

Proclaiming Christ | Delighting in His Grace | Sharing in His Mission

WELCOME

PRELUDE

“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”
Fred Markey, organ

Paul Manz

*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT

“Ye Gates, Lift Up Your Heads”

St. George’s Edinburgh



Ye gates lift up your heads on high; ye
doors that last for ay — be lift-ed up, that — so the King of —
glo - ry en - ter may! But who of glo - ry is the
King? The might-y Lord is this, Ev'n that same Lord, that
great — in — might — and strong in bat-tle is. Ev'n that same Lord, that
great — in — might — and strong — in — bat - tle — is.
Al - le-lu - ia!
A - men, A - men, A - men.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*HYMN NO. 131

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

Regent Square

SENIOR PASTOR Dr. Todd M. Smedley

PASTORS Rev. Corey Gray | Rev. Ron Meyer | Rev. Thomas Myrick | Dr. Robert Norris

*Celebration Choir; Rhoya Didden, conducting
Celebration String Ensemble; Susan Fuller, director
Joel Fuller, violin; Traci Klemm, piano*

O come, little children, O come, one and all,
O come to the cradle in Bethlehem's stall
And see what the Father in heaven above
Has sent us tonight as a proof of his love.

O see in the manger, in hallowed light
A star throws its beam on this holiest sight
In clean swaddling clothes lies the Heavenly Child,
More lovely than angels this Baby so mild.

The congregation is invited to join in singing:

O come, little children, O come, one and all,
O come to the cradle in Bethlehem's stall
And see what the Father in heaven above
Has sent us tonight as a proof of his love.

***DECLARATION OF FAITH—THE APOSTLES CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 623

“Gloria Patri”

Greatorex

SHARING OF FAMILY NEWS

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

8:00 *Rev. Ron Meyer*

9:30 *Rev. Thomas Myrick*

11:00 *Rev. Corey Gray*

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Isaiah 7:10–17

page 572, pew Bible

8:00 *The Frerichs Family*

9:30 *The Bachman Family*

11:00 *Kent Talbert*

*HYMN

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Cranham

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heav'n cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But his mother only, in her maiden bliss,
Worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

GIVING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

8:00 *Skip Gnehm*

9:30 *Bob Reiter*

11:00 *John Ritterpusch*

OFFERTORY

“Love Came for Me”

Shannon Wexelberg

Lisa Jefferys, soprano; Brian Alvarez, piano

If you had not come, tender baby King,
And humbly left your throne, to reach someone like me,
If you had not walked, upon this broken ground,
Where on earth would I be now?
If you had not come.

If you had not come, to seek the sick and lame,
To set the captive free, to break the prisoner’s chains,
I’d still be in the dark, grappling for the door,
Longing for some way, somehow.

Love came for me, Love rescued me.
Love called my name, Love took my place.
Sweet Lamb of God, I’m bowing down
My eyes have seen, I’m finally free,
Love came for me.

If you had not come, willing, spotless Lamb,
My sin would be too much, for you to take me as I am,
But, oh, the blood of Christ, that washes over me,
Flowing from your hands, your feet.
I don’t have to worry where I’d be.

This manger King, my everything,
Love came for me.

11:00 PRAYER FOR CHILDREN & DISMISSAL

Children K–3rd grade may come forward. If you are new to our church, please accompany your child.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 1:1–4

page 886, pew Bible

SERMON

“The Miracle of Manifestation”
2nd in the series, “The Miracles of Christmas”

Dr. Todd M. Smedley

*HYMN NO. 127

“Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne”

Margaret

*BENEDICTION

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”
**Congregation standing as able*

Wilbur Held/Myron Roberts

An Elder and Women's Ministry representative are available for prayer or ministry at the front of the Sanctuary at the conclusion of each service.

Sanctuary flowers are a ministry of the Flower Committee.

The morning worship service is broadcast each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. locally on WAVA 105.1 FM and streaming at wava.com.

Hearing enhancement units are available for checkout in the Media Center or ask an usher for assistance.

A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

This Evening and next Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

Sanctuary doors open at 5:00 p.m.

Meditation by Dr. Todd Smedley

With choirs and full orchestra, Scripture readings and Christmas carols.

While no childcare is provided this evening, there is a live feed of Lessons and Carols in Room 210 for parents who need to care for their children ages three and under.

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 17

MORNING SERVICE

8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

"The Miracle of the Method"

Hebrews 2:10-18

Dr. Todd M. Smedley

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

General Giving

Annual Budget \$ 4,706,216

Year to Date Received \$ 3,812,772