

Welcome to Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church for this special Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. We extend a warm greeting to each of you and hope your time with us will be a meaningful way for you to celebrate the birth of God's Son, Jesus Christ.

Christmas is the celebration of God taking on human form and coming to earth through the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ. God's advent in Jesus was for the specific purpose of making atonement for sin through Christ's sacrificial death on the cross, offering forgiveness to all who would accept it by faith as His gift, and restoring men and women to a right and eternal relationship with their Creator and Lord.

Christmas means that real peace and hope is possible for all who find it in Jesus and place their trust in Him as Savior and Lord. This is the Gospel, the good news. This is why we celebrate Jesus' birth. His coming is God's proclamation of love for us and commitment to our eternity with Him.

It is our hope that you know the true peace and hope that Jesus came to bring. It is our hope that you know the true glory of Christmas in your heart by faith. It is our hope that this year you will enjoy an uncommon closeness to the Savior who came to earth for you and that this experience tonight will aid you in your adoration of "the newborn King."

If during this holiday season or at any time of the year you believe the staff or members of the Beverly Heights Church may be able to serve you in some way, please do not hesitate to contact us. We would consider such an opportunity a privilege and we welcome such inquiries.

Merry Christmas to All!

Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (E.P.C.) that has worshipped God and served the community on this site since its founding in 1929. The church is comprised of over 300 members spanning the age spectrum from those in the nursery to those living in local assisted living settings. The life and ministry of the church is focused on five ministry essentials by which we decide the right things for our congregation to engage: worship, discipleship, fellowship, missions and stewardship.

Worship is considered Job #1 for believers at Beverly Heights, and weekly corporate worship is enjoyed in two Sunday worship services: Early Morning Worship (8:30 AM) which is contemporary in style and Late Morning Worship (11:00 AM) which is traditional. Between the two services (10:00 AM), a full range of Christian Education is offered to children and adults alike.

If you are interested in receiving more information about Beverly Heights, we invite you to visit our website at www.beverlyheights.org or to call the church office and speak with our administrative assistant, Amy Lucas. She can be reached at 412-561-5100.

We wish you and your family a most blessed Christmas season!

Beverly Heights Church ♦ 1207 Washington Road ♦ Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228
412-561-5100 www.beverlyheights.org



Christmas Eve

Lessons, Carols and the Celebration of Light

Thursday, December 24, 2020 * 9:00 PM
Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church * Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania

Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor
Rev. Dr. Richard G. Wolling, Pastor Emeritus
Mr. Peter Chace, Director of Next Generation Ministries
Valerie Stipcak, guest organist

A warm welcome is given to all who come into this place for worship tonight! We pray that a new freshness will accompany your celebration tonight so that the wonder of Jesus’ coming to earth for you and for your salvation will fill you with awe as if you have heard this good news for the very first time. Rejoice! Jesus is born!

ORDER OF WORSHIP		
Prelude	Christmas Carol Selections	Various
Introit	Festive Trumpet Tune Chad Winkler, trumpet; Valerie Stipcak, organist	German
Pastoral Greeting and Prayer of Invocation		Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor
Carol No. 225	vv. 1, 2, 4, 5	Once in Royal David's City
Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed, Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child. He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all, And His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall: With the poor, and mean, and lowly, Lived on earth our Savior holy. And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own redeeming love; For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav’n above, And He leads His children on To the place where He is gone. Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by, We shall see Him, but in heaven, set at God’s right hand on high; When like stars His children crowned All in white shall wait around.		

THE PROPHECIES		
Special Music	The First Noel Anne Davis, Cindy Egeland, Elizabeth Sikes, flutes	arr. Shipley
First Lesson	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; 11:1-9 “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone... For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”	
Carol No. 208	vv. 1-4	O Come, All Ye Faithful
O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him born the King of angels; Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord. God of God, Light of Light; Lo, He abhors not the Virgin’s womb: Very God, begotten, not created; Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heav’n above; Glory to God, all glory in the highest; Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning: Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv’n; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;		
Second Lesson	Luke 1:26-35 “And the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.’”	

THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD

Special Music *O Holy Night* arr. Coleman
Holly Devlin, soprano; Elissa Winkler, mezzo-soprano; Chad Winkler, piano

Third Lesson Luke 2:1-7
*“And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth.
And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths
and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.”*

Carol **No. 214** vv. 1-3 *Angels We Have Heard on High*
**Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.**
Refrain: **Glo-ria in excelsis Deo, Glo-ria in excelsis Deo.**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heav’nly song?**

**Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.**

THE ADORATION OF THE SHEPHERDS

Fourth Lesson Luke 2:8-20
*“When the angels went away from them into heaven,
the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go over to Bethlehem
and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.’
And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.
And when they saw it they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.
And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.”*

Carol vv. 1-6 *The First Noel*

**The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay a-keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night that was so deep.**

Refrain: **Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.**

**And by the light of that same star, three Wise Men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.**

**This star drew nigh to the northwest; o’er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay.**

**Then entered in those Wise Men three, fell reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in His presence, their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.**

**Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven and earth of naught, and with His blood mankind hath bought.**

Fifth Lesson Matthew 2:1-11
*“And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was.
When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceeding with great joy.”*

Special Music *Gesù Bambino* arr. Yon
Anne Martindale Williams, cello; Chad Winkler, piano
*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.*

*O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,
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 ev'ry voice acclaim His name, the grateful chorus swell.
From paradise to earth He came that we with Him might dwell.*

THE CELEBRATION OF LIGHT

Carol No. 203 vv. 1-3 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th' angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Diety,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.

From Darkness to the Passing of Light Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor

Carol No. 210 vv. 1, 3, 4 Silent Night

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing alleluia to our King;
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Christmas Prayer

Carol No. 195 vv. 1-4 Joy to the World!

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, 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, far as the curse is found,
Far as, 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 of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Benediction

Postlude Angels We Have Heard On High arr. Albrecht
He Is Born arr. Hudson

Please place used candles and cups on the tables at the exits.

For those who would like to contribute to a Christmas offering,
red boxes may be found at the front exits following worship tonight.

Sunday, December 27

Services at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Please join us as we gather together for worship.

Merry Christmas!