

● PSF: Subject File: Roosevelt, Franklin D. : Christmas, 1941

Box 178.

Franklin D. Roosevelt
The

National Christmas Service

WASHINGTON, D. C.

under auspices of

The Washington Federation of Churches



The Foundry Nativity Window

*Thanks Be To God Who In Our Great Trial
Giveth Us The Churches. - Abraham Lincoln.*

Foundry Methodist Church

CHRISTMAS DAY, 1941

Wishel. Churchill

The Order of Worship

ELEVEN O'CLOCK — CHRISTMAS MORNING

Presiding—REV. FREDERICK BROWN HARRIS, D.D.

Minister of Foundry Church and Chairman of the Federation Committee on Public Meetings.

Organ Prelude—"Christmas" - - - - - *Dethier*

Processional Hymn 89—"Joy to the World" - - - - - *Isaac Watts*

(Congregation standing at the third stanza)

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns:
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love.

The Call to Worship

The Minister: Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all the people.
For there is born to you a Saviour, which is Christ our Lord.

The People: **Glory to God in the highest,
On earth peace, good will toward men.**

The Minister: Let us with wise men, lowly shepherds, and all the heavenly host, worship the Holy Babe.

The People: **O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

The Minister: O come, let us worship and bow down.

The People: **Let us worship Christ, the New Born King.**

(Here let the people be seated.)

The Christmas Litany with Choral Response—(Congregation seated and bowed)

The Minister: O God, Thou art our salvation, we will trust and not be afraid. Thou art our strength and song.

The People: **Therefore with joy shall we draw water out the wells of salvation.**

The Minister: We thank Thee for the birth of Jesus, that Thy spirit was upon Him, that He was anointed to preach good tidings to the poor, to proclaim release to the captive, the recovering of the sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.

The People: **May the kingdoms of this world become the Kingdom of His Redeeming Love.**

The Minister: O God, enable us, as we worship Thee, to kindle with the joy of simple shepherds long ago, at the thought of all that came to the world in the birth of the child Jesus.

The People: **Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.**

The Minister: Help us, O God, in the light of the shining star to realize the wastes and desolations of the world, to feel the weight of the world's sorrow and need, to be made aware of the power of evil, to see what spiritual loss is caused by man's hatred and sins.

The People: **Help us with the spirit of Jesus to build the old wastes and to raise up the former generations.**

The Minister: In a world that has become a neighborhood, where we must make it a brotherhood or perish, join us to that saving minority that across the boundaries of prejudice, intolerance and hatred, extends the dominion of understanding and good will.

The People: **Grant unto us that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies may serve Thee without fear.**

The Minister: Over the face of the ancient earth, weary and torn with strife, the passing generations have come and are gone, and have not seen the triumph of good will among men: yet we give thanks for the unceasing renewal of life born to new hopes and strong to achieve new victories of good.

The People: **For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder.**

The Minister: In the light of the shining star that gives happiness to little children and radiance to all, help us to renew our zeal for that good time when none shall be far off or forgotten, but shall live within the circle of the blessed life.

The People: **May the Dayspring from on High visit us, to give light to them that sit in darkness, to guide our feet in the way of peace. Amen.**

The Choral Invocation—"Softly the Stars Were Shining" - - - - - *Adolph Torovsky*

Softly the stars were shining,
Shining with golden ray,
Over the Baby Jesus
Cradled upon the hay.

Shepherds drew near to see Him,
Low in His manger bed;
Glory and wondrous brightness
Gathered about His head.

Chorus:
Softly the Babe was sleeping,
Angels their watch were keeping;
Calm and secure, tender and pure,
Jesus, the Holy Child.

Dear little Baby Jesus,
Come to our hearts we pray;
May we be pure and loving,
Make us like Thee to-day.

The Anthem—"O Holy Night" *Adolphe Adam*

The Reading of the Holy Scripture—The Nativity Lesson.

The Pastoral Prayer—(Congregation seated and bowed)

**Choral Response—"O Hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in 'peril on the sea."**

The Christmas Salutation **The Reverend Oscar F. Blackwelder, D.D.,
President, Washington Federation of Churches**

The Offertory Anthem—"Glory to God In the Highest" *Pergolesi*

The Presentation of Offerings

Congregation will rise to sing the Doxology and will remain standing for the hymn following.

Hymn 100—"O Little Town of Bethlehem" *Phillips Brooks*

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth!

How silently, how silently
The wondrous Gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still,
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem!
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today!
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

The Sermon **The Reverend ZeBarney Phillips, D.D., LL.D.,
Chaplain of the United States Senate and Dean of the Washington Cathedral**

Recessional Hymn 506—"Dear Country of Our Love and Prayer" *Whittier*
(Tune—St. Catherine)

Our thought of thee is glad with hope,
Dear country of our love and prayer;
Thy way is down no fatal slope,
But up to freer sun and air.

Refrain:

Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

Tried as by furnace fires, and yet
By God's grace only stronger made;
In future tasks before thee set
Thou shalt not lack the old-time aid.

Great, without seeking to be great
By fraud or conquest; rich in gold,
But richer in the large estate
Of virtue which thy children hold.

With peace that comes of purity,
And strength to simple justice due,
So runs our loyal dream of thee,
God of our fathers! make it true.

O land of lands! to thee we give
Our love, our trust, our service free;
For thee thy sons shall nobly live,
And at thy need shall die for thee.

Benediction and Choral Amen

Organ Postlude—"Toccata" *Widor*

The congregation is requested to remain standing after the final Amen by the choir, until the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of England and distinguished guests have withdrawn from the sanctuary.

The altar flowers are presented by
THE WASHINGTON FEDERATION OF CHURCHES

in memory of that elect lady,

Sara Delano Roosevelt

the queenly mother of our President,

on this the first Christmas "away" from her loved ones.

They speak, too, of our glad remembrance that year after year she graced the
Federation service with her presence and reverently shared with us the worship of

Christmas morning.

Oct 4th
Christmas Eve 1961

THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC
CHOIR OF THE FOUNDRY CHURCH

JUSTIN LAWRIE - - - - - *Choirmaster*
WILLIAM O. TUFTS - - - - - *Organist*

The Washington Federation of Churches is the agency through which 165 Protestant churches in the national Capital and its suburbs cooperate in many forms of practical Christian activity. More than a score of different denominations are thus linked and leagued—doing together what none could do alone.

The Federation is housed in its own building at 1749-51 N Street N. W., which you are cordially invited to visit.