

Cornerstone Presbyterian Church
Sunday Worship Service
December 24, 2024

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Rev. Melinda Merkley King

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Kennedy Family, 5:00p.m.
Kirkland Family, 7:00 p.m.

One: In the holiness of this night, we remember that after labor pains, a newborn cries.

All: Our Savior takes his first breath.

One: Angels sing and shepherds tremble in fear and then they go to see for themselves.

All: A baby is born in Bethlehem.

One: This child is the Savior, Christ the Lord.

All: This is good news of great joy for all people. Glory to God! Peace on Earth! God is with us!

*HYMN MEDLEY

#25 "Away in a Manger" v. 1

#31 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" v. 1

#44 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" v. 3 & 4

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear God, we come to celebrate again the arrival of Love Incarnate but we are often unloving. Your glorious arrival changed the trajectory of history and yet we are often fearful and despairing. Your light is bright enough to illuminate every corner of our lives, yet we still find ourselves shrouded in worry and doubt. Forgive us. Come and enter our hearts and minds anew that our lives may be more faithful. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen. (time of silent personal confession)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One: Hear this good news! God loves us! Christ comes to share his life with ours. In Christ, we are forgiven.

All: We are forgiven indeed. God and sinners are reconciled! We are called to go forth from here forgiving others, loving God, and loving our neighbors as we love ourselves. Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Kevin Kennedy, 5:00p.m.
Mame Johnston, 7:00p.m.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:1-14

HOMILY

*HYMN #40

"Joy to the World" v. 1 & 4

OFFERING

"O Holy Night"

5:00 Chris Dorrenbacher
7:00 Grant Osborne & Phil Merritt

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER ENDING WITH 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.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to partake of the Lord's Supper. Christ is the host and welcomes everyone to join in his feast. You will be invited to walk forward to take a piece of bread and dip it into a cup of grape juice, partake, and return to your seat. Wafers free of gluten, dairy and nuts are available at the station to your far left. Sealed kits, are there as well. If you prefer to remain seated, after others have been served, we will come to you.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise...

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE GRACIOUS INVITATION

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

*SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

(During Silent Night elders will receive light from the Christ candle and will share the light with you. You will, in turn, share the light with those beside you. Please hold the lit candles upright and tilt the unlit candles to the flame to prevent wax dripping. The wax is hot!)

*HYMN #60

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

“Away in a Manger”

Away in a manger no crib for a bed. The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay. The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King.
Peace on earth and mercy mild God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful all ye nations rise. Join the triumph of the skies. With angelic host proclaim Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! The herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King.

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given. So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming but in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in
O holy Child of Bethlehem descend to us we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell. O come to us abide with us Our Lord Emmanuel.

“Joy to the World”

Joy to the world the Lord is come let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room.
And heaven and nature sing and heaven and nature sing and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love and wonders of His love
and wonders, wonders of His love.

“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