

**Prelude**

*Ubi Caritas*

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.  
Exsulemus, et in ipso jucundemur.  
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.  
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Simul ergo cum in unum congregamur:  
Ne nos mente dividamur, caveamus.  
Cessent iurgia maligna, cessent lites.  
Et in medio nostri sit Christus Deus.

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Simul quoque cum beatis videamus,  
Glorianter vultum tuum, Christe Deus:  
Gaudium quod est immensum, atque probum,  
Saecula per infinita saeculorum.  
Amen.

Where charity and love are, God is there.  
The love of Christ has gathered us into one.  
Let us exult, and in him let us rejoice.  
Let us fear and love the living God,  
And from the heart let us love each other sincerely.

Where charity and love are, God is there.  
Therefore, when we are gathered together in one,  
Lest we be divided in mind, let us beware.  
Let malicious quarrels cease, let contentions cease,  
and in our midst let Christ be God.

Where charity and love are, God is there.  
Let us also behold, together with the blessed ones,  
Exultantly, your face, Christ God:  
[May there be] Joy that is immense and good,  
Through unending ages of ages.  
Amen.

## **Apostolic Greeting**

- \* **God's Call to Worship** Psalm 24:7-10

Lift up your heads, O gates!

**And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**

Who is this King of glory?

**The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!**

Lift up your heads, O gates!

**And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**

Who is this King of glory?

**The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!"**

- \* **Hymn of Praise** *Star in the East*  
(Also known as "Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning")  
Choir only verses 1 & 3, Congregation verses 2 & 4

- \* **Prayer of Adoration**

- \* **Affirmation of Faith** Heidelberg Catechism

Q1. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own,

but belong—

body and soul,

in life and in death—

to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,

and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.

He also watches over me in such a way

that not a hair can fall from my head

without the will of my Father in heaven;

in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him,

Christ, by his Holy Spirit,

assures me of eternal life

and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready

from now on to live for him.

- \* **Confession of Sin**

Almighty God and Father, we confess to you,

to one another, and to the whole company of heaven,

that we have sinned, through our own fault,

in thought, and word, and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins,  
and by the power of your Holy Spirit  
raise us up to serve you in newness of life,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

\* **Assurance of Pardon**

Matthew 11:28-30

<sup>28</sup> Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

\* **Hymn of Thanks #295**

*Song of Simeon  
Trinity Psalter Hymnal*

**Reading of God's Word**

Genesis 1

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

<sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup> And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." <sup>7</sup> And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup> And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>11</sup> And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The earth

brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

<sup>14</sup> And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. <sup>16</sup> And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup> And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup> to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup> And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." <sup>21</sup> So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." <sup>23</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. <sup>25</sup> And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

<sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." <sup>29</sup> And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. <sup>31</sup> And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

### **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.

### **\* Hymn of Preparation #226**

*As with Gladness Men of Old*

### **Prayer for Illumination**

#### **Reading of God's Word**

John 1:1-5; 20:24-31; 21:20-25

John 1:1-5

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 20:24-31

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his

hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

<sup>26</sup> Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

### John 21:20-25

<sup>20</sup> Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, “Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?” <sup>21</sup> When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about this man?” <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!” <sup>23</sup> So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?”

<sup>24</sup> This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

<sup>25</sup> Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

**Preaching of God’s Word**

Pastor Landow

“The Disciple Whom Jesus Loved”

**Prayer of Commitment and Dedication**

\* **Hymn of Response**

*The First Noel*

\* **God's Commission and Blessing**

\* **Closing Response of Praise #734**

*Gloria Patri*

\* **Postlude**

\*Please stand as you are able.



## Song of Simeon

295

1. Now may your ser - vant, Lord, ac - cord - ing to your Word,  
 2. O Lord, you did pre - pare for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where

de - part in ex - al - ta - tion. My peace shall be se - rene,  
 a Light for rev - e - la - tion, and ra - diant glo - ry shall

for now my eyes have seen your won - der - ful sal - va - tion.  
 the gloom of death dis - pel for Is - ra - el, your na - tion.

Luke 2:29-32  
 Dewey Westra, 1931; alt.

NUNC DIMITTIS 6.6.7.D.  
 Louis Bourgeois, 1551  
 Harm. Claude Goudimel, 1564

Taken from the Trinity Psalter Hymnal © 2017, OPC/URCNA 2016, Used by Permission,  
 Digital License, CCLI License #1284898.

## As with Gladness Men of Old

226

*When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. Matt. 2:10*

1. As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
 2. As with joy-ful steps they sped to that low-ly cra-dle-bed;  
 3. As they of-fered gifts most rare at that cra-dle rude and bare;  
 4. Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day\* keep us in the nar-row way;  
 5. In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright need they no cre-at-ed light;

as with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;  
 there to bend the knee be-fore him whom heav'n and earth a-dore;  
 • so may we with ho-ly joy, pure, and free from sin's al-loy,  
 and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last  
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;

so, most gra-cious God, may we ev-er-more be led to thee.  
 so may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek thy mer-cy seat.  
 • all our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly King.  
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo-ry hide.  
 there for-ev-er may we sing al-le-lu-ias to our King.

William Chatterton Dix, 1860  
 Alt. 1961

DIX 7.7.7.7.7.  
 Conrad Kocher, 1838  
 Arr. by William H. Monk, 1861

# The First Noel

Words: Trad. English carol  
(Luke 2:8-14; Matthew 2:1-12)

Music: Trad. English carol  
Tune: *THE FIRST NOEL*, Irr. with Refrain

D Bm A A<sup>7</sup> D/F<sup>#</sup> G D A<sup>7</sup> D A<sup>7</sup>

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

7 D G A<sup>7</sup> D A<sup>7</sup> D A<sup>7</sup> Bm A A<sup>7</sup>

shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay  
east, be - yond them far; and to the earth it  
came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was  
hem it took its rest; and there it did both  
ly up - on the knee, and of - fered there, in

12 D/F<sup>#</sup> G D A<sup>7</sup> D A<sup>7</sup> D G A<sup>7</sup> D A<sup>7</sup> D

keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.  
gave great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
their in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.  
stop and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.  
his pres - ence, their gold and myrrh and frank - in - cense.

18 A<sup>7</sup> D Bm F<sup>#m</sup> D G A<sup>7</sup> D A

No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el,

22 Bm D/A G D A<sup>7</sup>/E D/F<sup>#</sup> D/A A<sup>7</sup> D

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

## Gloria Patri

734

*Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor  
of his holiness. Ps. 29:2*

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the

The first system of musical notation for the Gloria Patri. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody in the treble staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is

The second system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody with a quarter note D5, followed by quarter notes E5, F#5, and G5. The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

The third system of musical notation. The treble staff concludes the melody with a quarter note A5, followed by quarter notes G5, F#5, and E5. The bass staff concludes the accompaniment.

2nd cent.; tr.

GLORIA PATRI (MEINEKE) Irreg.  
Charles Meineke, 1844