

KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2017

7:00 P. M.

THE OPENING

“Sussex Carol”

TPC Choir

The Lord whom you seek shall suddenly come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight; behold, he is coming, rejoice greatly, shout in triumph.

Our king is coming. He is the righteous Savior, He shall speak peace unto the nations. (Malachi 3:1; Zechariah 9:9-10)

The morning sun from heaven shall rise upon us, to shine on those who live in darkness under the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Amen.

“Wexford Carol”

TPC Choir

THE PREACHING OF THE WORD

Every valley shall be exalted, every mountain and hill be made low, the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain. The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. (Isaiah 40:5)

*Hymn: 213, “What Child Is This?”

*Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:18-25 (Pew Bible p. 681)

Message: “Joseph: The Forgotten Person Of The Nativity”

“What Sweeter Music”

TPC Choir

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Come to him, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and he will give you rest. Take his yoke upon you, and learn of him; for he is meek and lowly of heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (Matthew 11:28-29)

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:6)

Hymn: 196, “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

THE RESPONSE

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities. The punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are healed. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; he shall gather the lambs in his arms. (Isaiah 53:4-5, 40:11)

I know that my redeemer lives, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth, And though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God; (Job 19:25-26)

For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first-fruits of those that sleep. Since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. (1 Corinthians 15:20-22)

Hallelujah, the Lord God omnipotent reigns. The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. King of kings and Lord of lords. Hallelujah. (Revelation 11:15)

*Hymn: 217, “All My Heart This Night Rejoices” (1-2, 5-6)

THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation

Congregation of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared his table for all who love him and trust in him for their salvation. All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him, are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord.

Institution Of The Supper

We give thanks to God the Father that our Savior Jesus Christ, before he suffered, gave us this sign of his sacrifice, until his coming again. For on the night of his arrest he took bread and, after giving thanks to God, broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, he took the cup after supper and said, “This cup is the new covenant sealed by my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.”

Prayer of Consecration

Heavenly Father, send your Holy Spirit upon us, that in eating the bread we may share in the body of Christ, and that in drinking from the cup we may share in his blood. Grant that being joined together in him we may become united in faith, and in all things become mature in Christ who is our head. Amen.

Communion

Thanksgiving

Congregation of the Lord Jesus Christ, since the Lord has fed us at his table, let us praise his holy name with thanksgiving.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain and has redeemed us to God by his blood, to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and praise. Blessing and honor, glory and power, be unto him who sits upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever. Amen.

(Revelation 5:12-13)

Hymn: 195, "Joy to the World"

CELEBRATION OF THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. *(Isaiah 9:2)*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. *(Isaiah 60:1)*

In him was life, and that life was the light of men. *(John 1:4)*

The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. *(John 1:9)*

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." *(John 8:12)*

"The First Noel"

TPC Choir

***Lighting of the Candles**

*"Silent Night"

TPC Choir and Congregation

THE DISMISSAL

May our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father, who has shown us such love, and in his grace has given us such unfailing encouragement and bright hope, fortify us in every good word and deed.

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. Amen.

The congregation reads aloud the words in bold print.

Please extinguish your candle and place it in the receptacle as you exit.

The words of this Advent liturgy are in large part taken from the text to Handel's Messiah.