First Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve for All God's Children

December 24, 2017   6:30 p.m.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude   "O Come, All Ye Faithful"   arr. Payne
           "Trumpet Tune and Fantasy on 'Joy to the World'"   arr. Helman

Welcome

Call to Worship
   I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people:
      For to you is born this day a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
   The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
      Light has shined on those who lived in a land of deep darkness.

* Hymn 133   "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

* Prayer of Adoration
      Holy God, you have sent your Son into the world.
      O God, fill us with love and wonder,
      that with shepherds and wise men,
      we may gather to adore the holy child, the promised King,
      and to worship him, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

* Passing the Peace
   The angels sing about peace on Christmas Eve:
    "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will among all."
   The peace of the Lord be with all of you.
      And also with you!

Lighting of the Christ Candle
   Response (to Hymn 133)
         O come, let us adore him! O come, let us adore him!
         O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Anthem   "Gloria In Excelsis"   Edwards
                    Alleluia & Chapel Choir

SEEING AND HEARING THE GOOD NEWS

Reading   The Prophet Isaiah Tells of a Savior (Isaiah 40:9-11)
Hymn 134   "Joy to the World"

Reading   The Angel Gabriel Speaks to Mary (Luke 1:26-38)
Hymn 119   "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Reading   Jesus is Born (Luke 2:1-7)
Hymn 115   "Away in a Manger"

Reading   Angels Visit Shepherds (Luke 2:8-20)
Hymn 118   "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"
                 We will sing each verse separately, as directed.

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

Offering Our Gifts to the Christ Child
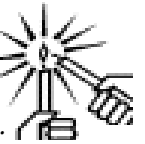Offertory   "Away in a Manger"   arr. Lau
Prayer of Thanks
* Candlelighting Hymn 122   "Silent Night, Holy Night"
                 Please be careful in lighting candles, assisting children as needed.
      For safety, please hold lit candles upright. Unlit candles are tipped toward flame.

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.

* Charge and Benediction
* Postlude   "Angels from the Realms of Glory"   arr. Laskey
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*   All who are able shall stand.

Participants in Tonight's Service

Pastor	Rev. William Carter
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Christ Candle	The Weiss Family

We welcome our visitors and are glad you are here! Our Deacons would like to give a gift to our guests. Please speak to them at the sanctuary doors as you depart. We would also appreciate knowing that you are here, and invite you to sign either the red pads in the pews or the guest book in the lobby.

Interested in discovering more about our church? Visit our website at www.fpccs.org.

On Sunday, December 31, we will worship with a Christmas Carol Festival at 10:00 a.m.

Large print bulletins, hymnals and Bibles are available from ushers. Please return worship aids to ushers after use.

As the year concludes, we want you to know of our gratitude for your support for our church's ministry and mission. Thank you for your consistent generosity. It helps you bring the Gospel alive in our faith community.

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