



# Nassau Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2017 7:00 PM *Christmas Eve*



Prelude

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Mendelssohn  
arr. Cummings and Lane

Choral Introit

“Puer Natus Est”

Andrea Ramsey

A child is born in Bethlehem, alleluia,  
therefore rejoice, Jerusalem, alleluia.

A Son is given on this day, alleluia;  
rejoice before the Lord and pray, alleluia.

♦ Call to Worship

Matthew 1:18-25

At the sign ♦ you may stand.

♦ Opening Hymn

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” [127]

*Hymns* may be found in the red pew hymnal *Glory to God* under the numbers given.

Prayer for Christmas Eve

Bold text is read or sung in unison.

**Living God, on this holy night we gather—  
to stand with shepherds, amazed at your glory;  
to sing with angels, rejoicing in your salvation;  
to wait with Joseph, trusting in your promise;  
to sit with Mary, cradling your love.**

**May the good news of this night inspire us  
to tell the world of our great joy:  
for to us is born a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.  
Glory and praise to you forever! Amen.**

Words of Welcome

## Prayer of Confession

**God of grace and truth,  
in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness.  
We confess we have not welcomed the light,  
or trusted good news to be good.  
We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst,  
expecting little, and hoping for less.  
Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope,  
so we may receive the fullness of your grace,  
and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.  
In the name of the Christ Child we pray. Amen.**

## Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends in Christ,  
hear and believe the good news of the Gospel.  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God.**

- ♦ Response of Praise      “O Little Town of Bethlehem” [121]  
   Verse 4

**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!**

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## Prayer for Illumination

**Loving God, by the gift of your Spirit,  
teach us, like Mary, to treasure your words  
and ponder them in our hearts;  
through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. Amen.**

Anthem

“Ubi Caritas”

Ola Gjeilo

Where charity and love are, God is there.  
The love of Christ has gathered us together.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Let us revere and love the living God.  
And from a sincere heart let us love one another. Amen.

Second Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

pg 638

Sermon

“Do This!”

David A. Davis

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♦ Sermon Hymn “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” [107]

Pastoral Prayer for Christmas

Offertory Anthem

“African Noel”

arr. André J. Thomas

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

We invite all followers of Jesus Christ to the table. Pass the tray to your neighbor, who will hold it for you as you receive the bread and grape juice. Cups on the bread tray hold gluten-free bread.

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread

“Thou Shalt Know Him”

Mark Sirett

Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by any din of drums,  
nor his manners, nor his airs, nor by anything he wears.  
Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by his crown or by his gown,  
but his coming known shall be  
by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.  
Thou shalt know him when he comes, alleluia.

## Sharing of the Cup

## Closing Prayer

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♦ Hymn “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” [128]

♦ Benediction

♦ Ringing in of Christmas

♦ Hymn “Joy to the World” [134]

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills,  
and plains repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness and wonders,  
wonders of his love.**

Postlude

“Noël Suisse”

Louis-Claude D’Aquin

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Preacher

David A. Davis

Liturgists

Lauren J. McFeaters

Karen Hernandez-Granzen

Joyce MacKichan Walker

Musicians

Emma Bezilla, flute

Simon Brooks, percussion

John Lane, flute

Michael Ryan, organ

Sam Weinglass, violin

*Cantorei and Alumni Choir*

Ingrid Ladendorf, director

*Bell Peal*

Noel Werner, director

Cover

“Throne,” a linocut by Elizabeth

Steele Halstead

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