

Sharing the Light

*Christmas Carol #122 *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.

We Go Out in God's Name

*Having gathered together in God's name and been fed by God's Holy Word,
we go out in God's name, bearing the peace of Christ to the world.*

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Sung Benediction #136 *Go Tell It On the Mountain*

(Congregation sings refrain; choir sings a verse; repeat refrain)

Refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born! *(Choir sings verse; then repeat refrain)*

*Postlude

*Please stand if able. Remain seated if need be.

Wishing you a joyous and blessed Christmas.

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

December 24, 2024

Family Service 4:00 PM



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church
Bienvenue à La Première Eglise Presbytérienne de Champaign
Bienvenidos a La Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana

삼페인 제일 장로교회에 오신것을 환영합니다.

Si vous souhaitez que le service soit traduit en français,
procurez-vous un récepteur et des écouteurs à l'arrière du sanctuaire.

Welcome to worship!

“Joy to the world, the Lord is come...” With joy we greet you.

We are presently worshiping in Westminster Hall while our elevator is being replaced.

The presence of all who have come to celebrate Christmas adds to the joy of worshiping the Lord on this glorious night.

May the full meaning of Christmas be real to us all...now and always.

Prelude

Act of Friendship

Greetings & Welcome

Threshold Moment

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Nancy Martin & her granddaughter, Vivian Schroeder

#88 *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (vs. 1)

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,

That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

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

We Gather Around God’s Holy Word

At the center of Christian life and worship is God’s Word incarnate in Christ and God’s Word as recorded in scripture.

We hear the story of God’s love in Scripture and sacrament, and we say, “Thanks be to God!”

The Christmas Story

The Birth of Jesus

Luke 2:1-5

Christmas Carol #133 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (vs. 1, 4)

Luke 2:6-7

Christmas Carol #115 *Away in a Manger* (vs. 1)

Luke 2:8-14

Christmas Carol #119 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* (vs. 1)

Luke 2:15-20

Christmas Carol #132 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* (vs. 1)

Story for the Evening

The Sparkle Box by Jill Hardie

We Respond to God’s Word

As God invites us to be disciples of his Son, we prayerfully respond to God with

affirmations of faith and acts of self-giving, commitment, and thanksgiving.

Affirmation of Faith *I Do Believe*

I believe in God whose light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never smother it.

I believe that on a night like this night in Bethlehem there was born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

I believe that The Word became a man and lived among us. We saw his glory—the glory that belongs to the only Son of the Father. The Word was full of grace and truth.

I believe in his name as Wonderful Counselor, Powerful God, Father Who Lives Forever, Prince of Peace. Power and peace will be in his kingdom. He will make it strong by ruling with goodness and fair judgment. He will rule it forever and ever.

This I surely believe!

Invitation to the Offering

We are invited to return God’s tithes and give our offering.

Offertory *Who Would Think*

***Response of Gratitude**

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 Dedication & Thanksgiving

Call to Prayer #115 *Away in a Manger* (vs. 3)

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay

Close by me forever and love me, I pray.

Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,

And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Sparkle Box Prayers from First Presbyterian Church

The 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.