

The Synod of the Covenant
Christmas Worship Service

2022

... The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.

John 1:14



The Synod of the Covenant
The First Sunday of Christmas
December 25, 2022

Prelude

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Dancer: Rev. Katrina Pekich-
Bundy

Musicians: Emma Adams
Jenna Vargas
Linnae Deboer
Alma College
Lake Huron Presbytery

Welcome Rev. Fran Lane-Lawrence
Synod Stated Clerk

Carol Medley Sing-Along

Chris Dederer, Organist
Scioto Valley Presbytery

*Carol 1: Angels from the Realms of
Glory*

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
You, who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth

(Refrain)

Come and worship,
Come and worship,
Christ, the newborn king!

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
Yonder shines the infant light;

(Refrain)

*Carol 2: It Came upon a Midnight
Clear*

It came upon a 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 all,
From heaven's all-gracious King
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

*Carol 3: Angels We Have Heard on
High*

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

(Refrain)

Glo-----ria
In excelsis Deo!
Glo-----ria
In excelsis Deo!

Shepherds why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song

(Refrain)

---Part One: John 1:1-5---

A Poetic Reading of John 1:1-5

Written By: Rev. Sarah Speed

- Part 1:** Rev. Kristine Aragon-
Bruce
Jensen Aragon-Bruce
Lake Michigan Presbytery
- Part 2:** Zak Williams
Alicia Handlin
Lake Huron Presbytery
- Part 3:** Rev. Abby King-Kaiser
Omashiluchi Ugwu
Xavier University
Cincinnati Presbytery

Carol Sing-Along

O Come All Ye Faithful

Benjamin Low, Piano
College of Wooster
*Muskingum Valley
Presbytery*

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!

(Refrain)

O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord!

True God from true God,
Light from light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes
Very God, begotten not, created!

(Refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing!

(Refrain)

Prayer of Praise

Rev. Deb Uchtman
*Synod Moderator
Cincinnati Presbytery*

---Part Two: John 1:6-13---

**Prologue of John: A Song of Invitation
and Grace**

Written By: Rev. Pamela Short
Maumee Valley Presbytery
John 1:6-13

Rev. Lanie Sipes
Rev. Todd Tracy
Scioto Valley Presbytery

Time with Young Disciples

Rev. Julie Delezenne with
Children from First
Presbyterian Church of
Warren
Detroit Presbytery

Special Music

Beautiful Star by Joseph Martin

The Presbyterian Church
of Hamilton Choir

Miami Valley Presbytery

Prayer of Intercession

Rev. Dr. Sandy Seaton-Todd

Synod Vice Moderator-Elect

The Presbytery of the Western

Reserve

--Part Three: John 1:14--

Scripture Reading and Reflection

John 1:14 Rev. Dr. Chip Hardwick
Synod Executive

Carol Sing-Along

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Myriam Goodwin, Piano

Mackinac Presbytery

(Refrain)

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

(Refrain)

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! Above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.

(Refrain)

Down in the lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.

(Refrain)

Invitation to Respond

Rev. Lindsey Anderson

Organizer of Synod

Communities of Color

Music for Reflection

What Child is This?

Danny Lee

Sarah Lee

Isaac Kim

Maumee Valley Presbytery

Prayer of Dedication

Adrienne Adams

Synod Moderator-Elect

Detroit Presbytery

Carol Sing-Along

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!

FPC of Salem (OH)

Haviland Choir

Eastminster Presbytery

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before Him bow,
And He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born
today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door
And we are blessed forever more,
Christ was born for this! Christ was
born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was
born to save!

Charge and Benediction

Rev. Dr. Chip Hardwick
Synod Executive

Closing Praise

Jesus is the Light of the World

Gospel Choir of
Westminster Presbyterian
Church of Detroit
Detroit Presbytery

Many Thanks to All Who Contributed Behind the Scenes:

Glenn Grant
Bob Gustafson
Hyo Jung Kim
Charlotte O'Neil
Brad Sheppard
Pamela Short
Michael Spresser
Jared Stephens
Barb Tesorero
Lance Wiesmann

And especially...

Heather Johnston, Synod Office Manager
Rev. Cliff Haddox, Video Producer

The Synod of the Covenant

1340 W Long Lake Rd
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
(248) 729-2415
soc@synodofthecovenant.org
www.synodofthecovenant.org

*At our synod we'll try anything to equip leaders who attend to God's
creative, emerging future.*

