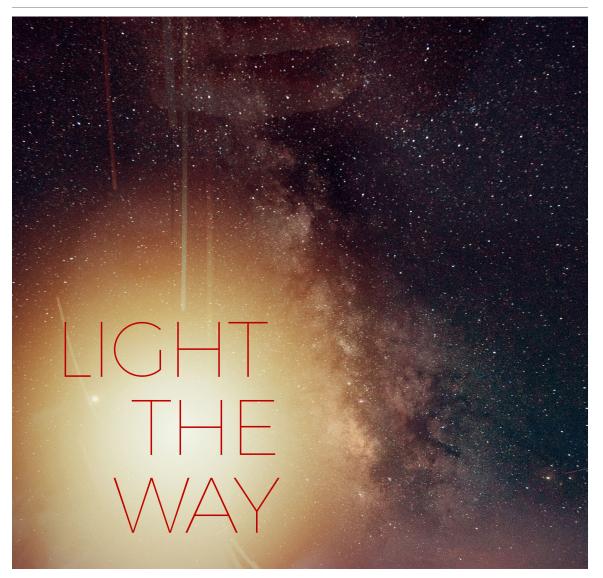


Grace changes everything



6:00PM & 8:00PM

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE 2018

We exist to glorify and enjoy God by making disciples who make a difference through grace-filled worship, community, and missions.

MCLEANPRES.ORG 1020 BALLS HILL RD MCLEAN, VA 22101

Welcome to our home for Christmas

A NOTE FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

What are you expecting this Christmas? That gift from your wishlist, a picture-perfect celebration, meaningful time with family? Or, perhaps you find yourself filled with darker expectations - sadness, loneliness, fear.

This season is filled with expectations for ourselves, for those around us, and for the traditions and gatherings we hold so dear. But underneath all of the pressures and the fears, Christmas awakens in us even deeper expectations: hope, freedom, peace. Hope for our daily lives, freedom to live without crushing stress and pressure, peace with those around us and in every corner of this aching planet.

Tonight, I hope you discover that everything you truly want for Christmas - for all of life - is

yours. True joy, hope, freedom, and peace are found in the baby that was born to a poor, unmarried woman, in a dirty manger. The baby who, beyond all our expectations, gives us abundant life, full and free.

Thank you for spending Christmas with us. It's a joy to have you in our home for the holiday.

Hopeful and expectant,

JAMES FORSYTH, SENIOR PASTOR

P.S. You're invited to lunch! We're hosting our next Newcomer Lunch on Sunday, January 6 here at our church. Share lunch with our pastors, their families, and other people from our church. Details at *mcleanpres.org/lunch*.

*Nursery provided downstairs for ages 0 - Pre-K during our 6pm service.

New to our church this evening?

Visit our Welcome Center in the McLean Room for hot drinks, Christmas cookies, and friendly conversation. You're also invited to pick up a special gift, *An Even Better Christmas* by Matt Chandler, to explore how Christmas peace and joy can last beyond this season. *Merry Christmas, from our family to yours!*

Each Sunday, we gather for worship at 9am, 10:45am & 5:15pm. No matter where you are in sorting through what you believe about Jesus, the Bible, and Christianity, you're welcome to explore with us.

Service of Divine Worship

December 24, 2018 | 6:00PM & 8:00PM Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall

WELCOME & INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

FROM JOHN 8:12, ISAIAH 9:2; 42:16; 49:6; 58:8; 60:1-3; 2:5

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

People: We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Leader: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them.

The Lord says to his servant: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, our light and our salvation. Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

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!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above! Glory to God in the highest! **Refrain**

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! **Refrain**

Words Attr. to J.F. Wade, 1751, Tr. by F. Oakeley, 1841; Music by J.F. Wade; CCLI License #152421

FIRST READING: THE FALL OF MAN AND THE FIRST PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL

GENESIS 3:8-15

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art, Dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Dayspring from on high, appear; Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear! O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth: "Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end; By his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend. Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall; This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone; By thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Words St. 1, 4 by C. Wesley, 1744, St. 2-3 by M.E. Hunt; Music HYFRYDOL by F.H. Pritchard, 1855; Arr. © 2009 Spachtula Music; CCLI License #152421

SECOND READING: THE SAVIOR'S KINGDOM BRINGS HOPE THROUGH RESTORATION

FROM ISAIAH 7 AND 9

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

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. 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.

O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. **Refrain**

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh; To us the path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go. **Refrain**

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; fill all the world with heaven's peace. **Refrain 2x**

Words & Music by Latin hymn tr. by J.M. Neale, 1851, alt, 1961; Music VENI EMMANUEL, Arr. © 2007 Jeff Vogan; CCLI License #152421

THIRD READING: THE SAVIOR WILL BE FULLY GOD AND FULLY MAN LUKE 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He 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, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

And 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. And 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. For nothing will be impossible with God." And 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.

OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, He is Alpha and Omega, he the Source, the Ending he, Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heav'n, adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing; All dominions bow before him and extol our God and King; Let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice in concert ring, evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee with God the Father, and O Holy Ghost, to thee, Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be, Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore!

Words by A.C. Prudentius, Tr. by J.M. Neale & H.W. Baker; Music DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, Arr. © 2015 Jeff Vogan; CCLI License #152421

FOURTH READING: THE SAVIOR WILL PROVIDE THE WAY TO PEACE WITH GOD

MATTHEW 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

WHAT CHILD IS THIS

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing: Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. Nails, spears, shall pierce him through; the cross be born for me, for you: Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him; The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby: Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing: Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Traditional English Carol, Adapt. by W.C. Dix; Melody GREENSLEEVES; Arr. © 2010 Jeff Vogan; CCLI License #152421

FIFTH READING: THE PROMISED SAVIOR IS BORN

LUKE 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song? **Refrain**

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. **Refrain**

CCLI Song #27721; Words & Music Traditional French melody, Arr. © 2016 Jeff Vogan; CCLI License #152421

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

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!"

Refrain: 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 God-head see; hail th'incarnate Deity, Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel. **Refrain**

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. Refrain

CCLI Song# 27738; Words by C. Wesley; Music by F. Mendelssohn; Arr. © 1967 David Willcocks; CCLI License# 152421

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

EL NOI DE LA MARE (CAROL OF THE GIFTS)

Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)

What shall we give to the Son of Mary? What can we give to the King of the World? If we were wise men, we'd bring him our treasures, silver and gold for the King at his birth. If we were wise men, we'd bring him our treasures, silver and gold for the King at his birth.

What shall we give to the promised Messiah? What can we give to this beautiful Lamb? If we were shepherds, we'd offer him wool, soft wool for the baby, the great I AM. If we were shepherds, we'd offer him wool, soft wool for the baby, the great I AM.

What shall we give to the Lord of Creation? What can we give to this Baby so small? Hearts that are pure and a love that is faithful; these, we will give to the Savior of all. Hearts that are pure and a love that is faithful; these, we will give to the Savior of all.

Catalan Lullaby; Arr. by J. Rutter; © 2009 Collegium Music Publications

NOEL

Congregation (Fellowship Hall)

Love incarnate, love divine, star and angel gave the sign. Bow to babe on bended knee, the Savior of humanity. Unto us a Child is born. He shall reign forevermore.

Chorus: Noel, noel, come and see what God has done. Noel, noel, the story of amazing love. The Light of the World given for us, noel.

Son of God and Son of Man, there before the world began. Born to suffer, born to save, born to raise us from the grave. Christ the Everlasting Lord, he shall reign forevermore. **Chorus 2x**

CCLI Song #7050419; Words & Music by C. Tomlin, E. Cash, & M Redman; © 2015 S. D. G. Publishing, Said And Done Music, sixsteps Music, Sixsteps Songs, Thankyou Music, Worship Together Music, worshiptogether.com songs, Alletrop Music; CCLI License #152421

SERMON **LIGHT THE WAY**

BEHOLD THE SAVIOR

Oh, what innocence sleeping in a manger under dreamless skies. See the newborn King trading ev'ry glory for a silent night. Here is the promise we have waited for. He will not leave us in the dark.

Chorus: He will bear our weight. He will wear our shame. Come, lift him high. Behold the Savior. Jesus Christ, law of love and light. Come, lift him high. Behold the Savior.

Veiled deity, praise of ev'ry angel, shepherds bowing low. Sweet humility, mercy as a baby, God in flesh and bone. Here is the promise we have waited for. He will not leave us in the dark. **Chorus**

Here is the promise we have waited for. He will not leave us in the dark. He is the promise we have waited for. The cry of ev'ry searching heart. **Chorus**

Come, lift him high. Behold the Savior. Come, lift him high. Behold the Savior.

CCLI Song #7023089; Words & Music by M. Andrews & M. Fieldes; © 2013 Word Music, LLC; Admin. Warner Chappel Music Inc.; Sony/ATV Tree Publishing, Upside Down Under; Admin. by Sony/ATV Music Publishing; CCLI License #152421

SIXTH READING: THE SAVIOR WILL RETURN AGAIN

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

SILENT NIGHT! HOLY NIGHT!

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.

Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; With the angels let us sing alleluia to our King; Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

CCLI Song #27862; Words by F.X. Gruber, J. Mohr; Music by J.F. Young; CCLI License #152421

BENEDICTION

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14

Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!