Memorial Presbyterian Church



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2017

Eternal God,
from the tabernacle of heaven to the poverty of a stable,
your radiant light shines forth in a tiny baby wrapped in rags;
such humble Love astounds us.
In Jesus you have become one with us
that we might become one with you.
Open our hearts to joyfully receive his love
that he may be born in us, and we in him,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE Stille Nacht Alan Bullard

OPENING

...In this moment, all is calm, all is bright. (sung together)

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.

It was the night when Peace was born And just as now the world was torn But all was calm and all was bright The star above gave out its light

Silent night, holy night

Dear people all around the world Let us unite and we will show How Peace can change us, How Peace can help us grow.

Silent night, holy night

...On this night we remember the promise of God-that God would be "Emmanuel," God-with-us forever more.

So let your Peace shine in the night And let your life burn warm and bright This light we give the world is balm And in this truth we find our calm

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT AND CHRIST CANDLES

Tonight we light all five candles:

for Peace, Joy, Love and Hope... and one to represent the presence of God's light through Jesus Christ. This season, these candles have reminded us of the light of the star that shone over Bethlehem for all to see.

God-with-Us, Emmanuel,

we open ourselves to you this night,

to become those who help to shine that light of Christ wherever we arein our lives, our families, our communities, and our world.

Fill us with your peace and light, make the world so calm and bright.

*CAROL	Hark! The Herald Angels Sing	119
*CAROL	Once in Royal David's City v. 1 – All, v. 2 – women, v. 3 – men, v. 4 – All	140
FIRST LESSON	Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19 Adam and Eve disobey God's command and disrupt the order and goodness of creation	Lucy Lanning
CAROL	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel vs. 1, 5,6,7	88
SECOND LESSON	Genesis 22:15-18 God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the peoples of the world be blessed	Harry Wright
CAROL	Of the Father's Love Begotten v. 1 – 4	108, v. 1-4

THIRD LESSON	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior	Donna Vint	
CAROL	O Little Town of Bethlehem	121	
FOURTH LESSON	Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9 The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown	Lyne Sama	
*CAROL	Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	129	
FIFTH LESSON	Luke 1:26-35, 38 The angel Gabriel appears to the Virgin Mary	Mario Sama	
CAROL	The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came Vince Leseney, soloist		
SIXTH LESSON	Luke 2:1-7 Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where Mary gives birth to her child	Elvira Sama	
CAROL	What Child Is This	145	
SEVENTH LESSON	Luke 2:8-16 Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah	Joan Cole	
*CAROL	Angels We Have Heard on High	113	
EIGHTH LESSON	Matthew 2:1-11 The wise men are led by the star to Jesus	Vince Leseney	
CAROL	We Three Kings of Orient Are Verse 1 only	151	
NINTH LESSON	John 1:1-14 St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation	Tracy Evans	
*CAROL	O Come, All Ye Faithful	133	
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE The Lord's Prayer		Hymnal, p. 35	
THE OFFERING OFFERTORY	Still, Still, Still	Paul Manz	
DEDICATION PRAYER			
*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL			

*SHARING THE LIGHT

*CAROL

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.

*POSTLUDE Hark the Herald Craig Phillips

*Those who are able may stand.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.