

*Waverly Road Presbyterian Church
Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 2020*

WELCOME

PRELUDE

"What Child Is This?" arr. Stephen Bulla
Richard Brown, euphonium; Julia Brown, piano

GATHERING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me,
and the light around me will be night,"

*Even the darkness is not dark to God, and the night is as bright as the
day. For the God who promised never to leave us or forsake us
has come to us in Jesus Christ*

He is the one who binds up the brokenhearted.

He will heal all our infirmities, and relieve our burden of sin.

So arise, shine; for your light has come,

And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Thanks be to God!

OPENING HYMN 133 *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

O Come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come and behold him born the King of angels!

O come, let us adore him! O come let us adore him!

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

"Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;

Jesus, to thee be all glory given;

Word of the Father now in flesh appearing!

O come, let us adore him! O come let us adore him!

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

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-18

Claire Garber

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Savior, forgive us:

When we yearn for the "magic" of Christmas, but do not embrace the wonder of Christ.

When we make no room for you in our lives and in our hearts.

When we leave Christ in a manger and do not let the Lord of all walk with us through each day.

Today we claim your love. We ask you to cleanse and use us. We invite you to live in us long after Christmas is past.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him will have everlasting life!

God did not send Jesus into the world to condemn, but so that all of the world might be saved through him.

Embrace the gift of forgiveness brought by the Christ Child!

We are forgiven! Alleluia!

SECOND LESSON

Psalm 96:1-13

Nancy Knight

God's plan paves the way for our salvation.

HOMILY

"Sing"

Rev. Collin Adams

CAROL

"The First Noel"

arr. Lloyd Larson

Elizabeth Burch, violin

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Abby Nolen

The people who walk in darkness receive the promise of the Messiah.

CAROL

"O Come, Little Children"

arr. G. Winston Cassler

Phyllis Wine, Elizabeth Burch

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

Rev. Dan & Jean Clark

The Messiah will come from the root of Jesse to restore the peace of Creation.

CAROL

"Jesus, Jesus Rest Your Head"

John Innes

Julia Brown, piano/Susan Whipple, organ

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Wanda Kerns

An angel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear the holy child.

CAROL

“Away in a Manger” arr. Robert J. Powell
Julie Vogel, Elizabeth Burch, Susan Whipple

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Julie Vogel

SIXTH READING

Luke 2:1-7

Cynthia Johnson

Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where Mary gives birth to her child.

LIGHTING UP THE WORLD

CAROL (Hymn 122) “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 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.*

FINAL READING

John 1:1-14

CHARGE and BENEDICTION