



TODAY IN THE TOWN OF DAVID

A *Savior*
HAS BEEN *born* TO YOU;
HE IS THE
Messiah,
THE *Lord.*

LUKE 2:11, NIV

First Presbyterian Church
300 School Street
Clarks Summit, PA 18411
(570) 586-6306 / www.fpccs.org

First Presbyterian Church

Service of Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2023

8:00 p.m.

In preparation for worship, please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude Music

“Es Ist Ein Ros”

arr. Crisafulli

“Pastorale”

Vivaldi

“Be Not Afraid”

arr. Thomas “People, Look East”

arr. Powell

“The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”

arr. Busarow

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

arr. Powell

“What Child is This?”

arr. Ephross/Stark

“God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”

Music for Two

“Coventry Carol”

arr. Powell

Call to Worship

The grace of God has come to us;

Jesus Christ brings salvation to all.

Light shines on those who live in darkness,

For a child has been born to us this night.

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

* Prayer of Adoration

All glory to you, great God,

for the gift of your Son, whom you sent to save us.

With singing angels,

let us praise your name and tell the earth his story,

that all may believe, rejoice, and bow down,

acknowledging your love;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* 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.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Words of Welcome

Prayer for Illumination

Lesson Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

Hymn 121 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7

Carol	“The People Who in Darkness Walked”	J. S. Bach
Lesson	Isaiah 11:1-9	
Carol	“There Is Faint Music”	Dan Forrest
Lesson	Luke 1:26-38	
Hymn 119	“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”	
Lesson	Luke 2:1-7	
Carol	“The Wexford Carol”	arr. Sean Paul
Lesson	Luke 2:8-20	
Hymn 113	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	
Lesson	John 1:1-18	
Sermon	“Made Visible”	Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 134 "Joy to the World"

* Affirmation of Faith Titus 3:4-7

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that 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

Offertory "Still, Still, Still" arr. Robert Lau

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!"

Please use care in lighting candles. For safety, hold lit candles upright. Unlit candles are tipped toward flame.

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude "Toccata on In Dulci Jubilo" arr. James Vivian

* All who are able shall stand.

PARTICIPANTS IN TONIGHT'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William Carter
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist/Pianist	Kay Ten Eyck
Candlelighting Family	The Norton Family
Readers	Jim and Jan Thyren, Chris and Ben Norton Katie Carter, Chris Jeske
Instrumentalists	Connie Weiss, oboe; Debbie Shane, flute; Andy Kepler, clarinet; John Weiss, cello

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.

2024 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.

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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