



Friday, December 24, 2021 ~ Christmas Eve Service
6:00 pm Candlelight Worship (Sanctuary)

Welcome

Music in Preparation for Worship

Noel: There is Nothing So Tender

Joel Krott, Organ

Dandrieu

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Greg, Jenna, Brynn

Cole Family

Call to Worship

Rev. Wes Allen

Come, O come Emmanuel. You Who are flesh, vulnerable and lowly and small.

Come, O come Emmanuel. You Who are Great, holy and powerful and forever.

Come, O come Emmanuel. The fullness of God with us. Make Your home in our heart; replace the stone with Your throne.

Come, O come Emmanuel. Save us; ransom us; heal us and raise us. Come, O come Emmanuel.

Hymn No. 146

Joel Krott, Organ

Joy to the World! The Lord is Come

Gwen Wilkie, Lauren Clark-Vocalists

Prayer of Adoration

I. In the Garden

Genesis 3:8-15

Rev. Stuart Spencer

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Lauren Clark, Alto

Helmore

Joel Krott, Organ

- II. The Promise to Abraham *Genesis 22:15-18* Lilly Rykaczewski
- The God of Abraham Praise*** Jewish Melody
Gwen Wilkie, Alto Kathy Gunsallus, Organ
- III. The Christ Foretold *Isaiah 9:2, 6-7* Evan Schad
- A Bright, New Dawn is Breaking*** Baroque German Melody arr. Haan
Choristers, Lyla Bechtel-Soprano Kathy Gunsallus, Piano
- A bright new dawn is breaking; and earth, with peace, is waking;
For Jesus, King all glorious, o'er earth is raised victorious.*
- You come in holy splendor, our Lord and true defender;
You live and reign forever; Your love shall fail us never.*
- Come free our world from blindness, and fill our lives with kindness;
Come bring us resurrection, help us to seek perfection.*
- In sickness, bring us healing; in doubt, Your clear revealing;
That praise to You be given on earth as in Your Heaven.*
- IV. The Glory of Bethlehem *Micah 5:2-4* Karina Rotter
- O Holy Child of Bethlehem*** Redner
Gwen Wilkie, Soprano Kathy Gunsallus, Organ
- V. The Angel Visits Mary *Luke 1:26-38* Vivian Allen
- To a Virgin, Meek and Mild*** Spanish
Gwen Wilkie, Alto Joel Krott, Organ
- VI. The Birth of the Christ *Matthew 1:18-23* Joshua Rotter
- Rejoice and Be Merry*** Hopson
Choristers, Lilly Rykaczewski-Solo Kathy Gunsallus, Piano
- Rejoice and be merry in songs and in mirth! O praise our Redeemer, all mortals on earth!
For this is the birthday of Jesus, our King, Who brought us salvation; His praises we sing!*
- A heavenly vision appeared in the sky; vast numbers of angels the shepherds did spy,
Proclaiming the birthday of Jesus, our King, Who brought us salvation; His praises we sing!*
- And then a bright star in the sky did appear, which led the three Magi from east to draw near.
They found the Messiah, sweet Jesus, our King, Who brought us salvation; His praises we sing!*
- And when they did come, they their treasures unfold, and to Him offered myrrh, incense and gold.
So blessed forever be Jesus, our King, Who brought us salvation; His praises we sing!*

Hymn No. 152 (vs. 1 & 4)**Angels We Have Heard on High**

Gwen Wilkie, Lauren Clark-Vocalists

Joel Krott, Organ

Christmas Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ('debts')

Rev. Spencer

Christmas Offering

Please remember the church in your year-end giving, and consider how God may be calling you to bring hope and love to others through prayer, service and financial gifts. [Give easily online](#) or directly from your phone by [using the Church Center App](#). Thank you to all who are generously giving by mail or electronically. For questions or help, contact the church office at 856.235.1688.

Offertory**Come on Knees**

Choristers

David H. Williams
Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

*Come on knees, pardon please for the wise; He lay asleep in earth's disguise
for the guilty yet to be born.
Precious gold, quarried old for the rich; it lay inside the stable niche
for the hungry yet to be born.
Fragrant myrrh, gentle stir for the dead; it lay beside His stable bed
for the mortal yet to be born.
Frankincense, innocence for a Lord; it lay upon a stable board
for the lowly yet to be born.
Human sign, love divine for the earth; He brings the gift of second birth
for the children yet to be born.*

Message

Rev. Allen

How Will You Respond?Sermon Text: [Luke 2:8-16](#)**Response****God So Loved the World**

Choristers

Wolaver
Kathy Gunsullas, Piano

*"God so loved the world that He gave His only Son
that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."*

Lighting of the Candles

Remembering Jesus is the Light of the world, let us stand and sing.

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! 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.

Christmas Benediction

Rev. Allen

6:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Ministry

Audio Technician: Harris E. Ransom
Live Video Streaming: Jonathan Nawrocki
Musicians: Joel Krott and Kathy Gunsallus
Ushers: John Miller, Jack Terry, Joe Scheideler, Brian Deam
Property Staff: Steve Cashmer, Steve Margerum, Sam Caraballo
Trustee Greeter:

Church Office will be closed Monday, December 27 and Tuesday, December 28.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the First Presbyterian Church staff!

Sunday, December 26: Combined worship in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. There will be no Sunday School nor nursery care.

Fostering a Spirit of Reconciliation: Rev. Wes Allen and Dr. Leslie Spencer will be leading a 6-week study on The Confession of Belhar. The study will meet in person at the Spencers' home on January 6, 2022 from 7:00-8:30 PM. The remaining classes will be offered via Zoom with the final session in person. The Confession of Belhar emerged out of apartheid South Africa in 1986 and was adopted by the Presbyterian Church (USA) as a Confession of Faith in 2016. **Sign up on our website as the class is limited to 8 people.**

Epiphany Concert: Please join us on Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. The Adult, Chapel, and Bell Choirs as well as the Choristers will be singing carols, songs, and anthems of the season.