



GERMANTOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
C·H·U·R·C·H



Christmas Eve
December 24, 2021
5:30P.M.

www.GPCTN.org

*All who are able are invited to stand. *Please make sure you receive a candle from an usher.*

PRELUDE

A Winter's Night
The Sounds of the Season
Kyle and Melissa Millsap, trumpets

Kevin McKee
arr. David Marlatt

WELCOME

Dr. Will Jones

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

Leader: This is a holy night. It is a night in which the impossible was about to happen in Bethlehem.

People: This is the evening when creation stood still and held its breath, for God was doing the most wonderful, dangerous thing.

Leader: On this night we remember the words of the prophet Isaiah: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

People: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them has the light shined!"

Leader: This is the evening when God embraced humanity from the inside, as one of us, from birth to death.

People: We sing like the angels: "Glory to God in the highest, and may there be peace and goodness to all people!"

*CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

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.

Refrain: **O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n; Word of the Father, begotten, not created. [Refrain]

*UNISON PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Rev. Mike Lyle

Jesus Christ, tonight we celebrate Your birth in Bethlehem. O God, the soles of Your feet have touched the earth, and the whole world has been lit by Your presence. At Christmas, the world welcomes the King of Heaven, born as a tiny infant. You have come among us. You are one of us. May our songs and praises rise to surround Your throne, as our knees bend to salute Your cradle. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Paul, Missy, and Cole Gwin
Rachel Gwin

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

Dr. John Johnson

SPECIAL MUSIC

Gesù Bambino
Althea and Christina Crouse, sopranos

Pietro Yan

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 1:18-25

Rev. Wiggins

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:1-20

Rev. Lyle

SERMON

A Decree Went Out....

Dr. Jones

OFFERING

Special Christmas Eve Offering

Dr. Jones

OFFERTORY

Birthday of King
Michael Anderson, baritone

W. H. Neidlinger

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Wiggins

Invitation to the Table

Prayer before Communion and 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing of the Sacrament

Communion Music

Angels' Carol
Chancel Choir

John Rutter

Prayer after Communion

PASSING OF THE LIGHT

Rev. Wiggins

SOLO

O Holy Night
Karen Schowalter Cooper

Adolphe Adam

CAROL

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

CELEBRATION OF THE LIGHT: John 1:1-5; 8:12

Dr. Johnson

*CAROL

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

**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.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.**

*BENEDICTION

Dr. Jones

*POSTLUDE

Angels We Have Heard on High

Marianne Kim

Merry Christmas