



**METROCREST**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# *The Savior's Birth*



**Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2022**

**Welcome!**

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
To all who mourn and long for comfort;  
To all who struggle and desire victory;  
To all who sin and need a Savior;  
To all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
And to whoever will come –

*This church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome  
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

# Prelude

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## Coventry Carol

Dorian Marble, Joseph Marble, and Colin Deay

## God Calls Us To Worship

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### Responsive Call to Worship from Isaiah 60:1-3

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
**Unison: And the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.**  
Leader: For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
**Unison: And thick darkness the peoples;**  
Leader: But the LORD will arise upon you,  
**Unison: And His glory will be seen upon you.**  
Leader: And nations shall come to your light,  
**Unison: And kings to the brightness of your rising.**

### Acknowledging God's Presence

## We Reflect on Christ's Coming

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### “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Trinity Hymnal #208, verses 1, 3-4

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God in the highest;  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning:  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

## **“The Coming Comfort” – Reading from Isaiah 40:1-5**

### **“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

Trinity Hymnal #203

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th’angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King.”

Christ, by highest heav’n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of the virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail th’incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King.”

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Ris’n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King.”

## **“From the Stump of Jesse” – Reading from Isaiah 11:1-10**

### **“O Holy Night”**

O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of the dear Savior’s birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope – the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.  
Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, the night when Christ was born;  
O night, O holy Night, O night vine!

Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and His gospel is peace.  
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother;  
And in His name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
Let all within us praise His holy name.  
Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever,  
His power and glory evermore proclaim.  
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

## **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

### **“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”**

Trinity Hymnal #200, verses 1, 3-4

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, good will to men,  
From heav’n’s all-gracious King;”  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

And ye, beneath life’s crushing load,  
Whose forms are bending low,  
Who toil along the climbing way  
With painful steps and slow,  
Look now! For glad and golden hours  
Come swiftly on the wing:  
O rest beside the weary road  
And hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hast’ning on,  
By prophet bards foretold,  
When with the ever-circling years  
Comes round the age of gold;  
When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendors fling,  
And the whole world give back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

### **“Jesus’ Family Tree...and Ours” – Sermon from Matthew 1:1-17**

Pastor Bill Lovell

*Sermons can be listened to, or downloaded, through our web site*

### **Lighting of the Candles – Isaiah 9:2, 6**

*The Deacons will light candles for everyone.*

## **Offering of Music – “Fairest Child Divine”**

### **“Silent Night”**

Trinity Hymnal #210, verses 1-3

Silent night! Holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace;  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light,  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

## **“The True Light Has Come” – Reading from John 1:9,12**

### **“Joy to the World! The Lord is Come”**

Trinity Hymnal #195, verses 1-2, 4

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

# We Are Commissioned With God's Blessing

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## Closing Blessing

### Postlude – “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

Olivia Marrs and Joseph Marble

*Please separate your candle from the holder and deposit each in the designated containers as you leave.*

“**Coventry Carol**” Text by Robert Croo, Music anonymous, arr. by Colin Deay. “**O Come, All Ye Faithful**” Words attr. To John Francis Wade, tr. by Frederick Oakeley, music by John Francis Wade. “**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**” Words by Charles Wesley, Music by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, arr. by William H. Cummings. “**O Holy Night**” Words by Placide Cappeau, tr. by John Sullivan Dwight, Music by Adolphe Adam. “**It Came Upon a Midnight Clear**” Words by Edmund H. Sears, Music by Richard S. Willis. “**Fairest Child Divine**” Words by Gerhard Tersteegen, tr. by Catherine Winkworth, music by Sam Fowler. “**Silent Night**” Words by Joseph Mohr, Music by Franz Gruber. “**Joy to the World! The Lord is Come**” Words by Isaac Watts, Music by George Frederick Handel, arr. by Lowell Mason. “**Angels We Have Heard on High**” Traditional French Carol, arr. by Edward S. Barnes, arr. by Colin Deay. CCLI License # 451603.

# Sermon Text

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## English Standard Version - Matthew 1:1-17

1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, 3 and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, 4 and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, 5 and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, 6 and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, 7 and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, 8 and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, 9 and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, 10 and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, 11 and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

12 And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, 13 and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, 14 and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, 15 and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, 16 and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

17 So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

## Greek New Testament - Matthew 1:1-17

1 Βίβλος γενέσεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ υἱοῦ Δαυὶδ υἱοῦ Ἀβραάμ. 2 Ἀβραάμ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰσαάκ, Ἰσαάκ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰακώβ, Ἰακώβ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰούδαν καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς αὐτοῦ, 3 Ἰούδας δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Φάρες καὶ τὸν Ζάρα ἐκ τῆς Θαμάρ, Φάρες δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἑσρώμ, Ἑσρώμ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἀράμ, 4 Ἀράμ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἀμιναδάβ, Ἀμιναδάβ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ναασσών, Ναασσών δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Σαλμών, 5 Σαλμών δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Βόες ἐκ τῆς Ῥαχάβ, Βόες δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰωβηθ ἐκ τῆς Ῥούθ, Ἰωβηθ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰεσσαί, 6 Ἰεσσαί δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Δαυὶδ τὸν βασιλέα. Δαυὶδ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Σολομῶνα ἐκ τῆς τοῦ Οὐρίου, 7 Σολομῶν δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ῥοβοάμ, Ῥοβοάμ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἀβιά, Ἀβιά δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἀσάφ, 8 Ἀσάφ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰωσαφάτ, Ἰωσαφάτ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰωράμ, Ἰωράμ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ὀζιαν, 9 Ὀζίας δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰωθαμ, Ἰωθαμ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἀχάζ, Ἀχάζ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἐζεκίαν, 10 Ἐζεκίας δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Μανασσῆ, Μανασσῆ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἀμώς, Ἀμώς δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰωσίαν, 11 Ἰωσίας δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰεχονίαν καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς αὐτοῦ ἐπὶ τῆς μετοικεσίας Βαβυλώως. 12 Μετὰ δὲ τὴν μετοικεσίαν Βαβυλώως Ἰεχονίας ἐγέννησεν τὸν Σαλαθιήλ, Σαλαθιήλ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ζοροβαβέλ, 13 Ζοροβαβέλ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἀβιούδ, Ἀβιούδ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἐλιακίμ, Ἐλιακίμ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἀζώρ, 14 Ἀζώρ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Σαδώκ, Σαδώκ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἀχίμ, Ἀχίμ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἐλιοῦδ, 15 Ἐλιοῦδ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἐλεάζαρ, Ἐλεάζαρ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ματθάν, Ματθάν δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰακώβ, 16 Ἰακώβ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰωσήφ τὸν ἄνδρα Μαρίας, ἐξ ἧς ἐγεννήθη Ἰησοῦς ὁ λεγόμενος Χριστός. 17 Πᾶσαι οὖν αἱ γενεαὶ ἀπὸ Ἀβραάμ ἕως Δαυὶδ γενεαὶ δεκατέσσαρες, καὶ ἀπὸ Δαυὶδ ἕως τῆς μετοικεσίας Βαβυλώως γενεαὶ δεκατέσσαρες, καὶ ἀπὸ τῆς μετοικεσίας Βαβυλώως ἕως τοῦ Χριστοῦ γενεαὶ δεκατέσσαρες.



# MERRY CHRISTMAS!

1. **Merry Christmas:** Tomorrow, on Christmas Day, we will begin our annual celebration of the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. For twelve days, we will ponder the wonder and mystery of God Incarnate. The season of Epiphany will begin on Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.
2. **Welcome to our Guests!** We are always glad when God brings new friends to be with us at Metrocrest. Please fill out a Welcome card and place it in the collection basket.
3. **Thank You from the Church Staff:** Lisa, Laura, Colin, Joseph and Bill all express sincere thanks for the many Christmas gifts from the MPC family.
4. **Life Change:** Life Change for December goes to support Paul Miller and Metanoia Prison Ministry (a ministry of the PCA through Mission to North America). Their mission is to engage, educate, and equip the church for the discipleship, mentoring, and reintegration of prisoners. The Life Change basket is available at the back of the sanctuary this week.
5. **Year End Giving:** If you have not completed your year-end contributions to the church, they must be placed in the offering basket, given online, or postmarked by **December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022**, to be included on your 2022 giving statement. **Please see Realm for more details**, including how you can give stock. Thank you all for your continued support and generosity.
6. **Church Office Holiday Schedule:** The church office will be closed on Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, for Christmas, and on Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, in observance of New Year's Day.

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**Bill Lovell**  
**Laura Stites**  
**Colin Deay**  
**Will Grover**  
**Joseph Marble**

*Pastor*  
*Administrative Assistant*  
*Director of Music and Worship*  
*Treasurer*  
*Youth Director*

*bill@metrocrestchurch.org*  
*laura@metrocrestchurch.org*  
*colin@metrocrestchurch.org*  
*treasurer@metrocrestchurch.org*  
*joseph@metrocrestchurch.org*



**The Session (Elders)**  
Bill Camp  
Larry Perry  
Paul Hartgrove  
John Fowler

**The Board of Deacons**  
Dalton Dallas  
Will Grover  
Justin Sterenberg  
Josh Wyman