



# *A Noel Celebration*

A choral cantata written by  
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# *"A Noel Celebration"*

A proclamation of the Christmas story  
through prayer and song,  
worship and praise.

Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church  
December 18, 2016 3:00pm

## *Welcome*

### *Call to Worship*

One: O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation, you order all things with strength and gentleness: Come now and teach us the way to salvation.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

One: O Root of Jesse, rising as a sign for all the peoples, before you earthly rulers will keep silent, and nations give you honor: Come quickly to deliver us.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

One: O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, Sun of justice: Come, shine on those who live in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

One: O Immanuel, our Sovereign and Lawgiver, desire of the nations and Savior of all: Come and save us, O Lord our God.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus!**

## ***Opening Prayer***

O Mighty One, who scatters the proud and fills the hungry, by your Holy Spirit let your Word leap in us, and bring to our yearning the joy that comes with new beginnings and renewed lives.

**Merciful God, you come into our midst longing for communion with us, becoming one of us. Break our resistance to life with you, show us the path toward just relations, and bring us into your unimaginable peace; in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## ***Hymn of Joy*** #106

Prepare the Way, O Zion

## ***Reading***

Isaiah 9:2-7 p555

## ***Choral Cantata***

"A Noel Celebration"

## ***Prayer of Thanksgiving***

**God of grace, ever faithful to your promises, the earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming, and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes, for he is Lord forever and ever. Amen.**

## ***Hymn of Thanks*** #133

O Come, All Ye Faithful!

## ***Benediction***

## ***Choral Benediction***

You are warmly invited to join us for a light reception, downstairs in the fellowship hall, immediately following the choral benediction.

Many thanks are due for this presentation:  
To Sandra Perkins, for her work and dedication to the choir and  
music ministries of Gregory Memorial;

To Gail Rollings, for her unending support and  
talent which she brings to the choir, and our times of worship;

To the Volunteers who put together the reception,  
for the gifts they bring to nourish our bodies and spirits;

And last but not least, to the members (and guests) of the  
Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church choir,  
Thank you for your time, your talents, your laughter and your  
willingness to put in the hard work.

Special Thanks to the readers of our cantata:

Zechariah – A.W. Adams

Mary – Madison Foster

Joseph – Josh Ingram

Shepherd – Bobby Allen

Simeon – Larry Johnson

Wise Man – Jared Smyth

Narrator – Kevin Foster

Without the talents, hard work, dedication and willingness of the  
choir, and particularly of those listed here, this offering would  
never have been possible (nor the regular musical offerings of our  
worship)! Thank you so, so much for all you bring and offer.

You are warmly invited to join us here at Gregory Memorial for the  
following services over the coming week:

- *Darkest Night Service*, December 21, 7:00pm

(a service to honor the grief of lost family & friends in this season)

- *Christmas Eve*, December 24: 6:30pm and 11:00pm

- *Christmas Morning*, December 25: 10:30am