Worship on Christmas Eve
Lessons & Carols
December 24, 2022
9:00 pm

Prelude

\textit{Emmanuel}
\textit{Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light}

Words of Welcome
Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

*Opening Words
Ava Marginean

One: In the holy darkness of this night,
All: amid labor pains and newborn cries,
One: angel songs and tremors of fear,
All: tears of relief and looks of amazement,
One: our Savior takes his first breath.
All: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come to us.

*Carol 133 v. 1, 3
\textit{O Come, All Ye Faithful}
ADESTE FIDELES

Lighting of the Christ Candle
Judy, Mark, Christian, Isaac Schloegel and Jean Johns
**Call to Confession**  
Ava Marginean  

Every Sunday we pray a prayer of confession together. I used to think that this was a time to air out all the things I did wrong—all the reasons I was a bad person. However, as I have grown, I have realized—that’s not what this is.

Instead, this is a small moment for all of us to pause and recognize that we aren’t perfect, we are still works in progress, and we want God’s help to grow.

How powerful is that? Where else in the world does a group of people gather every week and say out loud: “I’m sorry. I want to grow. Help me get there.”

So tonight as we pray, remember how powerful this is. This is one small way we accept God’s invitation to deeper faith and life-changing love. Let us pray together now . . .

**Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, you throw open the door and invite us into relationship, day in and day out. However, instead of running toward you, we dip our toes in the water of this faith. We hold our breath. We play it safe. We struggle to believe that a love so unfettered, so unfiltered, could be for us. As a result, we often deny this worth for ourselves and others. Forgive us for ignoring your invitation to be the people you call us to be. Forgive us for the ways in which we hold back from deeper connection to you or withhold your radical love from others. Open our ears to not only hear your invitation, but to trust that this good news exists even for us. Gratefully we pray, amen.

**Assurance of God’s Grace**

One: Family of faith, even when we fail to trust God’s love, and even when we fail to love others as we should, God still loves us. That door never closes. So hear and believe this good news:

All: God invites us into a life of faith. God loves us through every season of life. God forgives us when we lose our way and invites us deeper every step of the way. We are loved, invited, claimed, celebrated, and forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*Sung Response 583  
Glory to God  
GLORIA (Taizé)*

*Sharing the Peace of Christ*

One: As a sign of our reconciliation with God and with one another, let us share the peace. The Peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!
Lessons & Carols

*Carol 140 v. 1, 2

Once in Royal David’s City

IRBY

First Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Ava

For the people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light.
A child has been born for us.

Carol 143 v. 1, 4 (remain seated)

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

Second Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Beth

An angel appears to Mary and announces
that she will bear a holy child

*Carol 119 v. 1, 3

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

Third Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Susan

Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem
where Mary gives birth to her child

Carol 145 v. 1, 3 (remain seated)

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

Fourth Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:8-17

Ava

Angels appear to shepherds in the fields
and announce the birth of the Messiah

Meditation

Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

*Carol 147 v. 1

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

Fifth Scripture Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

Beth

Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah
and offer gifts to the baby Jesus

Offering Our Gifts to God

Invitation

Ava

Anthem

Ancient Peoples Searched the Sky
Words Adam M.L. Tice; Music Sally Ann Morris
Chancel Choir

*Doxology 607 words / 606 tune

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

Ava
The Celebration of the Lord’s Supper
Rev. Susan Tindall & Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: (prayer continues)...As we remember the story, we join with the voices around us and sing praises to you this Christmas night:

One: We remember too, Christ of the upper room, gathered with his friends
(prayer continues)...

On this night, when we sing of the baby in the manger, as the shadow of the cross is cast by the stars, we proclaim the great mystery of our faith:

(prayer continues)
The Lord’s Prayer (using “sins”)

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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Ushers will invite you to come forward for the receiving of communion.
All are invited to come to the table using the center aisle and return via the outside aisles.
The center station offers allergen-free wafers and prepackaged communion elements.

Communion Music

Gesu Bambino
arr. Melody Bober

Prayer After Communion (unison)

Bread of heaven, let us not be unchanged by tonight. Let us not pass by the stable in silence; let us not leave the table empty. Dwell in our hearts, and shine in our lives, that we might know your deep, deep peace, and share it with the world. Fill us with your love, that we might walk hand in hand with you all our days. We pray in the holy name of the Christ-child, born for us this night. Amen.

Sixth Scripture Lesson

John 1:1-5, 9-12, 14
Susan & Beth

The word of God becomes flesh
and lives among us, full of grace and truth

*Carol 122 v 1, 3, 4

Silent Night, Holy Night!
Sharing the light of Christ – lighting of the candles

(The worship leaders will take the light from the Christ Candle and bring the lighted candle to the end of each row. Please hold lit candles upright while tipping unlit candles to receive the flame.)

*Charge and Benediction

*Carol 134 v. 1, 2, 4

Joy to the World

Postlude

How Great Our Joy
arr. Brian Chung
* Please rise in spirit or body
   All speak emboldened type

**USHERS / GREETERS:** Doug James, Erin James
**COMMUNION PREPARATION:** John Boxell
**COMMUNION SERVERS:** John Boxell, Judy Johns Schloegel
**LITURGIST:** Ava Marginean
**ONLINE WORSHIP HOST:** Stephanie Rens-Domiano

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**Tomorrow in Worship**
**December 25**
**Christmas**

*Shepherd School*
Isaiah 9:2-7
Luke 2:1-20

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**During this holy and joy-filled season,**
**we extend to you a warm welcome and invite you to a deeper life of faith with God through the worship and ministries we share as a church family.**

**Worship:**
- Sundays at 9:30 a.m., in person and livestream online
- Communion celebrated at least monthly
- Special worship services for Advent, Lent & Holy Week

**Adult Education and Faith Formation:**
- Thursday Morning Devotions (book and discussion group), Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.
- Presbyterian Women Bible Study Circles, 4th Tuesday, various times & locations
- Sunday morning Adult Education classes, discussion groups

**Children:**
- Sunday School for 3-years through 5th grade on Sundays at 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.
- Vacation Bible School, Aug 14 - 17, 2023
- Kids’ Academy Preschool, weekdays for children ages 2 ½, 3, 4, and 5
- Kids’ Academy before/after school care for children ages 5–12, every day school is in session and some holidays; 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Kids’ Academy Summer Day Camp, ages 3-12

**Youth:**
- Middle School Youth Group (Grades 6-8) Sundays, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- 9th–12th grades youth group Sundays, 5:00–7:00 p.m.
- High School weekend retreat in the Spring
- Two High School Youth Mission Caravans in Summer
Music:
- Chancel Choir, Wednesdays, 7:00 pm
- Clarion Hand Bell Ensemble, Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.
- Concert Series; three concerts per season

Support and Concern:
- Stephen Ministry (providing one-to-one confidential compassion and prayers for people experiencing difficulty or change)
- Older Adult Ministries (assistance for older adults and their families to provide resources and support)
- Pastoral Care with pastor
- At Home Communion

Fellowship:
- Presbyterian Women Programs, 1st Tuesday, 12:30 p.m.
- “50+ Friends” Luncheons, held quarterly following worship
- Circle of Voices Women’s Book Group, 3rd Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

Mission:
- Amos Group: anti-racism
- Partnership with Iglesia Presbiteriana–Reformada Church in San Antonio de los Baños, Cuba
- Mission partners: Association House, LOVE Christian Clearinghouse, monthly food donations support Hinsdale Community Services, People’s Resource Center and more.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be
- closed Friday, December 23 at noon – Tuesday, December 27, 2022
- open Wednesday, December 28 – Thursday, December 29 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- open Friday, December 30; 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- closed Monday, January 2, 2023
- open Tuesday, January 3, 2023

YEAR-END GIVING
As we approach the end of the year, please consider additional financial gifts to the church. Whether you are completing your pledge for 2022 or providing a year-end gift, all gifts are important and will help us end the year with a balanced budget.

To ensure your donations are credited to your 2022 giving please:
- Mail donations with a postmark no later than December 31
- Give on-line by December 29 at https://onrealm.org/cpc/-/form/give/now
- Bring your donation to church office by noon., Friday Dec 30
- NOTE: Office closed Mon Dec 26, Tues Dec 27

On Sunday, January 29, we will welcome CHAI Collaborative Ensemble, a Chicago-based collective engaging with communities through performances of mixed vocal and instrumental chamber music. The ensemble offers beloved classics in the chamber music canon alongside underperformed works from the past and present. Expect to be inspired by the experience!
SAVE THE DATES

**February 5, Sunday: Annual Meeting**
We will worship at 9:30 a.m. with Communion followed by our Annual Meeting. Don’t miss this opportunity to gather with the church family and review last year and our plans for the future.

**February 12, Sunday: Youth Sunday**
Please join us as our high school youth lead worship and the senior class shares their meditations.