



First Presbyterian Church
Christmas Eve Jazz Communion Service

December 24, 2025

11:00 p.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Music to Gather the Shepherds

“O Tannenbaum”

“Christmas is Coming”

arr. Guaraldi
Guaraldi

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Tonight is when heaven kisses the earth.

Here is the manger where God takes on flesh.

The shepherds come to see this mystery,

even though official temples would not welcome them.

Wise sages from the East come to worship and offer gifts,

They are strangers, yet greeted as God's Beloved.

In a place that seems off the beaten path,

there God draws near to bring Light and Life to all;

there God sends his Son.

* Hymn 133

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (verses 1, 3, 4)

The musicians will play a brief interlude between the verses.

* Opening Prayer

Creator of all the faithful and the unfaithful,

some of us almost didn't make it tonight.

Other demands tug us in different directions.

Doubts have nipped at our heels.

Holiday greed threatens to make us less than human.

Yet tonight you meet each one of us: right here, right now.

You come, not with burning Holy Fire, but in the simplicity of a Child.

Come down low and reach us, we pray,

that we would experience your love and your mercy. Amen.

* Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you . . . and also with you.

* Response

O come, let us adore him . . . Christ the Lord.

LISTEN TO THE BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Prayer for Light

First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7 (OT, p. 638)

Special Music

"My Little Drum"

Guaraldi

Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:1-20 (NT, p. 58)

Sermon: "That's What Christmas Is All About, Charlie Brown"

Rev. Carter

GIVING AND RECEIVING GIFTS

* Hymn 119

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

* Affirmation of Faith

Titus 3:4-7

***When the goodness and kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us,
not because of any works of righteousness we had done,
but according to his mercy,
through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.
This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,
so that, having been justified by his grace,
we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.***

Offering Our Gifts

Offering Music

"Skating"

Guaraldi

Receiving God's Gifts - The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer ("debts" and "debtors")

Communion of the People

All are invited forward by the center aisle to receive the bread and cup.

Please return to your seat by a side aisle.

Communion Music

"Christmas Time is Here"

Guaraldi

RETURNING HOME BY ANOTHER WAY

* Candlelighting Hymn 122

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

* Charge and Benediction

Music to Warm the Soul

"Air Music"

Guaraldi

"Linus and Lucy"

Guaraldi

* All who are able shall stand.

Please stay as long as you wish. If you must depart, do so quietly.

Tonight, we honor the 60th anniversary of “A Charlie Brown Christmas” with gratitude for the music of Vince Guaraldi and the art of Charles Schulz.

PARTICIPANTS IN TONIGHT'S SERVICE

Pastor/Pianist: The Rev. Bill Carter
Worship Leader: Wayne Wolfe Cantor: Frank Jones
Bass: Tony Marino Drums: Marko Marcinko Saxophone: Mike Carbone

Announcements

Our congregation worships God, equips God's people for ministry in the world, and serves God in ways that are faithful to the Gospel.

We worship each Sunday morning at 10 a.m. For those unable to attend in person, our services are live-streamed on our YouTube page FPCCS.

We welcome our visitors and are glad you are here! Please take a moment to sign a guest card in the pews and place it in the offering plate.

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

Large print bulletins are available from ushers.

2026 offering envelopes for adults are available in the hall outside the sanctuary. You can also give online at [**www.fpccs.org**](http://www.fpccs.org).

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

Next week, you may want to call before you stop by because the church staff will be visiting family members, catching up on sleep, or simply taking some breathing room after a very busy month.

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