



# PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

Sunday, December 25, 2022  
10:00 A.M.  
Christmas Day

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Prelude

Hymn Sing

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Christ is Born!

People: *Alleluia!*

Leader: Jesus is among us!

People: *Alleluia!*

Leader: Shout with Joy, give thanks and Sing!

All: *Christ is born! Alleluia! Amen.*

**\*Hymn 147 (vv. 1-2, 6)**

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Opening Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer "debts . . . debtors"**

Hymnal, Page 35

**Call to Confession**

\*Indicates that the congregation will please rise, in body or in spirit.

## Prayer of Confession (in unison)

*Holy Incarnate God, by the light of your goodness and mercy, our failing to see your true light is clear: we have not loved you, we have not loved our neighbors, we have not loved ourselves.*

*Our feet have not brought good news to the poor nor have our voices defended Earth and its creatures and plants. Forgive us, blind us with your holy honesty, so that we may more clearly see your will, and walk with sure steps into the way of wholeness and peace. Amen.*

## Assurance of Pardon

**\*Hymn 581**

Glory Be to the Father GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)

*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.*

## Prayer for Illumination

**Lesson from the Psalter: Psalm 98**

Page 551

**\*Hymn 144** (vv. 1-2, 4)

In the Bleak Midwinter

CRANHAM

**Lesson from the Gospels: John 1:1-14**

Page 91

**Sermon "The Word Made Flesh"**

The Reverend Dr. Ellen Clark Clémot

**\*Hymn 145**

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

**\*Affirmation of Faith (in unison)**

Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again: he ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.*

## The Prayers of the People

### Call to Offering

#### \*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

#### \*Prayer of Dedication

#### \*Hymn 134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

#### \*Benediction

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Today's preacher is Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Ellen C. Clémot.

Our worship assistant is Deacon Linda Barnes.

Our ushers are Joslin Ruffle and Carolyn Smith.

Thank you to our tabulators Carolyn Smith and Rob Meyers and  
our processor Ann Jadro.

#### **THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHATHAM TOWNSHIP**

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**THIS WEEK AT PCCT: December 26 - 31, 2022**

**Monday – Friday**

Church Office will be closed

**NEXT SUNDAY, January 1, 2022**

**The Sacrament of Communion**

**10:00 am Worship**

**6:30 pm AA, Theos Room**



**BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGIATE CHORALE**

**Thursday, January 5, 7:00 pm**

One of 5 curricular choirs from the BGSU College of Musical Arts, the Collegiate Chorale is the university's flag-ship choral ensemble. The ensemble's mission is to engage audiences with authentic and conscientious performances of sophisticated and challenging music and seek to connect with listeners and each other intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually. Host Families needed! Contact Matt Zabiegala.

**PCCT FIRST FRIDAY CELEBRATION!**

**Friday, January 20, 6:00 pm at Untied Brewing Company in New Providence**

Start off the New Year spending a casual evening with PCCT friends. This will be a "drop-in" event - no RSVP required. BYOF (Bring Your Own Food. Outside alcohol not permitted.) Friends are invited! For questions, contact Doug Frank [dbfrank50@aol.com](mailto:dbfrank50@aol.com). The brewing company is located at 140 Spring Street Unit C in New Providence.

**ANNUAL MEETING AND WINTER BREAKFAST: Sunday, January 29, 2023**

Save the Date! More details to follow.

**USHER CAPTAINS AND USHERS NEEDED**

We are looking for a few usher team captains and more ushers for 2023. Easy instructions are provided. Please contact Gloria Newson if you are interested and if you have any questions.

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**Save the Date! LYRICA CONCERT: Sunday, January 8, 3:00 pm**

1 The first Now-ell 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 -

shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing  
 east be-yond them far; and to the earth it gave  
 came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was their  
 hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop

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

## Refrain

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

- 5 Then entered in those wise men three, 6 Then let us all with one accord  
 full reverently upon their knee, sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
 and offered there in his presence that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
 their gold, and myrrh, and and with his blood our life hath bought.  
 frankincense. *Refrain*

# In the Bleak Midwinter 144

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;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
 the Lord God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.  
 wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.  
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Though this text describes winter weather in England rather than in Palestine, the poet is using familiar surroundings as a means of making the Nativity more immediate and personal. The tune name honors a Gloucestershire village near the composer's birthplace in Cheltenham.

145

What Child Is This

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
 3 So bring him in-cense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.

Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?  
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.  
 The King of kings sal - va-tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;  
 Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.  
 Raise, raise the song on high. The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

This Victorian text gains scope and power by having the original second halves of stanzas two and three restored. They give a stark forward glimpse of what lies ahead for this "babe, the son of Mary!" The tune is much older, dating from Tudor England.

## Joy to the World

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

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

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven 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 heaven and na - ture sing,

and  
 sing, and heaven, and heaven 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.  
 heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.