



Nassau Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2017 10:00 AM *Advent IV*



Gathering

God calls us together to offer praise, acknowledge sin,
and celebrate our adoption as forgiven children.

Prelude

“People, Look East”

arr. Jeremy Young

*Introit

“He Came Down”

Hymn 137

Soloist and congregation alternate verses

At the sign * you may stand. *Hymn* indicates the red pew hymnal *Glory to God*.

*Call to Worship

Psalm 126

Bold text is read in unison.

The Lord has done great things for us!

And we are filled with joy!

Our God has turned weeping into singing,

and our tears into songs of joy!

O Christ of God, come anew in our hearts this day,

and remain in us forever.

We gather as a people who say

yes to Emmanuel,

yes to love among us,

yes to the wholeness of God.

Let us worship God.

*Opening Hymn

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

arr. Michael Burkhardt

Verse 1 – choir

Verse 2 – all

Verse 3 – treble voices

Verses 4 – lower voices

Verses 5–6 – all

Of the Father's Love Begotten



Choir 1 Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be - gan
 All 2 By his Word was all cre - at - ed; he com-mand-ed; it
 Treble voices 3 O, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed when the Vir - gin, full
 Lower voices 4 This is he whom seers in old time chant-ed of with one
 All 5 O ye heights of heaven, a - dore him. An - gel hosts, his prais -
 All 6 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost,



to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga; he the
 was done: heaven and earth and depths of o - cean, u - ni -
 of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the
 ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets prom-ised
 es sing. Powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him, and ex -
 to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks-giv - ing and un -



source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 verse of three in one, all that sees the moon's soft
 Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's Re -
 in their faith - ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex -
 tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 wea - ried prais - es be. Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 shin - ing, all that breathes be - neath the sun,
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
 pect - ed. Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord,
 si - lent; ev - ery voice in con - cert ring,
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry,

(after stanza 6)



ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - - men.

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, God with us, God for us, God beside us,
along this journey of faith, we ignore your presence in our lives,
and we fail to see the face of Christ in those we encounter along the way.
We are distracted by busyness.
We neglect to prepare for the Christ Child.
Forgive us. Draw near to us.
By your grace
help us receive you with joy like the shepherds,
obedience like Mary,
and persistence like the Magi.
Come, Lord Jesus, quickly come. Amen.**

Silent Prayer

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 Come, All Ye Faithful”
Verse 4

Hymn 133

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given,
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

Words of Welcome

Time with Children and Lighting of the Advent Candles

Children age three to grade one may go to a Bible story and craft time in Room 07 (Lower Level).
All children are also always welcome in the service.

Anthem

“Christmas Eve Carol”

Jeffrey Rickard, music
Charles Wesley, text

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our sins and fears release us; let us find our rest in thee.

Hodie Christus natus est, Salvator apparuit.

Today Christ is born. The Savior appears.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, born today.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever, angels in the heavens sing.



Proclaiming the Word

We encounter the Word in speech and song
as we interpret and expound scripture.

Prayer for Illumination

Lord Jesus Christ, our deliverer,

your birth shakes the foundations of our world.

**May we open ourselves to the light of scripture with eagerness and hope
and so welcome you with our “Alleluias!” Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 58:8-12

pg 688

Gospel Lesson

Luke 2:8-20

pg 58

Sermon

“For Unto You Is Born This Day”

Lauren J. McFeaters



Thanksgiving

We respond by presenting our offerings, setting the table,
lifting prayers, and praising the triune God.

*Sermon Hymn

“Love Has Come”

Hymn 110

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.
He was in the beginning with God.
All things came into being through him,
and without him not one thing came into being.
What has come into being in him was life,
and the life was the light of all people.
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
He was in the world, and the world came into being through him;
yet the world did not know him.
He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.
But to all who received him, who believed in his name,
he gave power to become children of God,
who were born,
not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of humanity, but of God.
And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son,
full of grace and truth.
Thanks be to God.**

Offertory

“Let Our Gladness Know No End”

Bohemian carol
arr. Hermann Schroeder

Let our gladness know no end, hallelujah!
Unto earth did Christ descend, hallelujah!
On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to save us.
See the loveliest blooming Rose, hallelujah!
From the branch of Jesse grows, hallelujah!
On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to save us.
Into flesh is made the Word, hallelujah!
'Tis our Refuge and our Lord, hallelujah!
On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to save us.

*Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all
people here below; praise Holy Spirit ever
more; praise Tri-une God, whom we adore.

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Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Lord’s Prayer common text, hymnal pg 11; traditional, pg 35; Spanish, pg 40; Korean, pg 48



Sending

We follow the Word into the world, sent forth with
God’s blessing to lives of service and love.

*Closing Hymn

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Hymn 136

*Benediction

Postlude

“In Dulci Jubilo”

BWV 729

J. S. Bach

Today at Nassau

Worship

10:00 AM *Sanctuary*

Fellowship

11:00 AM *Assembly Room*

Church Mouse Reception

11:00AM *Conference Room*

Christmas Eve Family Worship

3:00 PM *Sanctuary*

Christmas Eve Communion Worship

7:00 PM *Sanctuary*

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

10:00 PM *Sanctuary*

Reminder: the church office is closed
until Tuesday, January 2.

Preacher

Lauren J. McFeaters

Liturgists

David A. Davis

Len Scales

Time with Children

Joyce MacKichan Walker

Musicians

Adult Choir

Noel Werner, director and organist

John Lane, flute

Kim Kleasen, flute

Michael Cooney, cello

Carol Fagundus, handbells

Lynn Ann Cornell, handbells

Cover

“Branch, Stump of Jesse,” a linocut by
Elizabeth Steele Halstead

Welcome to Nassau Church

Children. Children are always welcome in our services of worship.

Childcare is available for infants and toddlers in the Nursery (Lower Level).

We invite children age three to grade one to a Bible story and craft time in Room 07 (Lower Level).

Church School for children and youth, preschool age to grade 12, resumes on Sunday, January 7.

Order CDs of the service. Stop by the sound room.

Connect to our online community life. Visit nassauchurch.org for information and join our Facebook group for community life. Follow our Facebook page and Twitter and Instagram feeds (@nassauchurch) for news, recaps of events, and snapshots of life at Nassau.

Connect to pastors or staff. Contact the office.

Online giving. See “Give Now” on the website or give via the Church Life app.

Accessibility. The church lot has reserved parking, and there are six reserved street spaces on Sundays. Ramp access to the building is from the parking lot. Ask an usher for an assistive hearing device, a large-print bulletin or hymnal, an accessible pew, or a wheelchair. Ushers can also direct you to the elevator to access other floors.

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