



CLICK BANNER FOR LIVE STREAM SERVICE

INTROIT

Overture 1: Giving Thanks

by Robert Train Adams
"Overture 1: Giving Thanks"
Robert Train Adams (ASCAP)
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GREETING

Mike Hubbard

PRELUDE

Robert Train Adams

Variations on Noël Nouvelet (French Carol)

Settings by Robert Train Adams

Partita on Noël Nouvelet
French Traditional Carol: Sing we now of Christmas
Settings by Robert Train Adams
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CALL TO WORSHIP

Mike Hubbard

A star has risen in the east.
Star of wonder, star of night!
A child is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! The herald angels sing!
Let us follow the star to Bethlehem
and bring our gifts to the newborn Christ.

CAROL

piano, Robert Train Adams
soloist, Marianne Adams
handbells, Diane Barnes, Ann Lowe, Denna Manning,
Regina Younger, Terry Rosenberger

Joy to the World

[ANTIOCH]

Verse 1

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the
sounding joy.*

Joy to the World
G. F. Handel, 1742; arr. Lowell Mason, 1836
Arrangement copyright 2020 by Robert Train Adams (ASCAP)

FIRST GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

CAROL

soloist, Andy Ullrich

The First Nowell

[THE FIRST NOWELL]

Verse 2

*They look--ed up \ and saw a star
shining in the east \ beyond them far;
and to the east \ it gave great light,
and so it continued \ both day and night,
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.*

Verse 3

*And by the light \ of that same star
three - wise - men came \ from country far;
to seek for a king \ was their intent,
and to follow the star \ wherever it went.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.*

“The First Nowell,” words Some Ancient Christmas Carols, 1823
Music, English Carol 1833 | Public Domain

SECOND GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:13-18

¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

SERMON

Murray Richmond

The Dark Side of the Light

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Setting by J. S. Bach

"In dulci jubilo"
J. S. Bach, 1685-1750
Edition Peters, 1928. Public domain

Robert Train Adams

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor | Rev. Murray Richmond

Pastor | Mike Hubbard

Sound Engineer | Tom McDermott

Bulletin | Elizabeth Mahan

Organist | Robert Train Adams

Minister of Music & Media | Tony R. Chunn

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