

GOD BLESS US EVERY ONE

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 24, 2018

10:45pm

Christmas Eve

FOR REFLECTION

*“What do I want for Christmas?
I want to kneel in Bethlehem, the air thick with alleluias,
The angels singing that God is born among us.” – Ann Weems*

As the prelude begins please become quiet as we prepare for worship.

PRELUDE

“Silent Night”

arr. John Leavitt

Linda Dover, piano

“The Shepherds at the Manger”

by Franz Liszt

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

arr. Michael Sharp

Linda Dover & Edwin Fukunaga, piano 4-hand

“Ave Maria”

J. S. Bach/Charles Gounod

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

“What Child Is This?”

arr. Rich Hessler

Bob Dover, clarinet

11 O'clock pm

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Don Wilson

One: Christ is born!

All: Alleluia!

One: Jesus is among us!

All: Alleluia!

One: Shout with joy, give thanks, and sing!

All: Christ is born!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES & THE CHRIST CANDLE (*see insert*)

Cal & Amy Sweeten, readers

*HYMN 110

“Love Has Come”

BRING A TORCH

CHRISTMAS PRAYER (*unison*)

Loving God, deep in the night, when all the world had locked the doors on love and closed the shutters on hope, you pierced the darkness with light and a baby's cry. Never again shall we be alone. No more shall we sit in fear. For Christ, the light of the world and of our lives, is born. God of angels and babies, open us once again to this miracle, this wonder that you became one with us. Let us join the choirs of angels and sing: God is in us, God is for us, God is with us, Emmanuel. Amen.

*HYMN 133, *vs. 1 and 4*

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELIS

GOD'S WORD OF LIGHT

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Breaking of the Bread

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6–7

Poppy Zurcher

SOLO

“O Holy Night”
Bob Dover, baritone

by Adolphe Charles Adam

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

Kim Krueger

HYMN 145

“What Child is This”

GREENSLEEVES

THE THIRD LESSON

Luke 2: 8-14

Barb Purvis

SOLO

“Holy Son”
Donna Goeckler, soloist – Bob Dover, flute

by Linda Dover

THE FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2:15–20

HYMN 119

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

Prayer After Communion

GOD’S LIGHT ANNOUNCED

*HYMN 123, *v. 1*

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

CAROL

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

“God Bless Us Every One”
The Revs. Sue & Mitch Trigger

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

“Resonet in Laudibus”
Linda Dover, organ

arr. Richard Warner

REMEMBERING THE 200th ANNIVERSARY OF “SILENT NIGHT”

SHARING THE LIGHT – CANDLE LIGHTING

(We will light one another’s candles reminding us of the coming of the Light of the World.)

*HYMN 122

“Silent Night, Holy Night!”

STILLE NACHT

**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! 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.**

LITANY OF ADORATION

ONE: Emmanuel, God-in-us, interrupt and soften our hearts to the message of this hour, that we might turn toward you, and have the way prepared in us for your coming.

ALL: May your light shine!

ONE: Emmanuel, God-for-us, interrupt and fill our spirits with the courage to admit when we are lost and the insight to recognize that we have been found.

ALL: May your light shine!

ONE: Emmanuel, God-with-us, interrupt and open our eyes to the wonder of this night, that we might catch a glimpse of your glory in the simplicity of these moments.

ALL: May your light shine!

ONE: Emmanuel, God-in-us, God-for-us, God-with-us; with eyes open, hearts softened, and spirits full, we rejoice that you interrupt what we have in mind in order to bring into being something more than we dare imagine.

ALL: May your light shine! Amen.

(Please extinguish your candle.)

*HYMN 134

“Joy to the World”

ANTIOCH

*BENEDICTION

(After the service, please leave your extinguished candle in the Concourse.)

*POSTLUDE

“Arise, Your Light Is Come”

arr. Lauren Gadd

Linda Dover, organ

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*******ANNOUNCEMENTS*******

WELCOME to this service. All believers are invited to join us at the Lord’s Table.

We extend a special **THANK YOU** to musicians Edwin Fukunaga – piano, Donna Goeckler – vocal soloist, Bob Dover – vocal soloist and clarinet, Christopher Callender – guitar, and Linda Dover – organist.

Remember, there will be **ONE WORSHIP SERVICE DECEMBER 30** at 10am.

Tonight our **OFFERING** has been designated for the Presbyterian Church (USA) Christmas Joy Offering to support the assistance programs of the Board of Pensions and the racial-ethnic schools and colleges of our denomination.



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