



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHAMPAIGN

December 24, 2024

Candlelight Service 8:00 PM



Ho - ly, Ho ly, Ho ly Lord, God of Pow' and God of might. Heav'n and



earth are full of your Glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Blest is



he who comes in God's name, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Leader: As we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Dy - ing you de - stroyed our death, ris - ing



you re - stored our life. Lord Je - sus come in glo - ry.

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.

Communion of the People (*We will hold the elements and partake together.*)

Prayer after Communion

*Christmas Carol #122 *Silent Night, Holy Night*

*Benediction

*Postlude The String Quartet

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

Thank you to tonight's string quarter for enhancing our worship experience this Christmas Eve...

Georgia Hornbacker, Violin 1

Eun Namkung, Violin 2

Jace Kim, Viola

Barbara Hedlund, Violoncello/Contractor

Wishing you a joyous and blessed Christmas.

Office: 302 West Church, Champaign, IL 61820 ♦ 217.356.7238

info@firstpres.church ♦ Rev. Beth Wagner (beth@firstpres.church) ♦ Rev. Joe Lundy (joseph@firstpres.church)

www.firstpres.church ♦ Facebook: fb.com/firstpreschampaign



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 worshipping in Westminster Hall while our elevator is being replaced.

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

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

Prelude

Act of Friendship/Sharing of Prayer Concerns

Please pass the Friendship Pad, noting with whom you are sitting, and list prayer concerns on the prayer request cards in the pads.

Greetings/Welcome/Announcements

Threshold Moment

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Laufenberg Family

#88 *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (vs. 7)

**O come, Desire of nations, bind all people in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven’s peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Call to Worship

O sing to the LORD a new song;

sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD; bless God’s name;

tell of God’s salvation everyday of your lives.

Declare God’s glory among the nations,

Proclaim God’s marvelous works among all the peoples.

For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised.

***Hymn of Praise #133** *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Call to Confession (*Congregation may be seated.*)

Prayer of Confession

God we come before you on the eve of your son’s birth, knowing that we have not fully lived into the life that birth calls us to. We still have strife with our neighbors, we don’t think of our fellow people before we take actions, we make excuses for abuses of power, and we live in communities where people still get excluded. God, we ask your forgiveness. Remind us of the radical change that came to earth, with your arrival as a baby. Remind us that Jesus offers us the opportunity to change for the better. Remind us to conform to your call upon our lives. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

The Light of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Prayer for Illumination #92 *While We Are Waiting, Come*

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.

Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Hebrew Bible Reading *Isaiah 9:2-7*

Gospel Reading *Luke 2:1-7*

Message

Joe Lundy

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.

***Hymn #119** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

***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/Anthem *On Christmas Night*

Ralph Vaughn Williams

***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

Communion

Hymn #132 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* (vs. 1-2)

Invitation to the Table *Luke 2:8-20*

The Great Thanksgiving

The Holy One be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to our God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Leader: ...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their unending hymn: