Nat Allen Long-foot amputation (step-son of Alice Walker) +Louise Strickland-home +Katherine Bouchillon-heart problems (friend of Maxine Blankenship) +George Stamps-Riverside +Pat Harper-heart surgery, home +Matthew Howell-home, recovering from motorcycle accident, +David Cooper-chemotherapy (father of Rebecca Bates) +Anderson Krieger-chemotherapy at home +Heaven Stephenson-healthy pregnancy +Carol Baynes-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder) +Robin McKeown-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder) +Ron Swatty-heart problems, brother-in-law of Charles Ardis) +Mitchell Jessup -cancer (father of Nick Jessup)</p>	<p>+Sophia Hawley-Cystic Fibrosis +Roger Gossage-awaiting transplant +Teresa McCurry--tests +Chuck Hodges--treatment for lymphoma (friend of Patti Lanford)</p> <p>Assisted Living/Nursing Homes: +Bill Taylor-Bentley Assisted Living, Jefferson, GA +Russ Cole-Manor House, Social Circle +J. L. Johnson - fall, broken arm - Dogwood Forest, Alpharetta, GA +Jeanne Cannon-St. Simon's Island, GA</p> <p>Riverside +Martha Borders</p> <p>Merryvale +Guy McGiboney +Betty Robinson +Louise White +Alice Gadilhe +Hughie Hudson</p> <p>Home +Jan Coulon +Debi (Dee) Selin--home</p> <p>Peace Corps Volunteer +Patti Lanford stationed in Zambia</p> <p>We celebrate with Heaven Stephenson and Thorne Anderson on the birth of their son, Rowan Elliot Anderson, who was born November 23, 2017. Rowan is the grandson of Tommy & Scarlett McCurry.</p> <p>Hospital Visitors: Beth and Danny Vining</p>	<p>Sunday, December 3 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service with the <i>Ceremony of Carols</i> 5:00 Youth Connection</p> <p>Tuesday, December 5 4:00 Exercise Class 10:00 Elizabeth Ann Circle at FPC 10:30 Martha Circle at Day Kennon's 6:00 Ruth Circle at S. Scarborough's</p> <p>Wednesday, December 6 6:45 Sanctuary Choir</p> <p>Thursday, December 7 10:30 Ambassador Choir 12:00 Silver Saints/Ambassador Christmas Party</p> <p>Saturday, December 9 Called Presbytery Meeting: Radcliffe PC</p> <p>Sunday, December 10 9:00 Handbell Choir 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Session Meeting 5:00 Youth Connection</p>
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Opportunities for Giving

Angel and Salvation Army tree gifts for children and nursing home residents: To give, choose a name from one or both of the trees, register the name of person you have chosen on sheet provided, and bring wrapped and tagged gift to the church by **December 10**. For more information contact Jean Elder.

Pastor's Discretionary Fund: Each year we have last minute requests from families who are not covered by the Salvation Army but cannot afford Christmas gifts for their children.

After investigating the request, church staff give the family a gift certificate to one of the local stores. If you would like to contribute to this fund, make your check out to the church and designate Pastor's Discretionary Fund. The Discretionary Fund is used throughout the year to help local folks with various needs.

The Hudson/Chandler Bike Fund supplies bikes for children under the care of DFACS. To give, make a check out to the church and designate "bike fund". Deadline for giving is **Dec 10**.

Blanket and Coat Collection coats and blankets will be collected at FPC during December. They will be taken to the Garden of Gethsemane Shelter.

**WELCOME TO
 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 OF COVINGTON**

If you would like information about membership or the programs, mission, and fellowship of the church, speak to the pastor as you leave or call the church office.
 Telephone: 770-786-7321; Fax: 770-786-6596

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 Dan Walden: djwalden@mac.com
 Church Office/Peni Kehoe: penihaug@gmail.com
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You may listen to recent sermons by visiting our website (www.fpccov.org) and clicking on "Media."