

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

Please note that all text in **bold** is spoken in unison. † Worshipers are asked to stand in body or spirit.

WELCOME! What a delight that you are here! We hope you will experience the love of Jesus and the joy of community in this time of worship. Come, let us adore Christ the Lord!

December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

6:30PM

PRAYER OF PREPARATION (You are invited to pray this prayer in silence.)

Everlasting God, as we await Your coming, may tonight be filled with peace and free of any distractions that lead my heart away from You. On this Christmas Eve, let me be present in each moment and may my eyes be open to signs of Your love all around me. Amen.

PRELUDE

The Angel Gabriel O Come, All Ye Faithful arr. John Leavitt arr. Dan Marvin

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT

Carol of the Bells
Christmas is here, bringing good cheer,
To young and old, meek and the bold,
With joyful ring all caroling.

Hark! How the bells, sweet silver bells,All seem to say, throw cares away.One seems to hear words of good cheerFrom everywhere, filling the air.Oh, how they pound, raising the sound,O'er hill and dale, telling their tale.Gaily they ring, while people sing,Songs of good cheer, Christmas is here!

Merry, merry, merry Christmas! O come, O come Emmanuel!

arr. David McKay and Jeffery Ames

† CALL TO WORSHIP based on Luke 2:10-14

One: Rejoice! I bring good news for all people.

Many: Unto us a child is born. Alleluia!

One: Tonight the angels sing on earth:

Many: Glory to God in the highest!

All: Come, let us worship Christ the newborn King!

† HYMN Angels We Have Heard on High

arr. Joan J. Pinkston

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strain. Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song? Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem, and see Him whose birth the angels sing; Come adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria!

Choral ending: In excelsis gloria, in excelsis Deo, gloria!

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

David, Hallei, and Dorisa Neely

ADVENT SONG

Light the Advent Candle

arr. Ruth E. Schram

As we light the Advent candle with the light of Christ burning bright, Faithfully we wait for His coming; faithfully it shines through the night.

In our humble hearts, a fire burns as well;
Hear the prayer these flames would tell. (x2)
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel.

Choral Ending: Hear the humble prayer these flames would tell. Come, O come, Emmanuel.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"

by Barbara Robinson

ANTHEM

Breath of Heaven: Mary's Song

arr. Michael Barrett

I have traveled many moonless nights. Cold and weary with a Babe inside, And I wonder what I've done. Holy Father, You have come and chosen me now to carry Your Son.

I am waiting in a silent prayer. I am frightened by the load I bear.

In a world as cold as stone, Must I walk this path alone? Be with me now; be with me now.

Breath of Heaven, hold me together. Be forever near me, Breath of Heaven; Breath of Heaven, lighten my darkness. Pour over me Your holiness, for You are holy, Breath of Heaven.

Do You wonder as You watch my face, If a wiser one should have had my place? But I offer all I am, for the mercy of Your plan. Help me be strong, Help me be; help me. (Chorus) SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

Pew Bible p. 880 Large Print p. 1560-1561

SERMON

The Gift of Jesus

† HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!

arr. Neil Harmon

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today. Ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this! He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Choral Interlude: Good Christian friends, rejoice!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; Now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Choral Ending: Good Christian friends, rejoice! Christ the Lord, is born today.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

OFFERTORY

Love Came Down at Christmas Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine; Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine; Worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign? Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine; Love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign. arr. Taylor Scott Davis

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

† LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

† CAROL SING A Festival of Carols arr. John Bolin

> Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come 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.

Angels from the Realms of Glory Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King! Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!

It Came upon the Midnight Clear It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold: Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all gracious King. The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

> O Come, All Ye Faithful O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant; O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem! Come and behold Him, born the King of angels! O come, let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

> > O Holy Night

CANTIQUE DE NOEL

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! O night divine, O night, o night divine! Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever! His power and glory evermore proclaim! His power and glory evermore proclaim!

Choral Ending: Let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

† BENEDICTION

ANTIOCH

REGENT SQUARE

ADESTE FIDELES

CAROL

Silent Night, Holy Night

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright, Round you virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight, Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing: Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light, Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

> Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; With the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Thank you for worshipping with us this Christmas Eve!

CHRISTMAS EVE VOCALISTS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS

Adriana Avalos Susan Blackwell **Jeff Courts** Krista Courts Cole Crawford Renee Franklin Benjamin Furlow Darryl Furlow **Jacob Furlow** Joshua Furlow Andrew Gautreaux Martha Giarratano Tami Goss Mason Hendrix Devonta Hicks **Jake Hollier** Bekah Jones Gary Jones Andrew Kier Brenda Legendre Valera Messer Alyssa Millner

Cameron Montgomery

Mason Montgomery Sharon Moore Dorothy Moorefield **Janet Myers** Paula Nichols Audrey Parigi Turner Partain Leslie Pember Nicholas Pfister **Judy Phillips** Susan Pierson Caleb Roubieu Jillian Sanchez Lauren Sanchez Kelli Sandidge Chad Savage Dietrich Schilberg Linda Sparkman Chris Stiles Dana Timaeus Ethan Williamson

Dalton Woody

Kyleigh Montgomery

ST. ANDREW'S POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

The poinsettias around the sanctuary were given to the glory of God

In loving memory of:

Amy Kennedy

by Vivian Hulsopple

Amy Lynn Butler

by Mike and Julie Glenn

Betty and James Turner

by Jennifer and Luke Nichols

Betty Boyd Storms

by Linda Sparkman

Beverly and Richard Harrel

by Barbara and Michael Warren

Bobby Kennedy

by Vivian Hulsopple

Bruce Irvine

by Kathe Hendricks, Alex Irvine & Kit Garven

Cindy Woodland

by Linda Sparkman

Connie and Billy McCroskey

by the Raumaker and Neyland Families

Connor Smith

by PW Sunday Circle

Doris and Ken Raumaker

by the Raumakers

Dorothy Hebert

by Mark and JoAnn Russo

Ed and Mary Lib Fischer

by Margot Fischer

Elizabeth and Henry Creeger

by the Petit Family

Ellen and Howard Nichols

by Jennifer and Luke Nichols

Ellie Puckett

by PW Sunday Circle

Fran and Sandy Irvine

by Kathe Hendricks, Alex Irvine & Kit Garven

G. Bruce Kimmel

by Vivian Hulsopple

George and Lois Boyd

by Linda Sparkman

Ginny Kennedy

by Vivian Hulsopple

Grams & PopPop (Ann & Thomas Thompson)

by their granddaughter, Tara Thompson

J.H. "Jukie" Burnside

by Lynn and Bruce Burnside

Jack Woodworth

by the Woodworth and Nichols Families

Jack and Jackie Uehlinger

by Dan and Janna Caywood

James Sweeney

by Maryann Sweeney

Jim Towers

by his family

Joan Caywood

by Howard, Dan and Janna Caywood

Joan Madigan

by Barbara and Michael Warren

Josee Schwartz

by Sunday Circle

Ken Nichols

by the Nichols Family

Kenneth Nichols

by the Nichols Family

Linda Farnsworth

by PW Sunday Circle

Lolly and Sal Russo

by Mark and JoAnn Russo

Love of my life, Iim Buckley

by Glenda Buckley

Madelyn and Zeke Warrick

by Lynn and Bruce Burnside

Marion and George Fulton

by their family

Mark Steinhagen

by Margot Fischer

My Father, George Brown

by Martha Pate

My Mother, Joel Martin

by Martha Pate

My mother: Lydia Brown, my brother: Gordon Brown,

my mother-in-law: Blanche Buckley

by Glenda Buckley

Nancy Hale

by PW Sunday Circle

Nancy Landholt

by PW Sunday Circle

Nolan and Pearl Boyd

by Linda Sparkman

Norma Murphy

by Andy Quigley

Norma Murphy

by PW Sunday Circle

Our Dear Friend, Jane Hebert

by Paul and Becky Ford

Our Fathers: Brent Fisher and Ivey Partain

by Bruce and Lynn Partain

Our Grandparents

by Brian, Tori, William and Zachary Armstrong

Our Parents

by Judy and Bob Fisher

Our Parents

by Jan and John Pember

Our Parents: Bill and Marjorie Ford, Bob and Lillie

Shepherd

by Paul and Becky Ford

Pat Caywood

by Howard D. Caywood

Pat Caywood

by Howard, Dan and Janna Caywood

Peter Wells

by Mr. and Mrs. John Quigley

Reed Nichols

by the Woodworth and Nichols Families

Ruth and Johnnie Jurik and Glenn N. Lewis

by Janet, Stephanie and the Sandwell Family

Shelley Plunkett

by Lee Plunkett

Snowball (Hope Heckel)

by her great-granddaughter, Tara Thompson

Sue and Paul Petit

by the Petit Family

Val Rayzor

by Sally and Howard Nichols

Vickie Kimmel Garland

by Vivian Hulsopple

In honor of:

All who have served communion this year

by Leslie Pember

Craig, Leslie, Lauren and Sarah Pember

by Jan and John Pember

Dan and Janna Caywood

by Howard D. Caywood

Doreen Jameson

by Martha and Valera

Gerald Fisher

by Judy and Bob Fisher

Karen Spivey

by Vivian Hulsopple

Katrina and Joyce

by Lynn and Bruce Burnside

Lynn and Bruce Burnside

by Sara Hope Burnside

My daughters: Lynette Buckley and Jennifer Patton, and their families

by Glenda Buckley

My friends: Sherry Edmund, Barbara and Dalton Abel,

Beth Ann Mistrot

by Glenda Buckley

My granddaughter: Sara Brooke Burnside

by Sara Hope Burnside

Our children, 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren

by Paul and Becky Ford

Our Church Staff

by Pastor Tara

Our family

by Bob and Liz Webb

Our grandchildren: Nevin Partain, Gracelyn Partain,

Britton Partain, Evelyn Partain

by Bruce and Lynn Partain

Our granddaughters: Savannah, Carlisle, Mae Martin and

Etta

by Ditto and Pops

Our mothers: Nell Moore and Daphene Partain

by Lynn and Bruce Partain

Pastor Tara

by Barbara and Michael Warren

Phoebe and Penelope Johnson

by Callie and Andrew Johnson

SAPC Members and Friends

by Pastor Tara

Sara Brooke, Blair, Margaret, Hays, and Mary Margaret

Burnside

by Lynn and Bruce Burnside

Sara Hope Burnside

by Lynn and Bruce Burnside

Shelley Plunkett's Children and Grandchildren

by Lee Plunkett

St. Andrew's Choir

by Vivian Hulsopple

Tara Thompson

by Lynn and Bruce Burnside

The Meals on Wheels Cooks

by Anonymous

Thomas Fisher

by Bob and Judy Fisher

Thomas Furlow and our wonderful musicians

by Lynn and Bruce Burnside

Thomas Furlow and the choir

by Barbara and Michael Warren

We sincerely apologize if any poinsettia dedications were inadvertently misspelled or omitted.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BULLETINS and large print BULLETINS, BIBLES, AND HYMNALS are available on the sanctuary tables.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed tomorrow, Christmas Day, and will be open from 8:30AM-4:30PM on December 26.

The office will CLOSE at 12:30PM on Tuesday, December 31 and be CLOSED all day on Wednesday, January 1, 2025. The office will resume normal business hours on Thursday, January 2, 2025.

Join us this Sunday, December 29, 2024 at 10:30AM for a WORSHIP SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS adapted from "To Us a Child Is Born: A Service of Scripture, Song, and Symbol" by John D. Paarlberg.

CHURCH STAFF

Tara Thompson, Pastor Thomas Furlow, Music Director Rachel Stiles, Organist Joyce Stillwell, Admin Assistant Patricia Williamson, Pianist

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8:30AM - 4:30PM 1350 N. 23rd Street

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