



The United Parish in Brookline

American Baptist • United Church of Christ • United Methodist



The Night Visitors by Janet McKenzie, Collection of Mepkin Abbey

A Festival of Lessons and Carols Christmas Eve

December 24, 2021
Prelude 6:30pm • Worship 7:00pm

Concert Prelude

Music by Members of the United Parish in Brookline

Chiming of the Trinity

Lighting the Christ Candle

One: We have been waiting and watching,

All: With candles of hope, peace, love and joy;

One: We have been journeying toward Bethlehem,

All: To welcome the Christ child;

One: We have been following a star,

All: That we might behold a miracle;

One: Now on this holy night, let the light of Christ illumine our hearts:

All: O come, let us adore him.

*Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Julian W., Soloist

Verse 1: All

Chancel Choir

Verse 2: Julian W.

TUNE: ADESTE FIDELES

Verses 3 and 4: All

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2. See how the shep - herds sum-moned to the cra - dle, —
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, —
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, —

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
Leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh with low - ly fear;
Sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heav'n a - bove;
Je - su, to thee be glo - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold him born the King of An - gels:
We too will thi - ther bend our joy - ful foot - steps:
Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry in the high - est:
Word of God, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

O come let us a - dore him, O come let us a - dore him, O

come let us a - dore him Christ the Lord.

Greetings

Amy Norton and Kent French
Associate and Senior Pastors

Carol

Once in Royal David's City
Verse 1: Penelope D.
Verse 2: Choir
Verses 3 and 4: All Stand and Sing

Choir, Congregation
Penelope D., Soloist
TUNE: IRBY

The musical score is written for a soloist and a choir/congregation. It features a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are arranged in four verses, with the soloist singing the first and the choir/congregation singing the others. The lyrics are: Verse 1: Solo 1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a low - ly cat - tle shed, Verse 2: Choir 2. He came down to earth from hea - ven who is God and Lord of all, Verse 3: All sing 3. For he is our child - hood's pat - tern, day by day like us he grew, Verse 4: All sing 4. And our eyes at last shall see him through his own re - deem - ing love, Where a moth - er laid her ba - by In a man - ger for his bed: And his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall. He was lit - tle weak and help less, Tears and smiles like us he knew. For that child so dear and gen - tle, is our Lord in heav'n a - bove. Ma - ry was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child. With the poor, and mean and low - ly, live on earth our Sa - vior low - ly. And he feel - eth for our sad - ness, and he shar - eth in our glad - ness. And he leads his chil - dren on to that place where he is gone.

Bidding Prayer

Amy Norton and Kent French

Carol

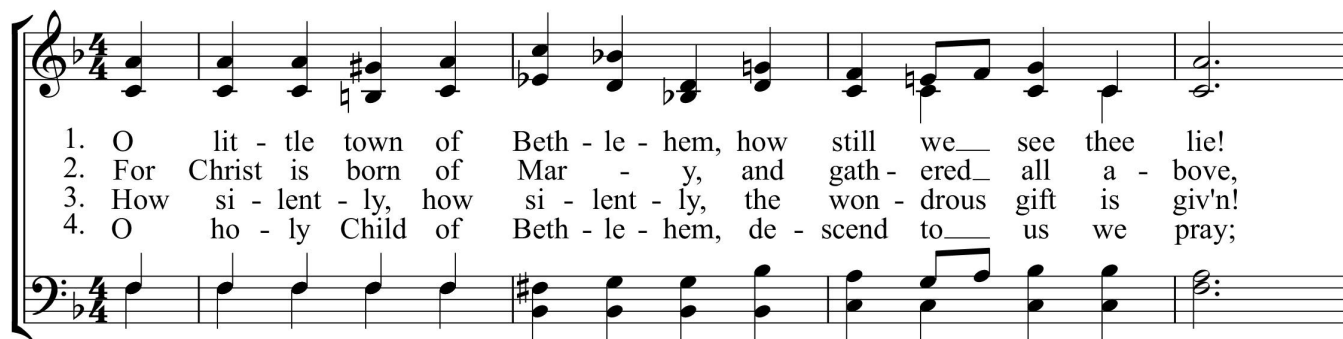
O Little Town of Bethlehem

TUNE: SAINT LOUIS

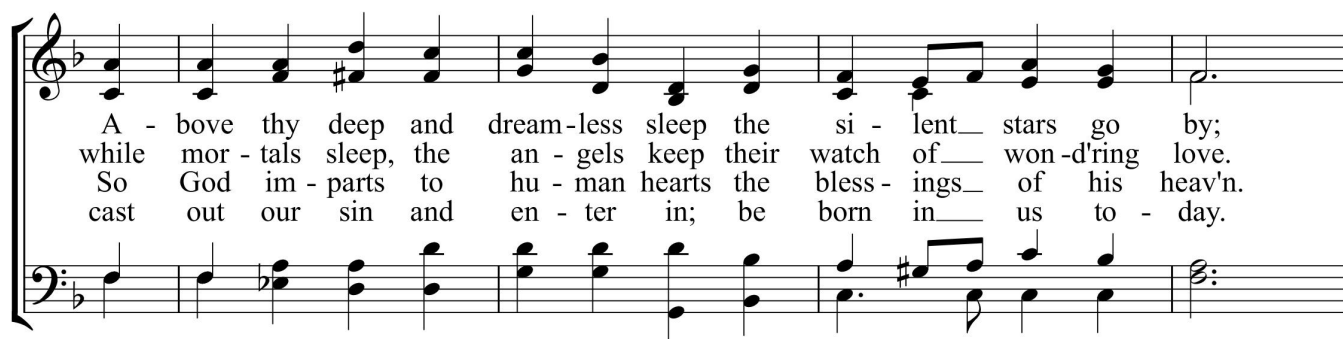
Verse 1: All

Verse 2: Annika McGraw

Verses 3 and 4: All



1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2. For Christ is born of Mar - y, and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 And prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to us on earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

First Lesson

The Annunciation

Luke 1:26-38

Anthem

Christmas Lullaby
by Jason Robert Brown

Merle Perkins

*I'll never have the power to control the land
Or conquer half the world
Or claim the sun
I'll never be the kind who simply waves her hand
And has a million people do
The things I wish I'd done
But in the eyes of heaven
My place is assured
I carry with me heaven's grand design
Glory, Oh,
Glory I will sing the name of the Lord
And He will make me shine
And I will be like Mother Mary
With a blessing in my soul
And I will give the world my eyes
So they can see
And I will be like Mother Mary
With a blessing in my soul
And the future of the world inside of me*

*In the eyes of heaven
My place is assured
I carry with me heaven's grand design
Glory, Oh,
Glory I will sing the name of the Lord
And He will make me shine
And I will be like Mother Mary
With a blessing in my soul
And I will give the world my eyes
So they can see
And I will be like Mother Mary
With a blessing in my soul
And the future of the world inside of me
And I will be like Mother Mary
With the power in my veins
To believe in all the things
I've yet to be
And I will be like Mother Mary
And I'll suffer any pains
For the future of the world
For the future of the world
Inside of me*

Second Lesson

The Birth of Jesus
Luke 2:1-7

Anthem

Mary Had a Baby
Traditional Negro Spiritual
Arranged by William Dawson

Choir
Helen Hassinger, Soloist

*Mary had a baby, my Lord!
Where was He born? Born in a manger.
O, Mary had a baby born in a manger,
Mary had a baby, my Lord.
What did they call Him? "King Jesus."
Oh, Mary had a baby, He was called "King Jesus."
Mary had a Baby, oh, yes!*

*He is called "King Jesus, Mighty Counsellor,
King Emmanuel, Mighty God,
Everlasting Savior, Prince of Peace."
Mary had a baby, my Lord!*

Third Lesson

The Shepherds and Angels
Luke 2:8-20

Carol

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow
Traditional Negro Spiritual
arranged by Joseph Joubert

Choir and
Congregation

Verse 1: Choir

Verse 2: Choir and Congregation

*There's a star in the east on Christmas morn, Rise up, shepherd, and follow,
It will lead to the place where the Christ was born, Rise up, shepherd, and follow,
Follow, follow, follow, follow, Rise up, shepherd, and follow.*

Congregation is invited to join on bolded text

*If you take good heed to the angel's words, **Rise up, shepherd, and follow,**
You'll forget your flocks, you'll forget your herds, **Rise up, shepherd, and follow,**
Follow, follow, follow, follow, **Rise up, shepherd, and follow.***

Fourth Lesson

The Magi
Matthew 2:1-11

Carol

Glory, Glory, Glory to the Newborn King
Based on the Traditional Negro Spiritual
"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Choir
Nick Duffin, Soloist

With additional words and music by Moses Hogan

*What will we call that pretty little baby?
Baby, born in Bethlehem.
What will we call that pretty little baby?
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.*

*Born this night, the Son of Mary.
Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace.
Glory to the newborn King.
Glory, glory, glory to the newborn King.*

*Where was He born, this pretty little baby?
Down in a lowly manger,
Where His birth was in a stable.
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.*

*Children, go and tell it on the mountain, Lord,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere.
Why don't you go tell it on the mountain, Lord,
That Jesus Christ is born.*

Glory to the newborn King!

Invitation to Offering

Tonight's offering will benefit Kataluma Refugee Hospitality, a faith-based coalition welcoming evacuees, refugees, and asylum seekers to the Greater Boston area, providing them with the safe housing, food and friendship that they need to survive. They seek to establish and support model houses to provide transitional lodgings for newly arrived refugees, including opportunities to help local residents and others learn about and practice hospitality for Afghan refugees. Visit kataluma.org. You can support this and other worthy organizations by participating in our Missions Giving Christmas Market [here](#).

To give to tonight's offering, visit unitedparishbrookline.org/give and select "Special Gift Christmas Offering" or text "UPfamily" to 73256.

Venmo: Search @unitedparishinbrookline. Paypal: Search office@upbrookline.org.

Checks can be made out to "United Parish in Brookline" with "Christmas Eve" in the memo line and sent to 210 Harvard Street, Brookline, MA 02446

A portion of tonight's offering will also go to
[Hamilton-Garrett Center for Music and Arts](#) in Dorchester.

We acknowledge the history and significance of the African American Spirituals,
traditionally called Negro Spirituals, sung in today's worship service.

With great respect and deep gratitude
for the extraordinary musical contributions
made to American music by Black people,
we offer our thanks and praise to God
for the creators of the Negro Spirituals and their descendents.

We pledge that each time we sing the spiritual songs of enslaved Black people in our worship:
We will sing and hear them with holy reverence and open hearts;
We will honor the unnamed musicians who created them;
And we will pay royalties to organizations
promoting the advancement of Black artists and musicians in America,
starting with Hamilton-Garrett Center for Music and Arts.

We understand that the debt owed to Black musicians and artists
can never be fully repaid. Through our prayers, our gifts and our actions,
we strive to do our part in ending systemic racism in America.

Offertory Anthem

Maria Wiegenlied
Music by Max Reger and words by Martin Boelitz

Margot Wegman
Soloist

Mary sits by the rose bower
And rocks her little Jesus,
Softly through the leaves
The warm wind of summer blows.

Your smile is lovely,
Your happy sleep lovelier still,
Lay your tired little head
Against your mother's breast!

A brightly coloured bird
Sings at her feet:
Go to sleep, sweet child,
It's time to go to sleep!

Go to sleep, sweet child,
It's time to go to sleep!

Anthem

O Holy Night
by Adolphe Adam

Choir
Helen Hassinger, Soloist

*O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appear'd and the soul felt its worth.*

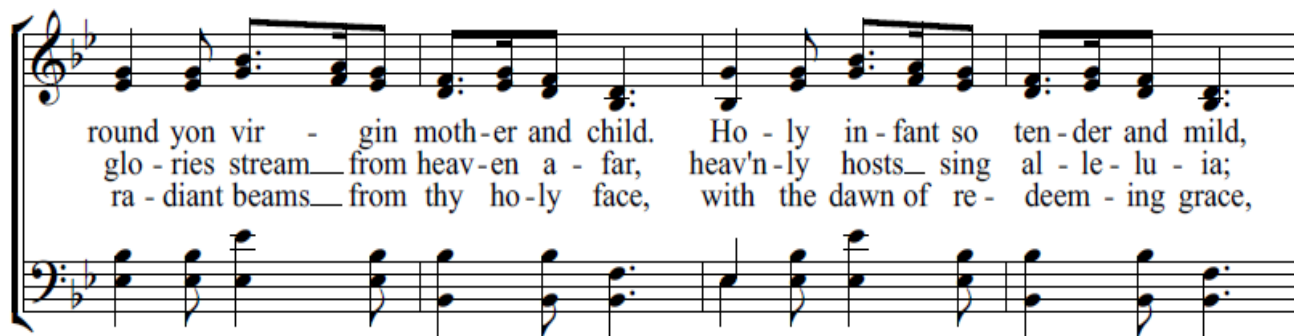
*A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices,
O night divine, O night when Christ was born.*

*Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His Gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother
And in His name all oppression shall cease.*

*Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord, then ever, ever praise we,
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim.*



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep-herds quake at the sight;
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light;



round yon vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild,
glo - ries stream from heav-en a - far, heav'n-ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,



sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
Christ the Sav - ior is born! Christ the Sav - ior is born.
Je - sus, Lord at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord at thy birth.

*Carol

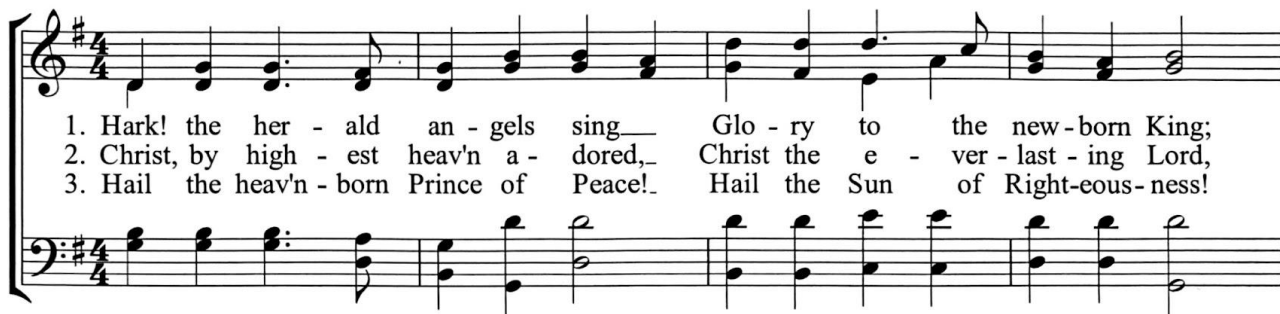
Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

TUNE: MENDELSSOHN

Verse 1: All

Verse 2: Yunus Akbas

Verse 3: All



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing— Glo - ry to the new-born King;
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored,— Christ the e - ver - last - ing Lord,
3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace!— Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild— God and sin - ner re - con - ciled:
Late in time be - hold him come— off-spring of a vir - gin's womb:
Light and life to all he brings,— ris'n with heal - ing in his wings;



Joy - ful all ye na - tions rise,— join the tri-umph of the skies, With th'an-gel - ic
Veiled in flesh the God-head see,— Hail th'in car-nate De - i - ty! Pleased on earth with
mild he lays his glo - ry by,— born that we no more may die,— Born to raise the



host pro - claim, Christ is— born in Beth - le - hem.
us to dwell Je - sus— our Em - ma - nu - el.
souls of earth, born to— give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Glo - ry— to the new-born King.

*Benediction

Kent French

Postlude

Worship Participants

Choir:

Helen Hassinger
Patty Sullivan
Julie Anderson
Amalia Rodine
Penelope Deselms
Deb Hall

Margot Wegman
Holly Vandewall
Beverly Bowman
Barbara Lynch
Merle Perkins

Jim DeSelms
Nick Duffin

Yunus Akbas
David Rockwell
David Lustig
Cy Perkins
Paul Rodine
Eli Segev

WELCOME

We at the United Parish in Brookline believe that all people are made in the image of God and embrace and cherish every person and every kind of family. Jesus Christ welcomed everyone; we seek to follow his example in our own life and worship, by extending God's love and grace abundantly and equally to everyone. We affirm and welcome all people to share in worship, fellowship and leadership with us, to join us in a diversity of race, gender, sexual identity, physical and mental ability, ethnicity and economic means.

We have joined with other Open and Affirming (United Church of Christ) and Welcoming and Affirming (American Baptist Churches USA), as well as with the Reconciling Ministries Network (United Methodist Churches) to declare that we are and will remain open to all people.

We invite you to consider becoming a member of the United Parish family. You may become a member by transferring membership or by a statement of faith. If you desire to retain ties with a former church, we invite you to become an associate or affiliate member for the time you are with us.

We ask that you silence all electronic devices.

Please see an usher if you would like a hearing assistive device.

*Because our building is open to the public,
an adult should accompany children if/when they leave the worship service.*

Ministers
Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Minister of Music
Soprano Choir Section Leader
Alto Choir Section Leader
Tenor Choir Section Leader
Bass Soloist
Seminarian
Multimedia Producer
Parish Administrator
Facilities Manager
Sexton
Sexton
Accounting Administrator
Nursery Supervisor
Nursery Staff
Pastor Emerita

The People of the United Parish
Kent French
Amy Norton
Susan DeSelms
Helen Hassinger
Margot Wegman
Nick Duffin
Yunus Abkas
Thomas A. Mitchell
Teaira Perry
Sarah Fitzpatrick
David Dunphy
Tom Lou
Ed Thompson
Donald Firth
Jenna Bergquist
Katy Lum
Patricia Coughlin



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