



CHRISTMAS
DAY

FIRST CHURCH
IN CAMBRIDGE

Congregational 1633-1636
United Church of Christ
Garden and Mason Streets
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Hymns Removed for Online Publication

VOLUNTARY

In Dulci Jubilo

J. S. Bach

***CAROL** (facing page)

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

***GREETING**

***LIGHTING THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE**

L: Lift up your heads; the day of peace is here!

C: God has visited us with healing!

L: All the ends of the earth behold it,

C: And the distant coastlands rejoice!

(The Christmas candle is lit.)

L: The light of Christ!

C: Thanks be to God!

L: Let us praise our God!

**All: Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth!
We worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only-begotten Child,
you take away the world's sin.
Have mercy on us.
Receive our prayer.
For you are the Healer and the Holy One,
the world's hope and the heart's desire.
You preside in love forever,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Sovereign. Amen.**

READING

Isaiah 52:7-10

CAROL (next page)

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

(Please remain seated for the hymn.)

READING

Luke 2:1-20

**You are invited to stand.*

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PRAYERS FOR CHURCH AND WORLD

L: In peace, let us pray to God.

C: Lord, hear our prayer!

L: That the heart of the world might rejoice this day at the birth of a merciful savior, let us pray to God.

C: Lord, hear our prayer!

L: That the work of justice may capture every human heart and lead to peace, let us pray to God.

C: Lord, hear our prayer!

L: For an end to all war and violence, that all people may live in hope and safety, so that free of fear we build a new tomorrow, let us pray to God.

C: Lord, hear our prayer!

L: For the health of the earth, and the integrity of all creation, let us pray to God.

C: Lord, hear our prayer!

L: For the sick, the troubled, the sorrowing and the dying, that they may know the comfort of God's mercy, let us pray to God.

C: Lord, hear our prayer!

L: For our enemies and all who have done us harm, and for all whom we have harmed, let us pray to God.

C: Lord, hear our prayer!

L: For the church throughout the world, that we may love God, God's world and one another, welcome and serve all people and show forth the mercy of Christ Jesus, let us pray to God.

C: Lord, hear our prayer!

L: And now, in the words our savior gave us, we make bold to pray together,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Please pray this prayer and address God in words most meaningful to your heart.)

All: Our Creator, 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. But deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

*CAROL (next page)

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

CHRISTMAS HOLY COMMUNION IN THE ROUND***INVITATION**

L: Lift up your heads; the day of peace is here!

C: God has visited us with healing!

L: All the ends of the earth behold it,

C: And the distant coastlands rejoice!

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L: The newborn Child be with you!
C: **And also with you.**
L: Lift up your hearts!
C: **We lift them to God.**
L: Let us give thanks to God, our God!
C: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*PREFACE

REMEMBERING GOD'S MIGHTY DEEDS

INVOCATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

L: Let us pray for the Spirit's blessing.
All: **Send your Spirit upon these gifts, O God –
fruit of the earth and work of human hands!
By grace and faith, let them be for us
life-giving food and drink.
As we share in their goodness,
strengthen us for witness in the world you love. Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*THANKSGIVING

L: Let us give thanks.
All: **We thank you, gracious God,
for making yourself known to us
in the human life of Jesus.
Keep us always in the joy of Christmas Day,
like Mary and Joseph, like angels and shepherds –
servants of your love and bearers of your grace.
Glory be to you in the church and in all creation,
now and forever. Amen. Alleluia!**

*CAROL (back page) Joy to the World!

*BENEDICTION

*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*Leading today's service are Karin Case, Minister and Kate Layzer, Minister of Street Outreach.
Music Director Peter Sykes is playing the organ.*

The Christmas Day illustration was drawn by First Church member Perry Neubauer.

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