

PROVIDENCE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH · EST. 1767



The Church at Worship

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2021

8:30 PM

Fred Lyon, Interim Pastor
Lal Rodawla, Associate Pastor
Todd Barnhill, Music Director
Ron Nice, Pianist

Lessons and Carols

Welcome

Prelude

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”
Chancel Choir

Praetorius

Carol

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”
O come, O come Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

#9

Lighting of the Advent Candles

The Sumrell Family

One: Throughout Advent we have been on the lookout for a messiah in a manger,
a savior in swaddling clothes.

**All: We lit the Wilderness, Hope, Joy, and Courage Candles to celebrate our trust
in the coming of the Christ Child—**

One: who redeems us from the wilderness of our lives,

All: who is the hope of God with us,

One: who is the joy of our salvation,

All: who inspires our courage.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

One: And now, on this Christmas Eve, we light the Christ Candle

All: to celebrate the arrival of the Christ Child,

One: in whom God became flesh and dwelt among us,

All: that we might become people of light, who walk in the light of Christ.

Response to the Light

“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light”

#26

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, And usher in the morning.
You shepherds shudder not with fright, But hear the angel's warning.
This Child, now weak in infancy, Our confidence and joy shall be;
The power of Satan breaking, Our peace eternal making.

Call to Worship

based on Isaiah 9:2, 6 and John 1:4-5, 14

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen great light.

All: The light shines in darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

One: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

All: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

One: For to us a child is born, to us as Son is given.

All: In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

*Carol

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

#41

First Lesson

Isaiah 11:2-9
As Prophets Foretold

*Carol "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" #2

Second Lesson Luke 1:26-38
The Annunciation to Mary

*Carol "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" #16

Third Lesson Matthew 1:18-25
The Righteousness of Joseph

*Carol "Joseph, Be Our Guide and Pattern" Muriel Newton-White
(Sung to the tune of "Angels from the Realms of Glory" REGENT SQUARE)

Joseph, be our guide and pattern,
Faithful to your sacred trust,
Strong protector of the Virgin
And the infant, Jesus Christ,
Joseph, firm and faithful, guide us,
Joseph, walk the way with us.

Faithful to the guiding vision,
List'ning to the angel's word;
Shielding Mary from all slander,
Guarding Christ, both Son and Lord,
Joseph, true and trusting, guide us,
Joseph, walk the way with us.

Fourth Lesson Luke 2:1-7
The Birth of Jesus

*Carol "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child" #27

Musical Offering "The First Noel" arr. Dan Forrest
Chancel Choir

Fifth Lesson Luke 2:8-14
Shepherds and Angels

*Carol "Angels We Have Heard On High" #23

Celebration of Gifts

Invitation and Dedication

Offertory

"Do You Hear What I Hear?"
Katie McGuire, Molly Jones, Emily McGuire, Leighton Ford

Sixth Lesson Luke 2:15-20
The Shepherds Gather at the Manger

*Carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" #44

Christmas Eve Prayer

from *Book of Common Worship*

One: Good and gracious God, on this holy night you gave us your Son, the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, the Savior of all, lying in a manger. On this hold night draw us into the mystery of your love.

All: Join our voices with the heavenly host that we may sing your glory on high. Give us a place among the shepherds that we may find the one for whom we have waited, Jesus Christ, the Messiah and Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. AMEN.

Instructions for Courtyard Candle Lighting

***Blessing**

***Carol**

“Silent Night, Holy Night”
(Verses 1-3)

#60

***Courtyard Carol**
(Weather Permitting)

“Joy to the World!”
(Verses 1 and 4)

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Deacon’s Fund Offering

Tonight’s offering is for the Deacon’s Fund. The Deacon’s Fund is part of the outreach ministry of Providence Presbyterian Church and helps those in need all year long. Working through different agencies in our community, money is given to provide food, housing, electricity, pay for medical bills, prescriptions and other emergency needs. This is a vital ministry and your help is a direct benefit to those in deep and urgent need. Please help Providence meet such needs throughout the year to come. Thank you!