



Helena Drzaszcz, age 6

December 24, 2023 ~ Christmas Eve Worship
4:00 pm Candlelight Worship (*Sanctuary*)

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Welcome

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Brett and Colleen Hancox, Esme, Winifred and Dean Hancox

Introit

Christmas Tells of Jesus

Rhea

The Very First Christmas

Scoggins

Three Wise Men

Kemp

Primary Choir; Sawyer McNab, Piano

Call to Worship

Rev. Spencer

“The people who once lived in darkness have seen a great light!”

Praise be to God Who has heard our cries.

Our souls sing out God’s praise!

God has brought us a Light of hope and peace.

Tonight in this place, the Light of God’s love is given to us!

We shall see that Light, and let it shine through our lives. Amen.

Hymn No. 146

Joy to the World! The Lord is Come

Prayer of Adoration

Rev. Wes Allen

Lesson One: In the Garden

Reader: Rev. Allen

Genesis 3: 8-15

Hymn No. 133 (v. 1)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Lesson Two: The Promise to Abraham

Reader: Nadia Khalifa

Genesis 22: 15-18

Hymn No. 66 (v. 1)

The God of Abraham Praise

Lesson Three: The Christ Foretold

Reader: Sofia Ruchich

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

Waiting

Choristers

Sullivan

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

Lesson Four: The Glory of Bethlehem

Reader: Steve Drzaszcz

Micah 5: 2-4

Each Little Lamb

Choristers

Beckstead

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

Lesson Five: The Angel Visits Mary

Luke 1: 26-38

To a Virgin, Meek and Mild

Alivia Nawrocki, Soloist

Reader: Rebecca Neindorff

Spanish

Lesson Six: The Birth of the Christ

Matthew 1: 18-23

Dance and Sing

Junior Choir

Reader: Jacob Allen

Gifford

Rebecca Neindorff, Piano

Lesson Seven: The Glory of God Revealed

Luke 2: 8-16

Three Kings

Junior Choir

Reader: Rev. Spencer

Bedford

Rebecca Neindorff, Piano

Message

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Christmas Offering



Merry Christmas, we're glad you're here. Please 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](#). **Christmas Green envelopes are in the pews for your holiday offering to First Presbyterian Church.**

Offertory

The Gift Most Treasured

Choristers

Hopson

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

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

Rev. Spencer

Lighting of the Candles

When receiving a flame from the person next to you, be careful to tip your UNLIT candle to the lit one. As we light our candles remembering Jesus is the Light of the World, let us stand and sing ...

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?

Say, what may the tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

(over)

Come to Bethlehem and see Him Whose birth the angels sing.
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

See within a manger laid, Jesus, Lord of heaven and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, sing with us our Savior's birth.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

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 affair; 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.

Christmas Benediction

Rev. Spencer

4:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Ministry

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| Audio Technician: | Joshua Leonard |
| Live Stream: | Jonathan Nawrocki |
| Musicians: | Joel Krott, Kathy Gunsallus, Rebecca Neindorff, Jessica Migrala, Flute; Noah Migrala, Clarinet |
| Ushers: | Dave Rebuck, Brett Couvillion, and James Clinton |
| Property Staff: | Steve Cashmer |
| Trustee Greeter: | Bill Conner |

- **Holiday Schedule** -- The church campus will be CLOSED Dec. 25 and Dec. 26, and open with a limited staff Dec. 27-29. The office will be closed January 1, 2024. *Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from your church staff.*
- **Monday, December 25:** Combined Christmas Day worship in the Sanctuary at **9:30 a.m.** with guest preacher Rev. Dr. Jonathan Miller.
- **Sunday, December 31:** Combined Fifth Sunday worship service in the Sanctuary at **9:30 a.m.** There will be no Sunday School, Adult Spiritual Formation or Nursery Care.
- **Epiphany Concert:** Please join us on **Sunday, January 7, 2024** at 7:30 p.m. for a Moravian Love Feast concert. The Choristers (grades 5-8), Chapel Choir (grades 9-12) and Adult Choir perform carols, songs, and anthems of the season in context of historical Moravian tradition; corporate sharing of singing, Christmas cookies and fellowship in the sanctuary as we celebrate Epiphany.