

Christmas Eve

December 24th, 2015

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* *arr. Hayes*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

+CALL TO WORSHIP

from Luke 1:68-78

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

All: **And also with you.**

One: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

All: **for God has looked favorably upon his people and redeemed them.**

One: He has raised up a mighty Savior for us,

All: **to give light to those who sit in darkness,**

One: to give light to those who sit in the shadow of death,

All: **to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

+PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

#41

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Out of the noise and the glitter and the ho-ho-ho of the world's Christmas, we have come away, O God, into this hour in your presence. We confess, however, that our minds are elsewhere. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to feel the true joy of this night. Help us to discover the true meaning that lies beneath the surface of our worldly celebrations. Help us to see beyond the baby in the manger to the man that Jesus became. Help us to live our lives by his teachings and his example. Send us out empowered by your Spirit to spread the word that, not only were you born among us, you live among us. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

+ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

+RESPONSE

Angels We Have Heard on High

#23

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to come forward for the Time for Young Disciples.

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

Offertory

And the Stars Sang

Martin

R. Dean Barr

+Response

What Child Is This?

#53, v. 3

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, one and all, to own Him

The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him

This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

+Prayer of Dedication

+PREPARATORY HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#31

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

HEBREW BIBLE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

p. 598 OT

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-6:1

p. 159 NT

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Tim Reynolds

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Preparatory Anthem

Somewhere Tonight

Calloway

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **They are lifted up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Breaking of the Bread & Communion of the People

Communion Carols

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

#38 vv. 1,4

The First Nowell

#56 vv. 1,2

Still, Still, Still

#47 vv. 1,2

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

#37 vv. 1,2

O Little Town of Bethlehem

#44 vv. 1,4

Away in a Manger

#25 vv. 1,3

Prayer After Communion

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

adapted from Titus 2:11 & Luke 2:14

We believe that in Jesus Christ the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. He gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth, peace among those whom he favors!

THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:1-20

#332

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Birthday of a King

Neidlinger

Anne Campbell & Tuesday Reynolds

THE SPREADING OF THE LIGHT

As the ushers light the first candle in each row, we invite you to turn and light the candle of the person next to you. The lighted candle remains upright while the unlighted candle is tipped to be lighted. Please wait until you depart to extinguish your candle.

SENDING HYMN

Silent Night

#60

Lyrics are printed on the back of the bulletin for your convenience.

+BENEDICTION

Following the benediction the ushers will dismiss the congregation by row.

As your row departs please extinguish your candle and depart the sanctuary in silence.

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

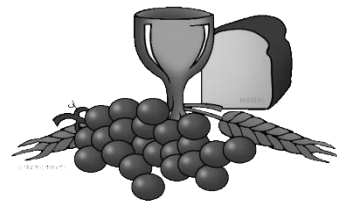
Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!"

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!

THIS EVENING...

- The liturgist is Kate Shockley.
- The acolytes are Morgan Crum and Hope Shockley
- The bell ringer is Milo Leidig
- The sound board tech is Seth Reynolds.
- There is a nursery for those wishing to leave their infants and toddlers during the service. The nursery attendant is
- There is no WOW Children's Worship this evening. Families are invited to spend the evening worshipping together.
- Please keep your candles lit until after the benediction. You may place your candle in the receptacle by the door on the way out.
- Anyone that has purchased a memorial/honorary poinsettia may take it home following the service.



mobility is an issue is invited to remain seated and an elder will come serve you where you are.

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP is tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. This is an informal, come-as-you-are service, even if that means pajamas! (We always have a few each year!) We will sing carols, hear a story, and celebrate the birth of our Lord in fellowship with cookies and apple cider.

ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER ART: This bulletin cover this evening is "The Christmas Bowl" by John Leech. It is from the original 1843 publication of *A Christmas Carol*.

COMMUNION THIS EVENING: We welcome all who follow Jesus to the Lord's Table this evening, including children. Communion will be received via the method of intinction. At the appropriate time you are invited to come forward, break off a piece of bread, and proceed to the cup on the side of the sanctuary on which you are seated. Dip the bread in the cup in order to partake. Anyone for whom

Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church

Organized 1772

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)



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