



The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell  
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**December 27, 2020**  
**First Sunday after Christmas Day**

**REFLECTION**

*“It has never been quite enough to say that God is in his heaven and all is right with the world; since the rumor is that God has left his heavens to set it right.” G.K. Chesterton*

**PRELUDE**

*“Ding Dong Merrily! He is Born!”* arr. Anna Laura Page  
*Music from ILLUMINATE (Scott Westenberger)*  
*“Agnus Dei” (arr. Michael W. Smith)*  
*“Midnight Clear” (Chris Tomlin)*

**CAROL SING**

*“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”*  
*Hymn No. 128*

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging, angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new  
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of the gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing greet the morrow:  
Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!

*“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”*  
*Hymn No. 132, St. 2 & 3*

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven’s door, and we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

*“On This Day Earth Shall Ring”*  
*Hymn No. 141, St. 1 & 4*

On this day earth shall ring with the song children sing  
To the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to save us;  
Him the Father gave us.  
Ideo-o-o-o, Ideo-o-o-o,  
Ideo gloria in excelsis deo!  
On this day angels sing; with their song earth shall ring,

Praising Christ, heaven's King, born on earth to save us;  
Peace and love he gave us.  
Ideo-o-o-o, Ideo-o-o-o,  
Ideo gloria in excelsis deo!

### OPENING PRAYER

**God of Christmas, we give you thanks for a surprising story told in flesh and blood and repeated across the centuries as sustaining good news. Help us move from receptive thankfulness to an active sharing of the Christmas message. With Mary, keep us ready to welcome your presence with an openness of faith. With Joseph give us the trust that overcomes our hesitancy in doing your will. With Simeon, help us thank you that Jesus came as a light for revelation to the nations. Enable us to grow with the Bethlehem child, expanding our love for you in ways that make our deeds every day the expression of our faith. Amen.**

**CAROL No. 114, St. 3**

*“Away in a Manger”*

CRADLE SONG

Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**PSALM OF THE DAY**

*Psalm 148*

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

arr. Jack Schrader

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

*Isaiah 61:10 – Isaiah 62:3*

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Music from ILLUMINATE (Scott Westenberger)*

*“Perfect Light” (Chris Tomlin & David Crowder)*

**GOSPEL READING**

*Luke 2:22-35*

**SERMON**

*“Waiting with Simeon”*

Rev. William Schram

**CAROL No. 129, St. 1 & 2**

*“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”*

ES ST EIN' ROS'

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung.  
Of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.  
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright she bore for us a Savior,  
When half spent was the night.

### PASTORAL PRAYER & 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 daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**CAROL No. 123, St. 1 & 5**

*“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”*

CAROL

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to all, from heaven’s all gracious King:”  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,  
When with the evercircling years shall come the time foretold,  
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world give back the song, which now the angels sing.

**BENEDICTION**

**CAROL**

*“Auld Lang Syne”*

Billy Slater, Viola

Should auld acquaintance be forgot  
And never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot  
And days of auld lang syne?  
For auld lang syne, my dear  
For auld lang syne  
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet  
For days of auld lang syne

**POSTLUDE**

*“Go Tell It On the Mountain”*

arr. Brent Olstad

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Rev. William Schram  
Rev. Barbara Piercy  
Susan Jones  
Paul Salierno, Cantor  
Scott Westenberger (Songs from ILLUMINATE)  
Jessica Goodson, Flute  
Billy Slater, Viola  
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers