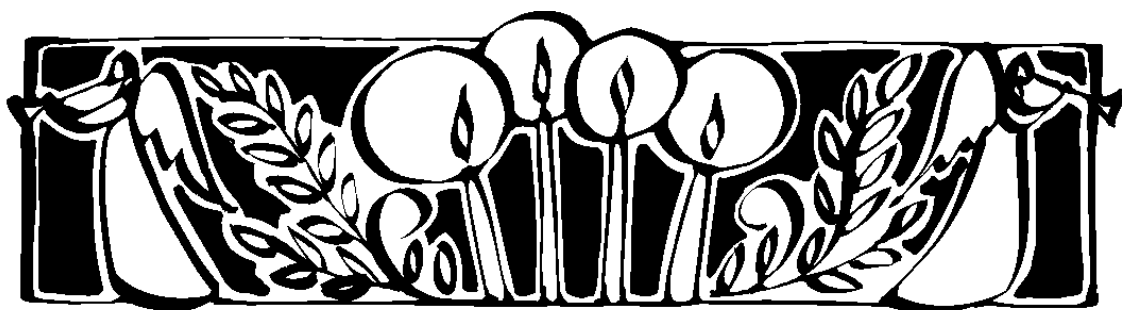




*Seeking the peace and well-being of the city*

December 28, 2025 11:00 a.m.

First  
Sunday after  
Christmas



## PRELUDE

I'll Be Home / O Little Town of Bethlehem

arr. N. Olanday

## GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

## CALL TO WORSHIP

## \*PROCESSIONAL CAROL

Angels We Have Heard on High

REGENT SQUARE

1 An - gels we have heard on high sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem, and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o back their joy - ous strains.  
Say, what may the ti - dings be which in - spire your heaven - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, featuring a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are provided for each part, with the first three lines of the carol and the final line of the verse.

*Refrain*

F Dm Gm7 C Fmaj7 Bb  $\frac{C}{E}$  C

Glo - - - - - ri - a

$\frac{F}{A}$  C F Bb  $\frac{F}{C}$  C F Dm Gm7 C

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - - - - -

Fmaj7 Bb  $\frac{C}{E}$  C  $\frac{F}{A}$  C F Bb  $\frac{F}{C}$  C7 F

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

WORDS and MUSIC: French carol, 18th c.

GLORIA  
7.7.7.7.Ref.

## **\*INVOCATION AND 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 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Saviour God,  
in this happy season, we who are warm and well fed,  
comfortable and entertained,  
often miss those who are struggling.  
Sometimes we ourselves put on bright smiles  
to mask worry or pain.

Forgive us for our lack of care for others,  
and ourselves.

Holy Shepherd,  
give us wisdom to recognize your voice  
however we might hear it,  
and whoever might speak it,  
whether it's a shout from an angel choir  
or a whisper in a dream.

And help us trust you  
through life's unexpected twists and turns.  
Amen.

*(Silence for personal confession and reflection)*

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

## \*GLORIA PATRI

R. Goodson

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and  
Ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## FIRST READING

Psalm 148

Read from the NRSV Bible

Response to the reading: **"Thanks be to God"**

## RESPONSIVE READING

One: O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

**Many: We wonder as we wander out under the sky,**

One: Come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem!

**Many: Why children in that town were sentenced to die?**

One: Come and behold him, born the king of angels!

**Many: And poor ordinary people like you and like I**

One: O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him!

**Many: Must wonder as we wander, out under the sky.**

One: O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

**All: Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.**

## \*CAROL OF PRAISE

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

The image shows a musical score for the carol 'It Came Upon the Midnight Clear'. It features a treble and bass staff in 6/8 time, with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. Above the treble staff, the following chords are indicated: Bb, Bb+ Eb/Bb, Bb, F9/A, Bb, Eb, Eb/G, C7/G, C7, and F. Below the staves, the lyrics are written in three parts:

1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-rious song of old,  
2 Still through the clo-ven skies they come, with peace-ful wings un-furled,  
3 For lo, the days are has-tening on, by proph-ets seen of old,

N.C. B $\flat$  B $\flat$ +  $\frac{E\flat}{B\flat}$  B $\flat$   $\frac{F9}{A}$  B $\flat$   $\frac{B\flat}{D}$  E $\flat$  F7 B $\flat$

from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
and still their heaven - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world;  
when, with the ev - er - cir - cling years, shall come the time fore - told,

N.C. D  $\frac{D}{C}$   $\frac{Gm}{B\flat}$  D Gm  $\frac{Gm}{B\flat}$   $\frac{F}{C}$  C7 F

"Peace on the earth, good-will to all, from heaven's all gra - cious King":  
a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - ering wing,  
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,

F7 B $\flat$  B $\flat$ +  $\frac{E\flat}{B\flat}$  B $\flat$   $\frac{F9}{A}$  B $\flat$   $\frac{B\flat}{D}$  E $\flat$  F7 B $\flat$

the world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
and ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

# CHILDREN'S BLESSING

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### \*CAROL OF MEDITATION

In the Bleak Midwinter

CRANHAM



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;  
3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,  
4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

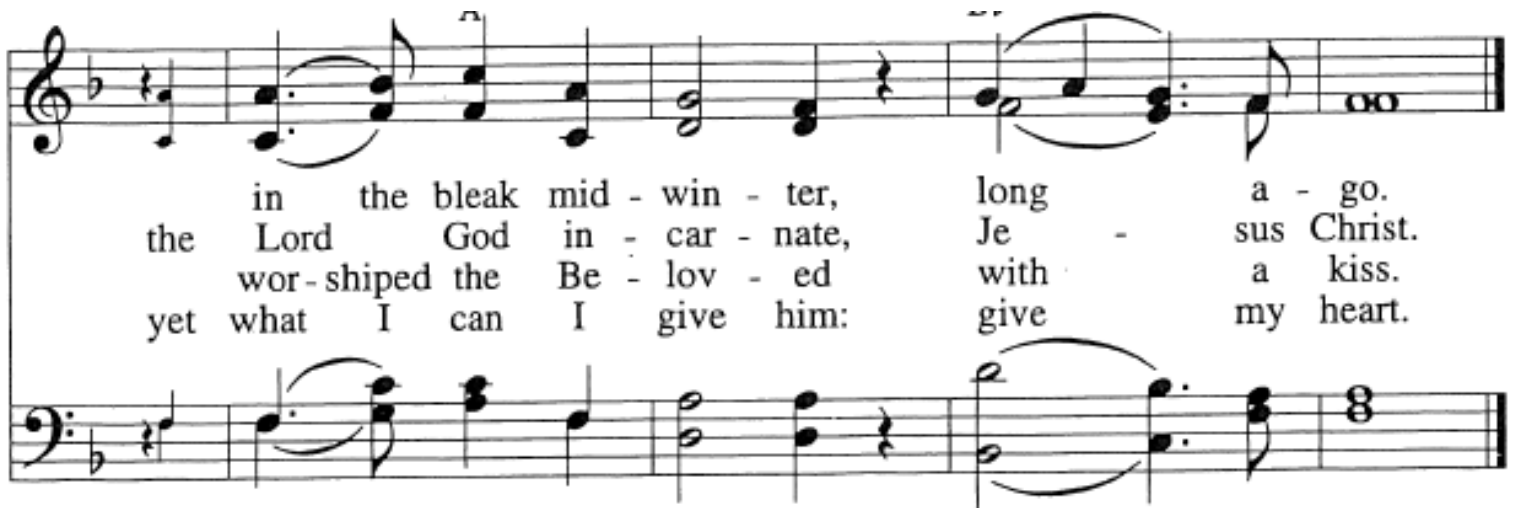


earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:  
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim thronged the air;  
If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed  
but his moth - er on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,  
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;





WORDS: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)  
MUSIC: Gustav T. Holst (1874-1934)

## SECOND READING

Matthew 2:13-23

Read from the NRSV Bible

Response to the reading: **"Thanks be to God"**

## SERMON

Rev. Jeremy Keay

*(Silence for personal reflection)*

## CELEBRATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### Offertory

Silent Night

arr. N. Olanday

### \*Offertory Response

So, bring him incense, gold and myrrh,  
come peasant, king, to own him;  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone him.

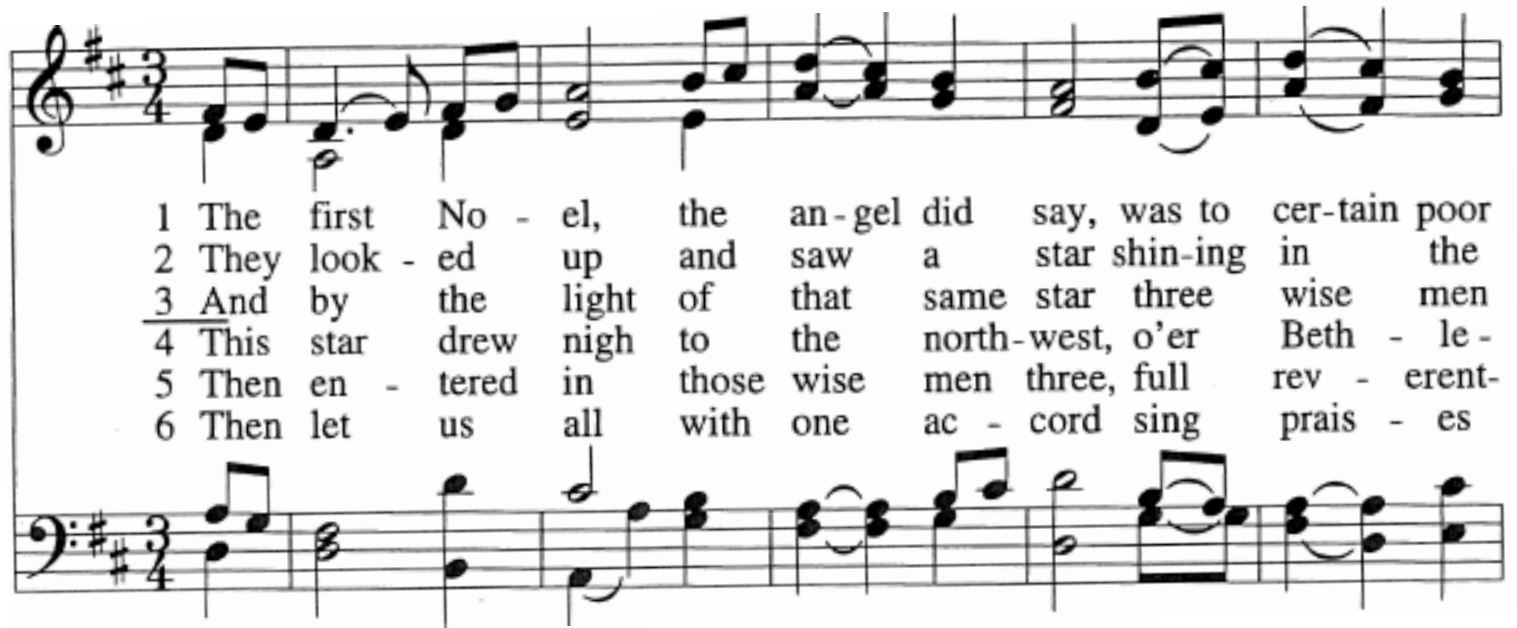
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

### \*Prayer of Gratitude

# \*CAROL FOR THE JOURNEY

## The First Noel

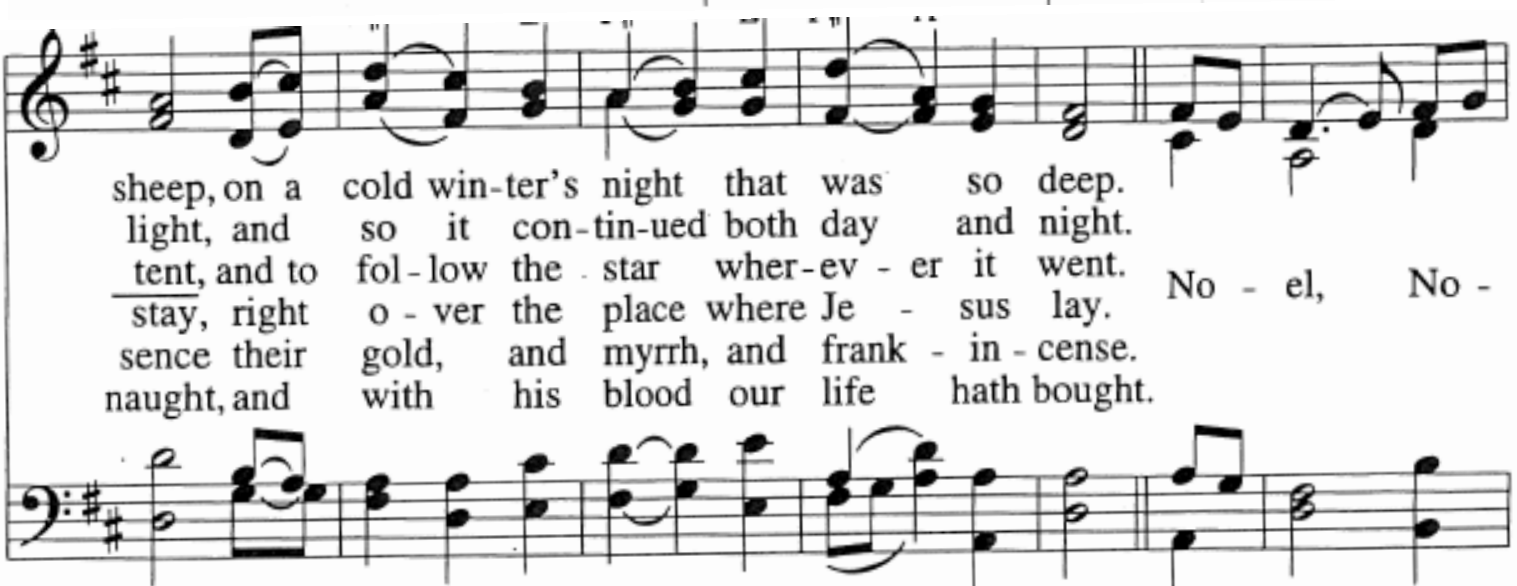
## THE FIRST NOEL



1 The first No - el, the an - gel did say, was to cer - tain poor  
2 They look - ed up and saw a star shin - ing in the  
3 And by the light of that same star three wise men  
4 This star drew nigh to the north - west, o'er Beth - le -  
5 Then en - tered in those wise men three, full rev - erent -  
6 Then let us all with one ac - cord sing prais - es



shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keep - ing their  
east, be - yond them far, and to the earth it gave great  
came from coun - try far, to seek for a king was their in -  
hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop and  
ly up - on their knee, and of - fered there in his pres -  
to our heav - en - ly Lord, who hath made heaven and earth of



sheep, on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.  
light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No -  
stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.  
sence their gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.  
naught, and with his blood our life hath bought.





WORDS: English carol

MUSIC: W. Sandys' Christmas Carols, 1833; arr. John Stainer (1840-1901)

### **\*THE BLESSING OF THE COMMUNITY**

**Leader:** May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

### **\*The Sending of the Community**

#### **\*Congregational Amen**

*The service of the church into the world -- begins again this week*

### **POSTLUDE**

Got Tell It / Jesus What a Wonderful Child /

Happy Birthday Medley arr. N. Olanday

### **\*Please stand, as you are able**

We are grateful for those who serve with us today:

Leading Worship and Prayers of the People - Gordon Dinwoodie;

Writing Confession Prayer & Responsive Reading - Liz Grinevitch;

Scripture Reading - Jack Barker, Matt Barker;

Guest Pianist - Nathan Olanday;

Video & Sound Technician - Evan Adnams.

**FBC Ministry Team:**

Rev. Jeremy Keay, Minister of Youth, Young Adults, Outreach

Dawn Stiles, Minister of Children and Families

Dr. Evelyn Grieger, Minister of Music

Jerrold Eilander, Organist / Choir Accompanist

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*As we attempt to provide comfortable spaces for all and we have some members who have severe scent sensitivities, we ask that people refrain from wearing perfumes and colognes on Sunday morning to church. Thank you for helping us care for one another.*

*— FBC Council*