

**Service of Worship**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas Day**  
December 29, 2019 10:15 AM

\*Please rise as able

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude arranged by Thallander

**“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

Choral Beginning – *sung by the congregation* See Back

**“There’s a Song in the Air”**  
*Verses 1 & 2*

The Light of God Enters

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Reader 1: In Advent, we remembered the adventures of Joseph, Zechariah, Simeon, and Mary passed down in Holy Scripture. Today, as we worship on the fifth day of Christmas, we remember the start of Jesus’ journey on earth. We remember how darkness in Herod’s greed tried to overtake the light of God sent into the world on Christmas Day.

*Lighting of the Christ Candle only*

Reader 2: As we light just the Christ candle, we remember that God’s love and guidance are stronger than earthly powers and Christ’s light continues to shine even when it seems hidden as Baby Jesus was hidden in Egypt.

**People: God, help the light we received in our hearts on Christmas Eve to shine brightly in all we do, say and think. Guide us to live lives which show that light to the world rather than hide it from the world.**

Response See Back

**“There’s a Song in the Air”**  
*Verse 4*

Call to Worship

Leader: The world God has made is diverse and beautiful, full of wonders and joy.

**People: Christ is present with us in this world, in the painstaking work of the Kingdom of God.**

Leader: Christ's presence opens our hearts and our eyes, rebuilds our relationships and restores our joy.

**People: We celebrate this presence in times of joy and of sorrow, of peace and of struggle. Amen**

Children’s Sermon

Carol Sing

Prayers of the People

Lord’s Prayer Hymnal Pg. 35

Giving of our Tithes, Offerings, and Selves

Offertory arranged by Bitler

**“Were You There on That Christmas Night?”**

Old Testament Lesson (page 693) Isaiah 63: 7-9

New Testament Lesson (page 2) Matthew 2: 13-23

Sermon **“The Christmas Story No One Wants to Hear”**

Prayer

Carol Sing

\*Blessing

Leader: Let us go forth with eyes to see and ears to hear and voices to proclaim:

**People: In the work of Justice – Christ. In the practice of mercy – Christ.**

Leader: In Good News for the poor – Christ. In the vision of peace - Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen**

\*Choral Benediction – *sung by the congregation* See Back

**“There’s a Song in the Air”**  
*Verse 3*

\*The Light of God Goes with Us into the World

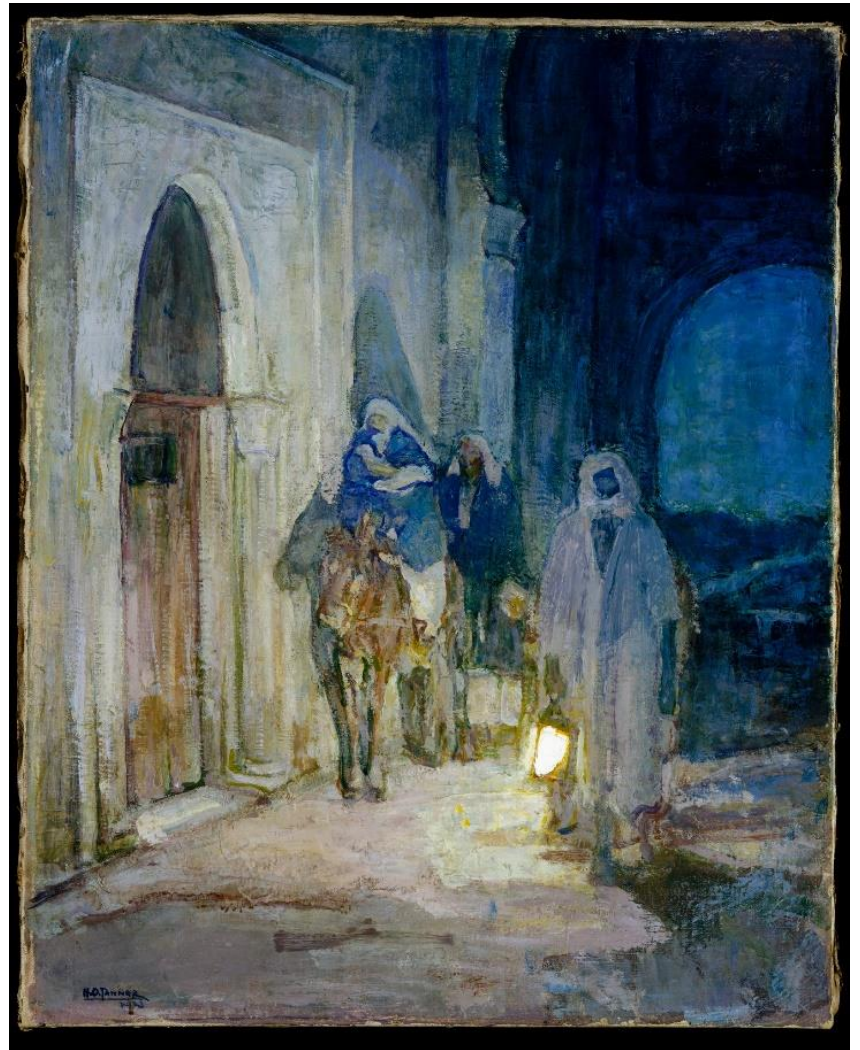
\*Postlude arranged by Thallander

**“We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”**



*Flowers today are given by the David Betz family in honor of William and Janet Betz.*

Participants in today’s service: Eli Henning (worship leader), Greg Bitler and Judy Christ (musical offering), Gary Christian and Mitch Welliver (Deacons), Joy Christian (organist), Rev. Doug Orbaker (pastor)



### **Flight into Egypt**

*Henry Ossawa Tanner (1859-1937)*

*The Smithsonian's posthumous exhibition of several of Tanner's works in 1969 was the first major solo exhibition of a black artist in the United States. "Flight into Egypt" depicts the Holy Family's clandestine evasion of King Herod's assassins.*

## **Grove Presbyterian Church**

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