

# WORSHIP NOTES

The original Latin words and tune to the familiar processional hymn, *O Come*

*All Ye Faithful*, were both written by John Francis Wade (1711-1786) an English

Roman Catholic who lived most of his life in Douay, France.

The melody and the text of *Lo, How a Rose E’re Blooming* originated in Germany

in the late Middle Ages. The words are based on Isaiah 11:1, “A shoot shall come out

of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of its roots.” In the original poem (23 stanzas

long), “the rose” referred to Mary, but the Reformation altered the text’s emphasis

to designate Jesus.

Though he was famed during his lifetime as a great preacher, no sermon Phillips

Brooks ever preached has been heard or read by as many people as have sung his

Christmas carol, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*. He wrote it in 1868 for the children of

the Sunday School at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, where he was

rector. In writing it, Brooks may have had in mind his own visit to Bethlehem on

Christmas Eve 1865. We sing it tonight to the English folk melody, *Forest Green*, as

do those who live in England. Ralph Vaughn Williams provided this harmonized

tune for the hymn in 1903.

*Joy to the World* is perhaps the most popular of the 600 hymns written by Isaac

Watts (1674-1748), often called the father of English hymnody. The tune we know,

*Antioch*, combines strains of two Handel melodies, and was written by Lowell

Mason, an American musician and founder of the Boston Academy of Music.

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THE FLOWERS in the Narthex are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our fathers, Nathaniel O. Abelson and James G. Talcott from their children Dr. and Mrs. James A. Talcott.

THE FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mrs. Corinne Ingraham Pigott by her children Cynthia Ingraham and Richard Pigott.

TOMORROW’S PREACHER will be the Rev. Dr. Kimberly L. Clayton.

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## THE BRICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Parish House: 62 East 92nd Street, New York, New York 10128-1398 | On the web at [www.brickchurch.org](http://www.brickchurch.org)

phone: 212-289-4400 day school: 212-289-5683 email addresses: [www.brickchurch.org/contact](http://www.brickchurch.org/contact)

## MINISTERS

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The Rev. Dr. Kimberly L. Clayton, *Transitional Senior Minister*

The Rev. Douglas T. King, *Senior Associate Minister*

The Revs. Rebekah McLeod Hutto & Adam D. Gorman, *Associate Ministers*

The Rev. Michael L. Lindvall, *Pastor Emeritus*

Hannah F. Allred, Brian K. Ballard, Joshua H. Narcisse, *Student Ministers*

## MINISTRY OF MUSIC

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Keith S. Tóth, *Minister of Music and Organist*

Amanda Page Smith, *Director of Children’s Music Ministries*

Meg Cutting, *Wilson Family Yale Sacred Music Intern*

## USHERS

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*Officer-in-Charge:* M. Douglas Watson Jr.; *Team Captain:* Richard G. Faux Jr.;

Mark R. Altherr, John P. Argenti, Thomas P. Auth, Henry C. Barkhorn III,

Walter F. Bottger, David L. Chiang, Jonathan M. Conrad, Richard G. Corey,

Michael G. Fisch, John C. Michaelson, Paul W. Perkins, Richard L. Peters, Willis

G. Ryckman IV, Gibbons H. Sinclair, Richard H. Stowe

## GREETERS

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*Leader:* Cynthia Watson; Ann M. Darmstaetter, Pamela Rose, Trish R. Chapman,

Steve F. Chapman.

## ORDER OF ST. PAUL

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Michael J. Appleby, Nathan P. Appleby, Leah C. Lee, Deborah M. Li, Caroline C.

Pickering, Alexander N. Rahman, Christopher L. Allen, *Beadle*.

## CHANCEL CHOIR

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*Soprano:* Isabella Livorni, Tonna L. Miller-Vallés, Artemisz Polonyi, Catherine

Thorpe, Elizabeth Van Os. *Alto:* Agueda Fernández-Abad, Allison Gish, Jessica

Kimple, Melissa Raymond. *Tenor:* Richard Liebowitz, Jeremy Little, Johnny

Maldonado, Jeffrey Taveras. *Bass:* Daniel Hoy, Scott Lindroth, Ryan Stoudt,

Nathaniel Sullivan.

## SESSION

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Sallie J. Abelow, Patrick A. F. Blott, Susan P. Crary, Paul J. Elmlinger, R. Scott

Froehlich, Scripture Z. Gonzalez, Mark A. Greenwood, Shannon D. Henderson,

William S. Hilburn, Harold P. Hope III, Anne R. Huneke, R. Lynne Lee, Sue-

Peng Li, Robert D. McCrie, Helen B. Pennoyer, Elizabeth M. Philipp, Clare C.

Pickering, Brian J. Pitz, Susan A. Powell, Debra N. Seraphim, Richard H. Stowe,

Katherine C. Vosters, Ryan E. Widener, Henry M. Wildermuth (*Youth Elder*),

Suzanne W. Wilson, Frances G. Laserson, *Clerk of Session*.

## DEACONS

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Linda R. Arnold, Bret M. Barasch, Beth A. Bell, Arthur W. Bingham, Nancy

T. Blair, Elizabeth A. Boehmler, Christopher A. Carroll, Blythe G. Chace

(*Youth Deacon*), Carl C. Cordova III, E. Graham Clark, David M. Darst,

Helen T. W. Elmiger, Marc T. Engberg, Joseph A. Galloway, William J.

Gambrill, Jeffrey B. Gower, Christopher W. Hamilton, Kate S. Hrobsky,

Cathy Leonhardt, Jane B. Lowry, Katrina K. Masterson, Amelia McDonald, M.

Paige Rustum, Grace Sarno, Andrew R. Skobe, John D. Tuttle, Tanya S. Wells.

## TRUSTEES

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Charles S. Anderson, Kenneth W. Austin, Patrick D. Barrett, Erik M. W.

Caspersen, Kevin R. Greene, Linda B. Gridley, Timothy D. Haskin, Helen M.

Lynch, Valerie S. Mason, *Secretary*, Richard A. Miller, *President*, Drucilla A.

Richards, Willis G. Ryckman IV, Louisa J. Palmer, *Treasurer*.

# — THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR — Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Holy Communion

— ELEVEN O’CLOCK —

WELCOME The moments before worship are a transition from “getting here” to “being here.” Since it usually takes a few minutes to quiet one’s mind, and to become open to the Spirit, it is most appropriate to give one’s friends a silent wave of the hand, a nod of the head, or a friendly smile in lieu of initiating a conversation.

AFTER THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN, in order not to disrupt the worship service, latecomers will be seated by the ushers only at times when the congregation is standing, either during the Congregational Response following the assurance of forgiveness or during the second hymn.

VISITORS, please know how welcome you are. Please sign the Friendship Book when it passes you during the service of worship and identify yourself with a name tag to be found in the book. You are also cordially invited to attend Coffee Hour following worship.

IN THE ORDER OF WORSHIP that follows, an asterisk invites all to stand; items in bold type face indicate that the congregation participates in word or song.

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE DAY

Isaiah 9:2-7

96:1-13

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

# THE GATHERING

## PRELUDE

*Music for Choir, Brass ensemble, and percussion*

Thomas Hoyt, *trumpet*; Kevin Cobb, *trumpet*; Lawrence DiBello, *French horn*;  
George Hoyt, *trombone*; Donald Hayward, *trombone*; Benjamin Harms, *percussion*  
Nathaniel Sullivan, *baritone*

## WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

### CHORAL INTROIT

*Ian Tracey (b. 1955)*

“People Look East”

People, look East, no longer fear, await the Lord, his time is near.

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 41

*Adeste Fideles*

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of wonder, You surround us with signs of Your glory and surprise us with Your presence, yet we often miss the marvels You place before us. Forgive our dull hearts, our distracted ears, and our downcast eyes. Help us to receive You in the world and in our own homes. Turn our despair into joy and our silence into songs of praise. Guide our feet to Bethlehem this night that we may worship You on bended knee. Send us out to be witnesses of Your extravagant love in a world that can be lonely and harsh. May we bear the Christ Light wherever we go this night and always. In Your Son’s name, we pray. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### \* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

### HYMN 53

*Greensleeves*

“What Child Is This”

*(Please remain seated)*

# THE WORD

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

*Daniel W. Hoy*

Isaiah 9:2-7 *(Pew Bible, page 638) O.T.*

### HYMN 48

*Es ist ein Ros’*

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

### GOSPEL LESSON

*Holly O. Gorman*

Luke 2:1-20 *(Pew Bible, page 58) N.T.*

### HYMN 43

*Forest Green*

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

## SERMON

*Rev. Kimberly L. Clayton*

“The Silent Simplicity of Christmas”

# THE RESPONSE

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*John Rutter (b. 1945)*

“What Sweeter Music”

What sweeter music can we bring Than a carol, for to sing  
The birth of this our heavenly King? Awake the voice! Awake the string!  
Dark and dull night, fly hence away, And give the honor to this day,  
That sees December turned to May. Why does the chilling winter’s morn  
Smile, like a field beset with corn? Or smell like a meadow newly-shorn,  
Thus, on the sudden? Come and see The cause, why things thus fragrant be:  
‘Tis He is born, whose quickening birth Gives life and luster, public mirth,  
To heaven, and the under-earth. We see him come, and know him ours,  
Who, with his sunshine and his showers, Turns all the patient ground to flowers.  
The darling of the world is come, And fit it is, we find a room  
To welcome him. The nobler part Of all the house here, is the heart.  
Which we will give him; and bequeath This holly, and this ivy wreath,  
To do him honour, who’s our King, And Lord of all this revelling.  
What sweeter music can we bring, Than a carol for to sing  
The birth of this our heavenly King?—*Robert Herrick (1591-1674)*

# SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

### INVITATION

### GRADUAL HYMN

*13th c. Benedictine plainsong*

“Thee We Adore”

Thee we adore, O hidden Savior, Thee, Who at this blessed feast art pleased to be;  
both flesh and spirit in Thy presence fail, Yet here Thy presence we devoutly hail.

— *Thomas Aquinas (c.1225-1274)*

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

### SANCTUS 580

*John Merbecke (c.1510–c.1585)*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory:**

**Glory be to Thee, O Lord most High. Amen.**

### THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

## INSTITUTION AND HOLY COMMUNION

*Communion will be served by intinction. You are invited to come forward by the center aisle beginning with the front rows, receive bread, dip it in the chalice, partake, and return to your seat by the side aisles. Gluten-free bread is available at the serving station farthest to the right as you come forward. All who would humbly put their trust in Christ, whatever their church or denominational affiliation, are invited to participate.*

### COMMUNION MUSIC

*Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)*

“Lux aurumque”

Lux, calida gravisque pura velut aurum et canunt angeli molliter modo natum.

*Light, warm and heavy as pure gold, and the angels sing softly to the newborn babe.*

—*English text by Edward Esch (b. 1970); translated into Latin by Charles Anthony Silvestri*

*Artemisz Polonyi, soprano*

*Edmund Jolliffe (b. 1976)*

“Still, still, still”

Still, still, still. Still, still, still, He sleeps this night so chill!  
The Virgin’s tender arms enfolding, Warm and safe the Child are holding,  
Still still, still, He sleeps this night so chill. Sleep, sleep, sleep,  
He lies in slumber deep, While angel hosts from heaven come winging,  
Sweetest songs of joy are singing. Sleep, sleep, sleep, He lies in slumber deep.  
—*Traditional words translated from original Austrian*

### PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

# THE SENDING

### THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*Lisa A. Gustin*

John 1:1-5, 9-14 *(Pew Bible, page 91) N.T.*

### HYMN 60

*Stille Nacht*

“Silent Sight, Holy Night”

*(Please remain seated)*

*As the choir and congregation sing the carol, worshippers seated at the end of each pew are invited to take the light from an usher and pass it to their neighbor.*

### BENEDICTION

### \* RECESSIONAL HYMN 40

*Antioch*

“Joy to the World”

### POSTLUDE

*Jean-Baptiste Lully (1632-1687) arr. S. Drummond Wolff*

“Marche Royale”

Meg Cutting, *organist*

The Brick Church Brass and Percussion Ensemble

*Members of the Chancel Committee assisting with Communion today are*

*Lindsay Higgins and Helen Pennoyer*