

**First Presbyterian Church**

Service of Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2019

8:00 p.m.

**ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

Prelude Music

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

arr. Zimmerman

“What Child Is This?”

arr. Zimmerman

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

arr. Powell

“Away in the Manger”

arr. Hanson

“Angels We Have Heard On High”

arr. Koury

“Sing Lullaby”

arr. Powell

“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

arr. Mansfield

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

arr. Hustad and Smith

Introit "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light"

Call to Worship

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

***Glory to God in the highest!***

To us is born in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.

***Glory to God in the highest!***

\* Processional Hymn 133 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

\* Prayer of Adoration

***All glory to you, great God,***

***who brought the nations to your light***

***and kings to the brightness of your rising:***

***As we celebrate the birth of Jesus among us,***

***fill the world with your glory and show yourself to all nations;***

***through him who is the true light and the bright morning star,***

***Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord,***

***who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,***

***one God, now and forever. Amen.***

\* Lighting of the Christ Candle

\* Response

***A rising star proclaims the birth that threatens earthly kings,  
yet wise are those who kneel on earth, their gifts for Christ to bring.***

***For hope is born among us as Christ brings light and life.***

***The dawn of grace shall set us free from all our pain and strife.***

**PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

Words of Welcome

Prayer for Illumination

Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7

Hymn 119 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Lesson Isaiah 49:1-10

Carol "Behold a Star From Jacob Shining" Mendelssohn

Lesson Matthew 1:18-25

Hymn 113 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Lesson Isaiah 60:1-9

Carol "The Star Carol" Rutter

Lesson Matthew 2:1-11

Carol "The First Nowell"

Refrain: ***Nowell! Nowell! Born is the King of Israel.***

Sermon "Christmas On Your Knees"

Rev. Carter

**RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

\* Hymn 134

"Joy to the World"

\* Affirmation of Faith

*from John 1*

***In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
He was in the beginning with God.  
All things came into being through him,  
and without him not one thing came into being.  
What has come into being in him was life,  
and the life was the light of all people.  
The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness did not overcome it.  
The true light, which enlightens everyone,  
was coming into the world.  
To all who received him, who believed in his name,  
he gave power to become children of God, who were born of God.***

Offering

Offertory

“Silent Night”

arr. Hustad and Smith

*Bev Bright, piano; Kay Ten Eyck, organ*

\* Prayer of Dedication and the Lord’s Prayer

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

Let us pray . . .

### **GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\* Candlelighting Hymn 122 "Silent Night, Holy Night!"

*Use caution in lighting candles. For safety, hold lit candles upright.*

*Unlit candles are tipped toward flame.*

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Postlude

“Joy to the World”

arr. Bish

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\* All who are able shall stand.

**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 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](http://www.fpccs.org).

**On Sunday, December 29** we will worship at **10:00 a.m.**

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

**2020 offering envelopes** for adults are available in the hall outside the sanctuary.

**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 support and generosity. It helps you bring the Gospel alive in our faith community.

**PARTICIPANTS IN TONIGHT'S SERVICE**

Pastor	Rev. William Carter
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Readers	Katie Carter, Meg Carter, Ben Norton, Jim McLaughlin
Ushers	Betty Keen, Jim McLaughlin
Candlelighting Family	Donna and Dave Porter
Instrumentalists	Andy Kepler, clarinet; Connie Weiss, oboe; John Weiss, cello; Beverly Bright piano

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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**(570) 586-6306**  
**[www.fpccs.org](http://www.fpccs.org)**