



From A Sanctified Art

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols

December 24, 2017

7:30pm

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

FOR REFLECTION

*“Glory to God in the highest
and peace to God’s people on earth.”*

– Luke 2:19

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

PRELUDE

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

“Mary Had a Baby”

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

Dave, Karen, and Brian Pack

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.

One: 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!”

*CAROL 133

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELES

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Hayne Kang

ANTHEM

“The Promise”

Chancel Choir

Music by Russell Nagy

Words by Joel Nagy

THE SECOND LESSON

Micah 5:2-4

Chris Alka

CAROL 121 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" ST. LOUIS

THE THIRD LESSON Luke 1:26-35, 38 Terri Monrad

ANTHEM "A Christmas Mystery" by Christopher G. Krug
Incorporating "Away in a Manger"
Chancel Choir
Terri Monrad & Jenna Lillian, soprano soloists

THE FOURTH LESSON Matthew 1:18-21 Madeline Passett

ANTHEM "Sing We Now of Christmas" arr. Mark Kellner
Chancel Choir Traditional French Carol

THE FIFTH LESSON Luke 2:8-20 Andrew Alka

*CAROL 113 "Angels We Have Heard on High" GLORIA

READING "This Year Will Be Different" Fred Holbrook
from Ann Weems' *Kneeling in Bethlehem*

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella" arr. Howard Helvey
Chancel Choir Traditional French Carol
Linda Dover & Edwin Fukunaga, piano 4-hands

THE SIXTH LESSON John 1:1-14 Logan Callender

*CAROL 134 "Joy to the World" ANTIOCH

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING THE LIGHT – CANDLE LIGHTING

(We will light one another's candles reminding us to let there be Light.)

*CAROL 122 "Silent Night, Holy Night!" 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

*POSTLUDE

“A Festal Fanfare”

Linda Dover, organ

by J. S. Bach

arr. Van Denman Thompson

(Please leave your extinguished candle in the Concourse and thank you for remembering to do your part in preparing the Sanctuary for our next worship service.)

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

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*****ANNOUNCEMENTS*****

We are delighted to have you **WORSHIP WITH US** tonight. If you do not have a church home, please know *you are welcome* here. We also want to take this opportunity to encourage you to join us for a Service of Communion, Scripture, Instrumentalists, Soloists, and Candlelight at 10:45 tonight.

This evening our **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.

We extend a special **THANK YOU** to Chancel Choir, 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 appreciation for the many significant ways the members of this congregation sustain the living presence of Jesus Christ in today’s world. We are blessed by your love and grace!



GRACE COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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