

# DONA NOBIS PACEM

## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24, 2023 – 11:00 PM

The Prelude:

“Concerto-Prelude on *Joy to the World*” Paul Fey  
“Pastorale Dance on *On Christmas Night All Christians Sing*” Robin Milford

The Pealing of the Bells

“What Child Is This?” Jeffery A. Hall  
“Three Carols of Comfort and Joy” Lee Dengler  
“Still, Still, Still” Catherine McMichael  
“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came” Catherine McMichael  
“Coventry Carol” Sandra Eithun  
“Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella” Denis Bédard  
“Once in Royal David’s City” Lee Dengler  
“Appalachian Carol” (I Wonder As I Wander) Molly Ijames  
“Ding Dong, Merrily on High” Cynthia Dobrinski  
“Silent Night, Holy Night” Jacobus Kloppers

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: “Come Now, O Prince of Peace”

Geonyong Lee, arr. Larry Visser

*Come now, O Prince of Peace, make us one body. Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile your people. Come now, O God of love, make us one body. Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile your people. Come now, and set us free, O God our Savior. Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile your people. Come, Hope of unity, make us one body. Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile your people. Come now, O Prince of Peace.*

Text: Geonyong Lee, English par. Marion Pope. © 1988 Geonyong Lee.

\*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 76:1-3

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” Verse 3 descant, Sir David Willcocks

\*The Greeting

\*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome and Introduction

## DONA NOBIS PACEM

### PEACE WITH GOD

The Readings: Genesis 3:8-10a

*Flute interlude: Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant us Peace)*

Matthew 1:20-23, Romans 3:21-24

The Anthem: “Come, Sweet Jesus, Come” Mark Spencer Campbell

*Come, sweet Jesus, come as a baby born to Mary, your mother who will carry you here, Lamb of God, born on earth. Come, sweet Jesus, come.*

*Come, dear Joseph, come hold the God of all creation. The Lord of every nation has brought hope to all through his birth. Come, dear Joseph, come.*

*Come, ye shepherds, come hear the choirs of angels praising. The lights of heaven are blazing! O come, let your souls feel their worth! Come, ye shepherds, come.*

*Come now, wise men, come let the star in heaven guide you, that you may testify that the Word is made flesh, God on earth. Come now, wise men, come!*

*Come, Lord Jesus, come in the glory of your Father to save each son and daughter! O come, Lord! Bring peace to the earth! Come, Lord Jesus, come! Come, sweet Jesus, come.*

Mark Spencer Campbell, Copyright ©2020. Used by permission of the composer.

The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 95

“What Child Is This”

### PEACE BETWEEN PEOPLE

The Readings: Genesis 3:11-13

*Flute interlude: Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant us Peace)*

Luke 2:8-14, Ephesians 2:14-15

The Anthem: “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” Neil Harmon

*I heard the bells on Christmas Day their old familiar carols play, and wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, good will to men!*

*And thought how, as the day had come, the belfries of all Christendom had rolled along the unbroken song of peace on earth, good will to men!*

*And in despair I bowed my head; “There is no peace on earth,” I said; “For hate is strong, and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men.”*

*Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: “God is not dead, nor doth he sleep! The Wrong shall fail, the Right prevail, with peace on earth, good will to men.”*

*Till ringing, singing on its way, the world revolved from night to day, a voice, a chime, a chant sublime of peace on earth, good will to men! Peace on earth, good will to men! Amen!*

The Hymn: Worship and Rejoice 191

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

### PEACE WITH NATURAL WORLD

The Readings: Genesis 3:17-19

*Flute interlude: Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant us Peace)*

John 1:1-4, Revelation 21:3-5a

The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 92

“Joy to the World”

### PEACE WITH OURSELVES

The Readings: Genesis 3:9-11

*Flute interlude: Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant us Peace)*

Luke 2:15-20, 1 Corinthians 1:26-30

The Anthem: “Dona Nobis Pacem” from *B Minor Mass*

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Dona nobis pacem.*

(Grant us peace.)

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Reading: Luke 2:1-7

Concluded by...

To us a Child is born, to us a Son is given.

**And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

We Share the Light of Peace

*As a way to share our Christmas peace, we will light individual candles with the light spread from the Christ Candle. When you light your candle, hold it horizontally. When sharing your flame with your neighbor, hold your candle vertically.*

As we hold up our lights we will sing: Lift Up Your Hearts 85

“Silent Night”

Verse 3 descant, Paul S. Jones

Verse 1: All in harmony

Verse 2: All in harmony

Verse 3: All in unison

Verse 4: All in harmony *a cappella*

The Light shines in the darkness

**And the darkness has not overcome it.**

\*The Closing Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 80

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Verse 3 descant, Sir David Willcocks

\*The Benediction

*After the benediction, please extinguish your candles before leaving the sanctuary.*

\*The Postlude: Postlude on *Il est né, le divin Enfant* (He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child) Denis Bédard

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister  
Rachel Thorne – liturgist  
Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist  
Laura Sutherland – flutist  
Christina Leigh Stephenson – cellist  
Bells Jubilate, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director  
Chancel Choir, Dr. Rob Hobgood – director  
David Versluis – Banner Bearer  
Rachel Rynbrandt & Merv Kamper – Cross and Bible Bearer  
David Baatenburg – reader  
Desmond Smith, Everett Smith, Martin Postma – acolytes  
David Versluis – Cover and Banner design

**Your gifts for Bethany Christian Services will be received at the door following the service.** Bethany Christian Services is a Christian adoption and family services agency that manifests the love and compassion of Jesus Christ by protecting and enhancing the lives of children and families through quality social services.

**Christmas Banners at LaGrave:** The primary sanctuary color of Christmas is white, symbolizing the purity and holiness of Jesus. The Christ child born in the manger was truly God and truly man. The only respect in which his humanity differed from you and me is that Jesus was perfect and lived a sinless life. It was that very sinless life that enabled him to take our sins upon himself.

The gold color represents the kingship of Christ. The colors in the banners bring together the First Advent, purple; the birth of Christ, white; and the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent, gold, in the joy and celebration of Christmas. Christ, our King, is born!

