

Worship at Glendale Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2018
Christmas Eve 7 p.m.

We Gather

Prelude

Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine
Traditional 14th Century German Carol
arr. Wilson

Lighting of the Christ Candle (responsive)

Our wait is over, the Christ-child is here!

Long we have waited, long we have watched for his coming.

God is not satisfied to remain apart from us, God must be one among us.

**We are God's people, sheep of God's flock,
children of God's redeeming.**

We light this candle to represent Christ's presence, his everlasting reign.

We give thanks to God for the fulfillment of hope, peace, joy, and love.

+Processional Hymn 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

+Litany for Christmas

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

Glory to God in the highest!

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.

Glory to God in the highest!

He is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Glory to God in the highest!

And the Word became flesh
and lived among us.

Glory to God in the highest!

Anthem

Somewhere a Child

Martin
Chancel Choir

Unison Prayer

Let us pray together...

God of all Goodness and Grace,

tonight, you break forth into a world waiting in wonder.

So long we have waited, so long we have watched,

so long we have wondered what tonight would bring.

To you we ascribe all thanksgiving and praise

for you alone are our hope and our salvation.

You alone are the light that has come to rescue us from ourselves.

You alone are worthy of our worship and you alone are our King!

Come to us on this blessed evening and hear our joyful welcome!

Come to us, Holy Savior, and send your Spirit to tell us a story,

the story of salvation's birth and hope's fullest fruition! Amen.

The Peace of Christ (responsive)

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

Peace be always with you.

And also with you.

All who come to this sanctuary are welcome companions on this night.

Please turn to those nearest you and greet them with words of peace.

+Gathering Song 113 (refrain)

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Sharing the Story

Opening the Word with Young Disciples

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 96

From days of old, God has spoken to our ancestors. Hear the word of the Lord.

1 O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. 2 Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. 3 Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. 4 For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods. 5 For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. 6 Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. 7 Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. 8 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts. 9 Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth. 10 Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity." 11 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; 12 let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy 13 before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Sing to the Child
Scott
Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-20

1 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

[15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." 16 So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17 When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Liz Rolf Kanerva

+Hymn 145

What Child Is

This

Prayers of the People

Gracious and Holy God, On this night, we have heard how the world into which Jesus was born was ruled by governor, emperor, and king. Yet this story reveals that you, O God, are the only true Sovereign—Almighty and Everlasting. We thank you that justice and righteousness are in your hands. We praise you for the peace you have promised. Most especially, we thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, who dwells among us full of grace and truth.

Hear now our prayers of intercession, that all people might find healing, comfort, and joy.

We pray for public officials, rulers, and leaders in our own time: Give them wisdom in decrees and decisions, a will for the common good, and the courage to work for peace in local communities and among the nations . . . Shine upon them and give them peace.

We pray for all who work and watch this night: for those in hospitals and positions of public service; for those serving our country here and around the globe;

for those in airports, trains, and bus stations; for those who work in shelters, hotels, and other places of hospitality . . . Shine upon them and give them peace.

We pray for all who suffer this night: those who are sick and those who are dying; for one who is cold; for one who is lonely or grieving; for people who are hungry and thirsty; for all who struggle with addiction . . . Shine upon them and give them peace.

We pray for families and friends: for those who are with us and those far away; for those who are traveling; for those who especially need your guidance in this season; and for those in our memories who now dwell with you . . . Shine upon them and give them peace.

We pray, O God, with the multitude of the heavenly host, that through Jesus Christ your glory will lighten every darkness; that your peace will fill all in all. We pray that those who live in the midst of war may instead live without fear and destruction; that those who live with the threat of danger in homes or on city streets may instead dwell in safety; and that all your creatures, and creation itself, may be restored and renewed. Shine upon them and give them peace.

Conform our prayers to your will, and use us to accomplish your purposes, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Choral Prayer Response

Little Babe of Bethlehem
Hughes

Offering

Invitation

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. Jesus Christ has shown us how to live: loving God and neighbor, sharing what we have, engaging in acts of mercy and justice. As we celebrate his birth, and wait in hope for his coming again, let us bring the offerings of our lives before him.

Offertory

O Holy Night
Adam

Jim Fiete, soloist

*Doxology 84 (verse 4)

Creator of the Stars of Night

*To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honor, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally. Amen.*

+Prayer of Dedication

God of every good and perfect gift, we thank you for your greatest gift, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. In this season when so many gifts are given and received, we pray that you will receive the gifts we offer now. Use them according to your purposes and plans, bringing your good news of great joy to all people; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Candle Lighting

Silent Night
Claire Krob, solist

Claire will offer Silent Night and the congregation will join in singing when cued.

*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 the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.*

*Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
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.*

Sending

+Blessing

Welcome, Holy Child!

Your presence transforms our lives.

Sisters and Brothers, before we go forth from this peaceful place,

let us take a good look around us at one another:

see what beauty is revealed among us in the light of Christ!

*Give people enough time to see their neighbors' faces illuminated by candlelight,
then start to bring the sanctuary lights up.*

Now, let us extinguish these small lights and go forth

bearing the Light of Christ in our hearts

to let it shine in our world!

+Hymn 134

Joy to the World

Postlude

There's a Song in the Air
Harrington