



SERVICE *of* HOLY COMMUNION
Park Street Church | The Lord's Day, December 25, 2022
The Nativity of Our Lord

Welcome to Park Street Church! We're glad you are here, and we invite you to become a part of this community of Jesus' disciples. Our heart is to exalt Jesus above all in our community, in our city, and in the world, and our mission is to make disciples who become like Jesus together. We understand that we become like Jesus as we grow in the way of love: loving God, loving one another, loving our neighbors in Boston and beyond, and loving God's word. Wherever you're coming from and whatever questions you are asking, we welcome you to join us as we seek to become more like Jesus. If you're interested in learning more, please fill out a Connect card in the pew in front of you and drop it in the offering plate and we'll be in touch.

White and gold are the colors of the twelve-day season of Christmastide, during which the Church observes an extended celebration of Christ's Incarnation. The steeple bells are rung in celebration before and after the service, to proclaim to the world the arrival of the King.

THE PRELUDE

¶ *Music is played upon the organ or by the musicians, preparing us in body and mind to enter into the Lord's worship.*

THE INTROIT

Wexford Carol

Good people all, this Christmas time, Consider well and bear in mind What our good God for us has done In sending his beloved Son. With Mary holy we should pray, To God with love this Christmas Day: In Bethlehem upon that morn, There was a blessed Messiah born. Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep, To whom God's angels did appear, Which put the shepherds in great fear.	“Prepare and go,” the angels said “To Bethlehem, be not afraid, For there you'll find, this happy morn A princely Babe, sweet Jesus, born.” With thankful heart and joyful mind The shepherds went the babe to find, And as God's angel had foretold They did our Savior Christ behold. Within a manger he was laid And by his side the virgin maid Attending on the Lord of Life Who came on earth to end all strife.
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Words & Music: traditional Irish carol

¶ *Immediately at the conclusion of the Introit, the People stand.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 97

Leader The Lord is King; let the earth be glad.
A light has sprung up for the righteous,
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

People **The heavens have declared his righteousness,
and all the people have seen his glory.**

Leader *Alleluia!* Unto us a child is born.

People **O come, let us adore him. *Alleluia!***

H Y M N

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.

sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

O come and behold him,
born the King of Angels.

Glory to God_ in_ the_ highest:

O, come, let us adore him ...

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him

O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,

born this happy morning;

Jesus, to thee_ be_ glory given!

Word of the Father,

now in flesh appearing!

God of God, Light_ of_ Light,

Lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb.

O, come, let us adore him ...

Very God, begotten, not created.

O, come, let us adore him ...

INVOCATION & 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 coming day's bread;

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into trial, but deliver us from the Evil One.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

THE PEACE

Leader The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

¶ *Greet one another in the peace of Christ. Following the Peace, the People sit.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & LIFE OF THE CHURCH

THE ANTHEM

Unto Us Is Born a Son

Unto us is born a son,
King of choirs supernal:[†]
see on earth his life begun,
of lords the Lord Eternal.

Christ, from heaven descending low,
comes on earth a stranger;
ox and ass their Owner know
becradled in a manger.

This did Herod sore affray,[†]
and grievously bewilder,
so he gave the word to slay,
and slew the little childer.

Of his love and mercy mild
this the Christmas story: and
O that Mary's gentle Child
might lead us up to glory!

O and A and A and O,[†]
cum cantibus in choro,
(with singing in the choir)

Let our merry organ go,
Benedicamus Domino.
(let us bless the Lord.)

Words & music: *Piæ Cantiones* (1692) | arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)

[†]*choirs supernal*: choirs of angels (“of the heavens”) | *sore affray*: severely terrorize (*affray* is a common-law term for a public fight “to the terror of others”) | *A and O*: Alpha and Omega

THE OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 7:12–17

pew Bible p. 259

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

¶ *The People stand to recite the Psalm antiphonally. Those on the LEFT side of the sanctuary read the REGULAR type, and those on the RIGHT side of the sanctuary read the BOLD type. The Gloria Patri is sung.*

98 *Cantate Domino*

- Oh sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
- ² His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.**
- ³ The Lord has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- ⁴ He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.**
- All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.**
- ⁵ Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
- ⁶ Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody!**
- ⁷ With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!
- ⁸ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!**
- ⁹ Let the rivers clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord,
for he comes to judge the earth.
- ¹⁰ He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.**

All sing **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

¶ *The People sit.*

THE NEW TESTAMENT

Luke 1:26–53

per Bible p. 855

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

HYMN

¶ *The People stand*

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen (*the refrain follows each stanza*)

1 God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay.
For Jesus Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas Day;
To save us all from Satan's power,
When we were gone astray.

*O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy*

2 In Bethlehem, in Jewry,
This blessed Babe was born,
And laid within a manger,
Upon this blessed morn;
The which his mother Mary
Did nothing take in scorn.
3 From God our heavenly Father,
A blessed angel came.
And unto certain shepherds,
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name.

4 "Fear not," then said the Angel,
"Let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Savior,
Of virtue, power, and might;
To free all those who trust in him
from Satan's power and might."

5 The shepherds at those tidings,
Rejoicéd much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding,
In tempest, storm, and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway,
The Son of God to find:

6 With sudden joy and gladness
The shepherds were beguiled,
To see the Babe of Israel,
Before his mother mild,
O then with joy and cheerfulness
Rejoice, each mother's child.

7 Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood,
Each other now embrace
This holy tide of Christmas,
all other doth deface.

Words & Music: traditional English carol

THE GOSPEL

¶ *The People remain standing for the reading of the Gospel.*

Matthew 1:18–25

perw Bible p.807

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

¶ *Following the prayer, the People sit.*

SERMON

Born to Reign

Adam Herndon

HYMN

¶ *The People stand.*

Nº 213 What Child is This

GREENSLEEVES

NICENE CREED

¶ *Standing, the People say together*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,

and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

¶ *The People kneel or sit. A Minister leads the People in prayer for the world, the church, the sick, and the suffering.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

from Psalm 32

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not reach him.
You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

OFFERTORY

¶ *The People sit. The offering plates are passed. Music is offered to the Lord.*

Gesù Bambino

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night
Was born the Child the Christmas Rose, the King of love and light,
The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth rejoiced,
and at his blessed birth, the stars their exultation voiced.

Venite adoremus Dominum. (O come, let us adore him, [Christ] the Lord.)

Again the heart with rapture glows, to greet the holy night
that gave the world its Christmas Rose, its king of Love and Light.
Let every voice acclaim his name, the grateful chorus swell:
From paradise to earth he came, that we with him might dwell.

Words: Frederick H. Martens (1874-1932) | Music: Pietro Yon (1886-1943)

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

¶ *The People stand and sing as the offerings are brought forward by the ushers. A Minister then presents them to the Lord in prayer.*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Minister The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Minister Lift up your hearts.

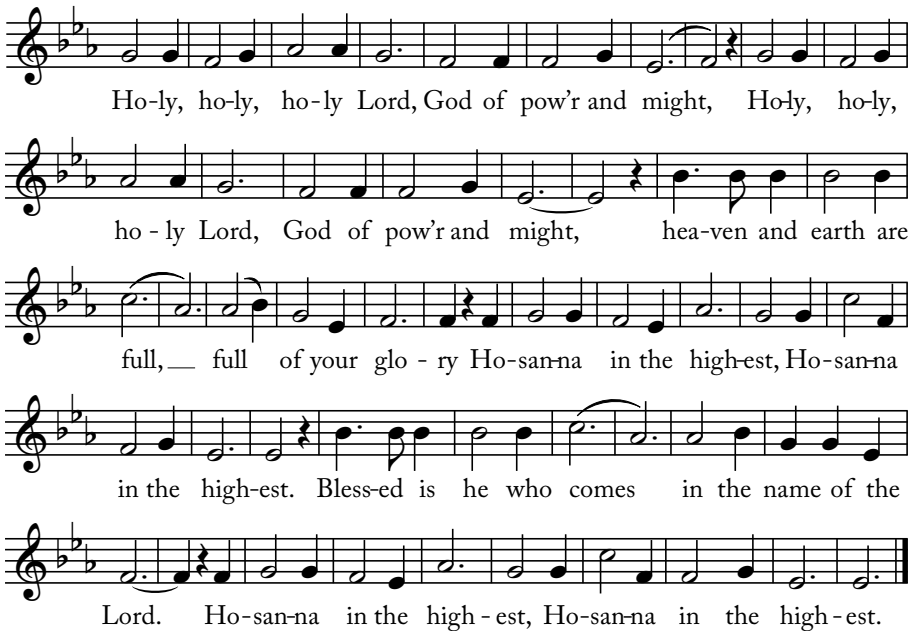
People **We lift them up to the LORD.**

Minister Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

¶ *The Minister prays, concluding with*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, Ho-ly, ho-ly,
ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, hea-ven and earth are
full, full of your glo-ry Ho-san-na in the high-est, Ho-san-na
in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Music: from *Deutsche Messe*, 1826 | Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

¶ *The Minister offers prayers and gives thanks.*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

¶ *All baptized believers, along with their baptized children, are invited to partake of the Sacrament by proceeding up to the front (as directed by the ushers) to receive the elements. Gluten-free wafers are available at the center station.*

During the distribution of the elements, the People sing the following hymns.

N^o 200 It Came upon the Midnight Clear

N^o 227 On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

Still, Still, Still (*traditional Austrian carol, below*)

Still, still, still,
let all the earth be still.

For Mary, in her arms enfolding,
hope of all the world is holding.

Still, still, still,
let all the earth be still.

Sing, sing, sing,
sweet angel voices sing.

While Jesus lies in manger dreaming
seraph choirs from heaven are streaming.

Sing, sing, sing,
sweet angel voices sing.

Light, light, light,
let all the earth be light.

The holy star, its news ablazing;
sign of hope for nations raising.

Light, light, light,
let all the earth be light.

Wake, wake, wake,
all Adam's children wake.

O kneel at Jesus' feet, adoring,
worship, honor, praise outpouring.

Wake, wake, wake,
all Adam's children wake.

¶ *When all have been served, the People stand*

HYMN

N^o 218 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

¶ *The People sit or may leave quietly as a joyous work is played upon the organ. Please be respectful of those listening to the postlude in the sanctuary or via the livestream.*

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

SERVICE LEADERS AND PARTICIPANTS

Mark Booker, *Senior Minister*

Nathan Skinner, *Director of Music*

PREACHER Adam Herndon, *Minister to Families and Youth*

ASSISTING MINISTER Michael Balboni, *Associate Minister*

ELDER Lyford Beverage

LAY READER Jill VanderWoude

MUSICIANS The Sanctuary Choir; Dan Schmunk, *Director of Choral Music*

Jessica Kelley, *soprano*

Charles Jones & Isaac Bergner, *trumpet*

Michael Bellofatto, *horn*

Kevin A. Virgilio, *trombone*

Casey Voss, *timpani*

A complete staff directory can be found at www.parkstreet.org/about-us/staff/



PARK STREET CHURCH
Evangelical. Congregational. International.