



Let there
be **LIGHT**



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11100 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS 66210 ♦ 913-345-1256 ♦ gpc.org

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2017

5:00pm

CHRISTMAS CHIMES

Linda Dover, organ

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Fred Holbrook

One: There is good news of great joy for all!

All: Our Savior is born: the Messiah, the Lord.

One: Glory to God in the highest,

All: and peace to God's people on earth. Let us worship God.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Fred and Linda Starrett,
Aaron, Katie, Teagan, and Bennett Rickley

One: Hope leads us out of the darkness and toward God's Light. Peace starts with small steps that move us closer to God's Light. Love shines light on what is possible. Joy bursts forth wherever God's Light shines.

One: God's Light is in the hope that leads us out of darkness. It is in the peace that moves us toward the Light. God's Light shows us what is possible. It is in the joy of Jesus' birth!

All: The waiting is over! Let there be Light! Amen!

Sing 119 (*vs. 1*)

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King.
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

ANTHEM

"Tidings of Joy"
Exaltation!
Linda Dover & Edwin Fukunaga, piano 4-hands

arr. Lloyd Larson

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*HYMN 133, (*vss. 1 & 3*)

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELES

Let There Be Light!

Author of Love and Light

The Prophets Call - Hosea 14

Mary and Joseph - Matthew 1

A Long Journey - Luke 2

HYMN 121 (*vs. 1*)

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

ST. LOUIS

A Child is Born – Luke 2

ANTHEM

“Long Time Ago”

Exaltation!

Setting by Joseph M. Martin

Words by J. Paul Williams

The Shepherds Watch and Wonder - Luke 2

The Angels Sing

HYMN 113 (*vss. 1 & 2*)

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

GLORIA

Wise Ones Seek the Light - Matthew 2

The Star Watchers Arrive

HYMN 151 (*vss. 1 & 5*)

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

KINGS OF ORIENT

The Light Has Come! The Love Is Here!

HYMN 134 (*vss. 1 & 2*)

“Joy to the World”

ANTIOCH

*(As we sing the children will return to sit with their families.
If your child needs help finding you, come to them.)*

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

“Carols Around”

(And a Round)

Exaltation!

arr. Carl J. Nygard, Jr.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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”

STILLE NACHT
Christopher Callender, guitar

**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.**

*BENEDICTION

(Please extinguish your candle at the close of the benediction, before people start to move.)

*POSTLUDE

“A Festal Fanfare”

Linda Dover, organ

J. S. Bach
arr. Van Denman Thompson

** = If convenient/able, please stand.*

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Our thanks to all who helped with our worship this evening!

Storyteller: Laura Holbrook

Readers: Trent Amerine and Jenna Soule

Mary, Joseph, and Jesus: Andrew, Michelle, and Henry Frye

Stable Animal Managers: George Bures and David Steen

Angels: Exaltation!

Shepherds: Lauren Callender, Miles Dalton, Ben Mason, and Max Passett

Wise Magi: Margaret Hubble, Caroline McDonald, and Jolee Webb

(Others may have joined the cast after the bulletin was printed.)

*****ANNOUNCEMENTS*****

We are delighted to **WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP** this happy and holy evening. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to consider becoming a part of this church family. Our Sunday worship services are at 8:50 and 11:05am. **NEXT SUNDAY, December 31**, we will have **one worship service at 10am**.

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

THANK YOU to Exaltation!, Christopher Callender – guitar, and Linda Dover – organist.

The staff and Worship Team would like to take this opportunity to **WISH YOU A BLESSED CHRISTMAS** and to express our joy in ministering with you throughout the past year.