

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE CANDLE of LOVE

DECEMBER 19, 2021

ADVENT
A Season of Expectation



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Jan Richardson's images invite us to see our story and The Story in new ways.

WHITE MEMORIAL
— PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH —

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

Greeting

Karl Zinsmeister

One: The love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us prepare for worship.

Preparation for Worship

God of grace, your eternal Word took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will. Prepare our hearts for his coming again; keep us steadfast in hope and faithful in service, that we may receive the coming of his kingdom for the sake of Jesus Christ, the ruler of all, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prelude – Overture from Messiah

Orchestra

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Christian Welcome and Announcements

Cate Church Norman

Please pass the Friendship Register to your neighbor and include all requested information.

Children through fifth grade will be invited forward for the lighting of the Advent Wreath, after which, they may return to their seats.

Call to Worship and Advent Wreath Lighting *(all singing)*

text by Thomas H. Troeger; music by Sally Ann Morris

Are you like Jo-seph, wea-ry and worn, fear-ing the slaugh-ter Her-od has sworn? What-ev-er part you

play in the sto - ry, God grant you a heart o-pen to glo - ry!

One: But you, O Bethlehem of Ephratha, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

All: There he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

One: And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. - Micah 5:2-4

(lighting of Advent candles)

One: Let us pray.

All: God of grace, you chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Savior.

Now fill us with your grace, that with her, we may rejoice in your salvation, and in all things, embrace your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn 316 – Where Charity and Love Prevail**

TWENTY-FOURTH

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

O Lord our God, receive our prayer of confession: we know that your prophets and children have called us to love – even at great cost. We confess that we are often too preoccupied to follow their instructions. Long ago a young woman, Mary, gave birth to a Son who came to save us from the worst in ourselves and to forgive our sins. He was the one who told us to “love one another.” Help us to live as the redeemed and the restored. Help us to live by your promises of love. For the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

***Response Hymn 113 – Refrain**

GLORIA

Glo - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Lesson – Micah 5:2-5a; pew Bible, p. 815

Anthem

(8:00) *Comfort Ye and Every Valley* from *Messiah*

Handel

Timothy Sparks, tenor; Orchestra

*Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.
Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her; that her warfare is accomplished,
that her iniquity is pardoned.*

*The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness; prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.*

*Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low;
the crooked straight and the rough places plain.*

(9:30) *Behold! A Virgin and O Thou That Tellest* from *Messiah*

Handel

Jennifer Seiger, alto; WMPC Adult Choir and Orchestra

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Emmanuel, God with us.

*O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain.
O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength;
lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, behold your God!
Arise, shine, for thy light has come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.*

(11:00) *There Were Shepherds and Glory to God* from *Messiah*

Handel

Rush Dorsett, soprano; WMPC Adult Choir and Orchestra

*There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
And lo! the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them,
and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them,
“Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy,
which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord.”
And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying:
“Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, goodwill towards men.”*



New Testament Lesson – Luke 1:46-56; pew Bible, p. 53

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

(11:00) A Time With Young Disciples

Children will remain in service.

Sermon – “*All we need is...*”

Christopher Edmonston

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

***Hymn 137** – *He Came Down*

HE CAME DOWN

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Gloria Johnson

**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, forever. Amen.

(9:30) Anthem – *For Unto Us* from *Messiah*

Handel

WMPC Adult Choir and Orchestra

*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder;
and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God,
the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.*

(11:00) Anthem – *And the Glory* from *Messiah*

Handel

WMPC Adult Choir and Orchestra

*And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together:
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.*

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Christmas Joy Special Offering

Musical Offering

(8:00) *And the Glory* from *Messiah*

Handel

WMPC Adult Choir and Orchestra

*And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together:
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.*

(9:30) *Pastoral Symphony* from *Messiah*

Orchestra

Handel

(11:00) *Rejoice Greatly* from *Messiah*

Rush Dorsett, soprano; Orchestra

Handel

*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, thy King cometh unto thee; He is the righteous Saviour,
and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.*

* **Offertory Response Hymn 121 – stanza 3**

ST. LOUIS

How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given! So
God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven. No
ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin, where
meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.

* **Affirmation of Faith**

from the 1998 Study Catechism PC(USA)

One: How do you live for the love of God?

All: I love because God first loved me. God loves me in Christ with a love that never ends. Amazed by grace, I no longer live for myself. I live for the Lord who died and rose again, triumphant over death, for my sake. Therefore, I take those around me to heart, especially those in particular need, knowing that Christ died for them no less than for me.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

* **Hymn 110 – Love Has Come**

BRING A TORCH

* **Charge and Benediction**

* **Chiming of the Trinity**

The worship service ends with the Chiming of the Trinity.
Please be mindful of those who remain to listen to the postlude.

Postlude – Toccata on Veni Emmanuel

Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941)

* * *

Advent Wreath Lighters

8:00 am - Jean and Peter Williams; Lindsay and Sandy Jordan
9:30 am - Lilies of the Field group; Cindy Carter
11:00 am - Julie, Meg, Will and Stan Hardesty

Today's bulletin artwork was drawn by Anna Kathryn Broyles, a third grader, as an interpretation of Luke 1:46-55 scripture.

**Music in today's service presented with permission under
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WELCOME TO WHITE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PC (USA)

We are glad you are worshipping with us. Visiting? Deacons can be found in the Narthex to offer a friendly greeting, answer questions and provide directions. New members are received after attending *Believing & Belonging @WMPC* Class. Visit whitememorial.org/join or contact Elizabeth Viohl at ext. 206 for details, class dates and registration.

THINGS TO KNOW:

- **Restrooms** are located on the hallway to Jane Bell Gathering Space on the Pulpit side and also on the first floor of the Luther Building.
- **Childcare** is available for children up to four years old.
- **Sunday School** is offered at 9:30 for all ages.
- **Refreshments** Coffee stations are located in The Connector and Main Hall
- **The sanctuary** has a loop hearing aid system and an FM system.
- **Live-streamed services** are at whitememorial.org.
- **Radio**, WPTF 680 AM, every other Sunday at 11:00 a.m.: next broadcast is December 26.
- **Bulletins** left in the sanctuary following worship services are recycled as part of our care for God's creation.



We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

PASTORAL & PROGRAM STAFF:

CHRISTOPHER EDMONSTON, Pastor
ANDREW AMODEI, Executive Director
CYNTHIA BAGGETT, Director of Weekday School
GENEVIEVE BROOKS, Director of Youth Ministry
CATE CHURCH NORMAN, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care
BROCK DOWNWARD, Dir. of Music Emeritus
JENNIFER EASTMAN, Director of Young Children's Ministry
JIM FERRY, Parish Associate
ANNE GALLIHER, Pastoral Resident
KELLY GOLD, Director of Children's and Youth Music
KIRSTEN HOMDROM, Associate Director of Music
KATHY HOWELL, Communications Director
GLORIA JOHNSON, Associate Pastor for Outreach
LIZ MCKEE, Director of Development
ERIC NANZ, Associate Director of Music and Worship Arts
LINDA NUNNALLEE, StepUp Director
CHIP POPE, Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
GRIER RICHARDS, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Adult Faith Formation
ART ROSS, Pastor Emeritus
JUDY YATES SIKER, Parish Associate
LYNN SPRINGFIELD, Director of Elementary Ministry
MARTHA STEVENSON, Educator Emerita
JEAN WILLIAMS, Parish Nurse
KARL ZINSMEISTER, Director of Music

AFTER HOURS PASTOR ON CALL: 919-605-4593

Each Sunday, we offer four opportunities for you to worship with us at White Memorial (8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and 11:00 a.m. OnPoint@1704 Edinburgh - Main Hall). While you will notice differences in music, location and worship leadership among our different services, what unites us in our worship is our scripture, liturgy and sermon. All services use the same Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, readings from Scripture and Affirmation of Faith.

JOYS & CONCERNS

IN THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

John Edward Beaman, Jr. –
December 10, 2021

Sarah Patricia "Pat" Jay Frye Grant –
December 13, 2021

WMPC family members: husband, Hugh Grant; daughter and son-in-law, Ashley and Allan Pharr, and grandson Christopher Pharr

PRAYERS AND CHRISTIAN CONCERNS TO

Amie, Bucky, Henley, and John Irby, on the death of Amie's brother, Straughan Henley Watkins "Spike" Dixon, November 30, Henderson, NC.

Jeanne and John White, on the death of Jeanne's brother, Lewis Goodman Dickinson, December 6, Glasgow, KY.

Lexie, Wesley, Bailey, and Burnie Batchelor, on the death of Lexie's father, Richard Ziegler, December 8, Raleigh, NC.

Julie, Aaron, Hunter, and Cooper Leon, on the death of Julie's father, Paul Ransford, Jr., Asheville, NC.

Wesley and Brenda Jones; Haley and Larry Durgin; and Kelton and Jenna Jones, on the death of Wesley's father, Charles F. Jones, Jr., December 10, Oxford, NC.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Sara Sanders, who graduated from East Carolina University on December 17 with a BSN in Nursing. Sara is the daughter of Lynne Sanders.

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2022 GENEROSITY UPDATE

As of Wednesday, December 15, we have received 583 pledges totaling \$2,990,916.29. If you have not already, please consider making a pledge at www.whitememorial.org/generosity.

YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS

Please note that all year-end contributions must be received in the Finance Office by 5:00 p.m. on December 31, 2021 or postmarked by December 31, 2021 to be claimed as a 2021 donation.

NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR NEW OFFICERS

The Churchwide Nominating Committee starts meeting in mid-January to consider nominations for church Elders and Deacons, class of 2025. Nominations are now being accepted. Please give prayerful consideration to placing a church member into nomination for these critical leadership roles. The nomination form can be found online: www.whitememorial.org. All recommendations must be received by January 12, 2022.

* * *

We extend appreciation to our orchestra today

(*denotes WMPC member):

Carol Chung, Nonoko Okada, violins; Simon Ertz, viola; Clara Yang, cello; Erik Dyke, double bass; Martin Brinkley and *Roman Mock, oboes; Charlie Gragg, bassoon; Van Zimmerman and *Mark Beamish, trumpets.

For your convenience, offering baskets can be found near the Exit doors in the front of the Sanctuary as you leave today's service. If you're more comfortable giving online, you may do that through our website at www.whitememorial.org.

Please take your bulletin with you and either dispose of it in the recycling receptacle outside or take it home. Thank you.

WORSHIP | EMBRACE | SERVE

in the manner of Christ

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT WMPC?

Please note: The City of Raleigh is working on Oberlin Road between Wade Avenue and Fairview Road for the foreseeable future. You can find a map on our website to help navigate the church campus.

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 19

Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-33

Healing Through Grief

3:00-4:30 p.m. | Zoom

MONDAY | DECEMBER 20

Micah 4:1-5, 5:2-4; 1 John 4:7-16; John 3:31-36

Pickleball at WMPC!

2-4:00 p.m. | Pickard Hall

TUESDAY | DECEMBER 21

Acts 6:1-7, 7:59-8:8

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

Breakfast Line | 7:00 a.m. | Main Hall

Bible Study | 7:30 a.m. | In-person or Zoom

[Registration required.](#)

Women's Breakfast & Fellowship

7:00-8:00 am. | The Hub

Women of all ages are invited to come for a hot breakfast, fellowship, study and prayer. This group studies the PW Bible lesson once a month and on other weeks they study a variety of topics. Hosted by Circle M.

WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 22

1 John 5:1-12; John 13:20-35

Lectio Divina & Centering Prayer

11:00 a.m. - noon | Zoom

We'll begin with Lectio Divina, a contemplative way to read the Bible, followed by Centering Prayer. You are welcome to come for one or stay for both. [Register to receive your Zoom link.](#)

Wednesdays Together Dinner

5-6:30 p.m. | Main Hall-Edinburgh Building

Make your reservations by 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 19.

Pickleball at WMPC!

6-8:00 p.m. | Pickard Hall

Midweek Advent Evening Worship Services

Sanctuary and Live Stream | 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY | DECEMBER 23

Isaiah 49:13-23, 54:1-13; Matthew 18:1-14

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 24

2 John 1-13; John 2:1-11

Christmas Eve Worship Services

All services are in-person and Live Stream

Christmas Eve Bell Service

3:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

6:30 p.m. & 11:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

6:30 p.m. | Main Hall | Edinburgh Building

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 25

1 Kings 17:17-24; 3 John 1-15; John 4:46-54

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Christmas Share

To purchase cards and designate your donation, stop by Gloria Johnson's office (W301), M-F, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Youth Fundraiser

Commemorative ornament and note cards are available for you and everyone on your gift list! \$20 each. [Purchase online](#) or in-person on Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

December Churchwide Collection

We will take coats, gloves, hats and scarves in all sizes to our agency partners who work with those who are homeless, families in crisis, and other vulnerable populations. Clothing can be dropped off in the red bins in front of the Witherspoon building.

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SAVE THE DATE

2022 Women's Retreat: Breath for the Bone-Tired

Saturday | January 29

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. | WMPC campus

We invite all women to join us on Saturday, January 29 for the 17th annual Women's Retreat, featuring Meg Peery McLaughlin from University Presbyterian in Chapel Hill, NC. For more details and to register, visit whitememorial.org/register.

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REGISTRATION FOR MOST EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE: [WHITEMEMORIAL.ORG/REGISTER](http://whitememorial.org/register)

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Friday | December 24

CHRISTMAS EVE BELL SERVICE

3:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

6:30 pm. & 11:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

6:30 p.m. | Main Hall | Edinburgh Building



Sunday | December 26

Combined Worship Services | Sanctuary

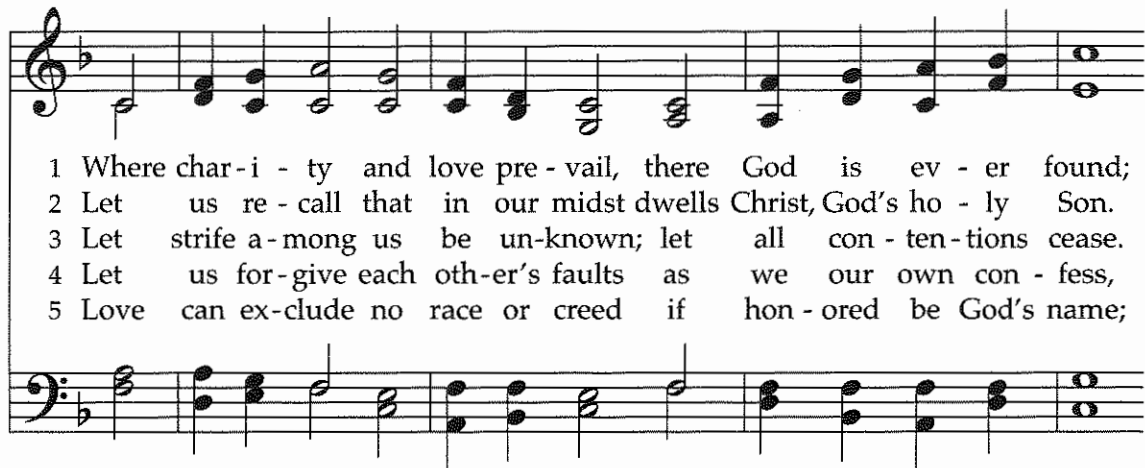
8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday | January 2

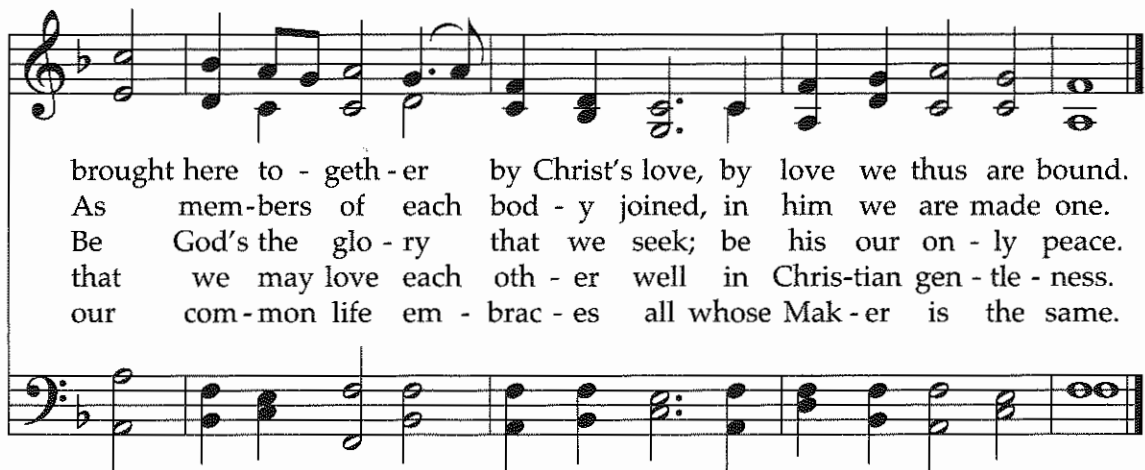
Combined Worship Services | Main Hall

8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Where Charity and Love Prevail 316



1 Where char-i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son.
3 Let strife a-mong us be un-known; let all con - ten-tions cease.
4 Let us for-give each oth-er's faults as we our own con - fess,
5 Love can ex-clude no race or creed if hon - ored be God's name;



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
As mem-bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.
our com-mon life em - brac - es all whose Mak - er is the same.

This English paraphrase is based on a longer Latin hymn traditionally associated with the footwashing ritual on Maundy Thursday, an enactment of Christ's "new commandment" that we should love one another (John 13:34). For a chant setting of the first line of the hymn see no. 205.

TEXT: Latin, 8th cent.; trans. Omer Westendorf, 1960, alt.

MUSIC: Lucius Chapin, 1812

Text © 1960, ren. 1988 World Library Publications

TWENTY-FOURTH

CM

He Came Down

137

He came down that we may have love; he

The first system of musical notation is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. The melody features a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure. The lyrics are: "He came down that we may have love; he".

came down that we may have love; he came down that we may

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line. It features two triplet markings over eighth notes in the second and eighth measures. The lyrics are: "came down that we may have love; he came down that we may".

Leader: Why did he come?
have love; hal-le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.

The third system of musical notation includes a leader's part. The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. The leader's part is marked with a triplet over eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Leader: Why did he come? have love; hal-le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more." The system ends with a double bar line.

Additional stanzas:


- ... that we may have light
- ... that we may have peace
- ... that we may have joy

Because this traditional Cameroon piece begins with the refrain, it does not initially reveal that it is cast as a call-and-response song. Assigning the answers to the congregation rather than to the leader is a notable affirmation of the corporate wisdom of God's people.

Love Has Come


110

Capo 3: (D) (Bm7) (Em7) (A)
 F Dm7 Gm7 C




1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) (Bm7) (Em) (A7) (D)
 F Dm7 Gm C7 F




Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A) (G) (D)
 C F Dm F C B^b F




heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7) (F#7) (G) (A) (Bm) (A7)
 Gm7 A7 B^b C Dm C7



joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

(D) (A) (G) (A) (D) (A) (A7) (Dsus) (D)
 F C B^b C F C C7 Fsus F



Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.
 Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."