



You Have Found Favor With God

There are moments in our lives when we are crying out for grace, not recognizing that we are getting it. We are not getting the grace of relief or the grace of release, because that is not the grace that we really need. No, what we are getting is something we desperately need, the uncomfortable grace of personal growth and change.

Paul Tripp

ORDER OF WORSHIP | DECEMBER 24, 2023

Hearing support is available. Please, ask an usher, audio technician, or Deacon Norm Marks.

Welcome

PASTOR BARBER

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Prelude — Bright Star (David Burkum; arr. by Don Wyrzten; duet arr. by T. Fettke)

KEVIN and MARGO
BOTBYL

1. Bright star in the night, leading me to the King; bright star in the night, together we're traveling. And for many nights your guiding light has filled my heart with joy. Lead me to the place where I'll see His face, the Promised One who sent you to me, Bright star.
2. Bright star in the night, leading me to the King; bright star in the night, we both have our gifts to bring. In my hands I hold some precious gold with frankincense and myrrh; you have starry streams, you have crystal beams; we'll give Him praise and adoration, Bright star. Star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide me to the perfect light.
3. Bright star in the night, shimmering like a gem. Bright star in the night, you've led me to Bethlehem. I am filled with joy, I see the Boy, His parents by His side; in His presence now, I will humbly bow and worship Him, the King.
O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him; Bright star!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

SIMON ZHOU

❖ **GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP**

PASTOR BARBER

Call to Worship — Psalm 113:1–4 (Pew Bible, p. 647)

Pastor: Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name
of the LORD!

People: Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and
forevermore!

Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is
to be praised!

All: The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the
heavens!

❖ Hymn (Trinity #207) — Good Christian Men, Rejoice (music next page)

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:11

1. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice, with heart and soul and voice;
 2. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice, with heart and soul and voice;
 3. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice, with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

earth and heav'n be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened heav - en's door, and man is bless - ed ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

PASTOR POST

❖ **PRAYER OF INVOCATION (followed by 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 the evil one. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

❖ **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living 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.

❖ **Gloria Patri**

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, amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

Old Testament reading — Isaiah 9:2–7 (Pew Bible, p. 729)

- ² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shone.
- ³ You have multiplied the nation;
 you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

ELDER TODD
METZLER

[continues next page]

4 For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.
5 For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
 and every garment rolled in blood
 will be burned as fuel for the fire.
6 For to us a child is born,
 to us a son is given;
 and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
 and his name shall be called
 Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
7 Of the increase of his government and of peace
 there will be no end,
 on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
 to establish it and to uphold it
 with justice and with righteousness
 from this time forth and forevermore.
 The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. Isaiah 9:2–7 (ESV)

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN
(followed by Private Confession of Sin)

PASTOR POST

O Lord, you have mercy upon all—take away from me my sins, and mercifully kindle in me the fire of your Holy Spirit. Take away from me the heart of stone, and give me a heart of flesh, a heart to love and adore you, a heart to delight in you, to follow and to enjoy you, for Christ’s sake.

Ambrose

Assurance of Pardon

Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

Micah 7:18–19 (Pew Bible, p. 992)

WE LIVE OUT OUR MISSION and PASTORAL PRAYER

WE GIVE TO THE ONE WHO HAS GIVEN US EVERYTHING



You can also give online on our website, through the app Vanco Mobile, or mail a check to the office (if it is for the Deacons Fund, please note on the memo).

Offertory Response — Blessed Be That Maid Mary (Traditional 15th cent.
English Carol; revised by G. R. Woodward; tune from William
Ballet's Lute Book, 16th cent.; arr. John Leavitt)

Blessed be that maid Mary;

Born He was of her body.

Very God ere time began,

Born in time the Son of Man.

Eya! Jesus hodie natus est de Virgine.[†]

Sweet and blissful was the song chanted by the angel throng.

“Peace on earth, alleluia,

In excelsis gloria.”[‡]

Make we merry on this fest,

*In quo Christus natus est,**

On this Child I pray you call,

To assoil and save us all.

Allelu.

[†]Joy, for Jesus today is born of a Virgin

[‡]In the highest, Glory (to God)

^{*}On which Christ was born

❖ Hymn — The First Noel (music next page)

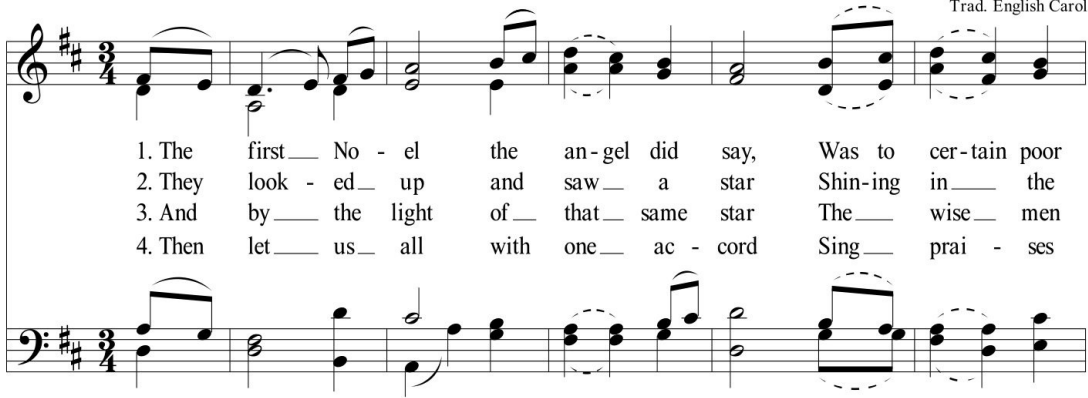
Children are welcome to remain in worship with us. Children 2 and 3 years old may go to Beginner Bible in room 100; children 4 years to 2nd grade may depart during the last verse to the Fellowship Hall for Junior Church.

Parents please pick up children after the service.

CHANCEL and
GRACE AND PEACE
Choirs

The First Noel

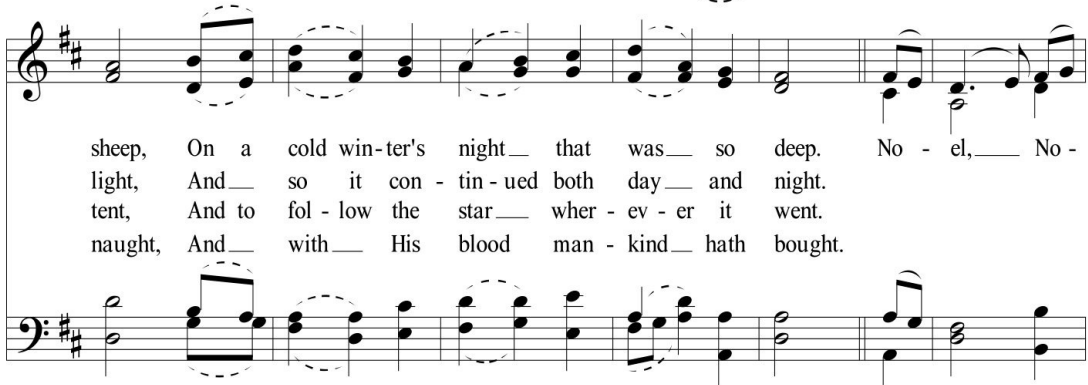
THE FIRST NOEL
Trad. English Carol



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 The wise men
4. Then let us all with one ac - cord Sing prai - ses



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 -
to our hea - ven - ly Lord Who hath made heav'n and earth of



sheep, On a cold win - ter's night that was so deep. No - el, No -
light, And so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
tent, And to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
naught, And with His blood man - kind hath bought.



el, No - el, No - el, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

PASTOR BARBER

GOD EXHORTS THROUGH THE WORD AND WE SING

You Have Found Favor With God — Luke 1:26–38 (Pew Bible, p. 1088)

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.

²⁸And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

³⁵And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:26–38 (ESV)

❖ Hymn (Trinity #195) — Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come
(music next page)

❖ GOD SENDS US OUT WITH HIS BLESSING

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE — Pre-Service Music 5:30PM; 6PM Service;
reception to follow

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Ps. 98:4

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
 2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let men their songs em -
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heav'n and na - ture sing,

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,



OUR MISSION We exist to change lives through sharing Christ.
We carry out this mission in three ways:

GATHER — we gather Christians together to worship God through Jesus Christ

MORNING WORSHIP—10:45AM

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE—6:00pm, Reception to immediately follow the service in Fellowship Hall

DISCIPLE — we make disciples and grow in our relationship with God and each other

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES—9:30AM

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY—Thursdays from 8:00–9:00AM in Room B202 and online. New study: “Created For Worship” by Jason Helopoulos.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP - Resumes January 17, 2024

SEND — we are all Christ’s ambassadors that are sent into the world locally and globally

MISSIONARIES—Jim & Karen Weaver—MTW: Africa (see our Missionary Highlight in this week’s online EPiC Newsletter)

Attendance and Financial Information for December 17, 2023

SS: 167 - AM: 282 - PM: 212

General Fund

Weekly Gifts Received	\$ 34,580.43
Weekly Budgeted Requirements	\$ 20,409.21
Year-to-Date Gifts Received	\$1,014,532.59
Year-to-Date Requirements	\$1,040,869.71
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$987,334.60



Evangelical Presbyterian Church *of NEWARK DELAWARE*

OUR MISSION IS TO CHANGE LIVES THROUGH SHARING CHRIST BY GATHERING, DISCIPLING AND SENDING

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Chad Barber, Senior Pastor (chad@epcnewark.org) • Rev. Don Post, Assistant Pastor (don@epcnewark.org)
Rev. Rick Gray, Pastor of International Ministry (rick@epcnewark.org) • Rev. Caleb Evans, Pastor of Youth and Families (caleb@epcnewark.org)
Dr. Higo Rodrigues, Music Director (higo@epcnewark.org) • Deborah Freer, Children's Ministry Director (deb@epcnewark.org)
Micah Freer, Pastoral Intern (micah@epcnewark.org) • Dot Griffin, Administrative Staff (dot@epcnewark.org)
Rev. LeRoy Greer, Custodian

THE SESSION

Moderator - Rev. Chad Barber • Clerk - Bill Zinkand²³ • Alan Beattie²⁵ • Bernie Cohen²⁴
Dwight Derby²⁵ • Dennis Dietrich²³ • Chuck Heide²⁵ • David Rose²³ • Paul Veenema²³ • Bill Vinson²⁵
Brian Warshaw²⁵ • Guy Webster²⁴

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Chairman - Jared Guckenberger²³ • Vice Chairman - Eric Hayden²⁵ • Secretary - Ben Mallary²³
Scott Cherry²³ • Kevin Botbyl²³ • Max Edamala²⁴ • Don Gray²⁵ • Roger Jamieson²³ • Don Jones²⁴
Norman Marks²⁴ • Dean Nairn²⁴ • David Visser²³

Missionaries and Benevolent Causes We Support

Mission to the World

Africa - Jim and Karen • World Relief/AIDS - Karl and Debbie Dortzbach
Belgium/18.26 Network - Jud and Jan Lamos • Chile - Verne and Alina Marshall • Cuba - Richard and Robyn Crane
England - Rob and Jenny Ilderton • France - James and Jacki Gildard
French Speaking Haiti/Africa - Thomas and Lucy Wright • Global Training and Development - Jeff and Mischa Marlowe
Japan - Andrew and Megan Nairn • New Zealand - Steve and Rita Williams
Ukraine - David and Jill Martin; Dal and Beth Stanton • Serving in Sensitive Areas - Phil and Barb

Agencies of the PCA

Committee on Administration • Committee on Discipleship Ministries • Covenant College • Covenant Seminary
Mission to the World • Mission to North America • Reformed University Fellowship • Ridge Haven

Other Christian Organizations

A Door of Hope • Greater Europe Mission - Mark and Marti Mylin (France)
Harvest USA - Ellen Dykas • Heritage Presbytery Church Planting - Will Stern (Hope Presbyterian Church)
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship - Greg and Sandy Baker (UD) • Love, INC. (In the Name of Christ)
Navigators - TJ and KyongA Hayes • Pioneers - Scott and Jessica Weber
Reformed University Fellowship - Daryl Wattley (DSU)
Reformed University Fellowship International - Graham and Emily Guo (UD)
Serge (formerly World Harvest) - Josh and Kristi, Jason and Ai Keuh (Japan)
Third Millennium - Gary and Phyllis Waldecker
Wycliffe - John and Judy Williams (Mexico) • Young Life

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