



Nativity of the Lord
A SERVICE OF CAROLS AND CANDLELIGHT
Christmas Eve 2025
4:30pm

GATHER

PRELUDE

selected arrangements

Tom Brown, *piano*
Jordan Brown, *saxophone*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Alex Lee-Cornell

SOLO

Gesu Bambino
Helen Morlier, *soprano*

Pietro Von 1886-1943

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows, upon a winter night,
Was born the Child, the Christmas Rose, the King of love and light.
The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth rejoiced,
And at his blessed birth the stars their exultation voiced.

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

Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night,
That gave the world its Christmas rose, its King of love and light
Let every voice acclaim his name, the grateful chorus swell
From paradise to earth he came that we with him might dwell.

O come let us adore him...., Christ the lord.

*You are invited to stand.

Please join in saying/singing aloud the responses **printed in bold**.

All music and hymns for this service are from *Glory to God, The Presbyterian Hymnal* and used with permission. CCLI # 21252663; One License # A-740905.

The order of worship, liturgy, and prayers for this service were adapted from *Light With Us: A Service of Lessons and Carols*, written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org. Used with permission.

*LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

The Guidry Family

Hope is:

Trusting that there is light, even in the dark.

Peace is:

The wolf lying down with the lamb.

Joy is:

Contagious sounds of Alleluia.

Love is:

Unquenchable, never-ending, born in a manger, here today.

Christmas is:

A love song to the world; the light that shines in the darkness.

Let us make a joyful noise! Let us worship God.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

O Come All Ye Faithful *stanzas 1, 3, 4*

No. 133

FIRST LESSON

Witness

John 1:6-8, 19-23

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Cheryl Farmer and Jennifer Beasley

You are invited to pray with your eyes open.

Watch and listen for the instructions to pray with body movements.

SECOND LESSON

Travel

Luke 2:1-7

Carol

What Child Is This

No. 145

THIRD LESSON

Shepherds

Luke 2:8-16

Carol

Rise Up Shepherd and Follow

No. 135

*During the carol, young worshipers are invited to gather on the front row of pews
to better hear Pastor Alex's message.*

There's a star in the east on Christmas morn. Rise up shepherd and follow.

It will lead to the place where the Christ was born. Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Refrain: Follow, follow, rise up shepherd, and follow.

Follow the star of Bethlehem. Rise up, shepherd and follow.

If you take good heed to the angel's words, rise up, shepherd and follow.

You'll forget your flocks; you'll forget your herds. Rise up shepherd and follow. *Refrain.*

MESSAGE

Images of God

Rev. Alex Lee-Cornell

**Carol*

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

No. 119

FOURTH LESSON

Magi

Matthew 2:1-12

Carol

We Three Kings of Orient Are *stanza 1 only*

No. 151

**We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.**

**O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

During this time of offering you may draw or write a prayer of gratitude on the paper star included in your bulletin. When you are ready, you may come forward to the communion table to place any monetary gift in the offering plate. Then go down the side aisles and attach your star with a clothespin to the twine string around the walls of the sanctuary.

Prayer of Dedication

FIFTH LESSON

Light

John 1:1-14

Solo

Some Children See Him

Alfred Burt, 1920-1954

Heidi Melancon, *mezzo soprano*

Some children see him lily white, the baby Jesus born this night.

Some children see him lily white, with tresses soft and fair.

Some children see him bronzed and brown, the Lord of heaven to earth come down.

Some children see Him bronzed and brown with dark and heavy hair.

Some children see him almond-eyed, this Savior whom we kneel beside.

Some children see him almond-eyed, with skin of golden hue.

Some children see him dark as they, sweet Mary's son to whom we pray.

Some children see him dark as they, and, ah! They love him, too!

The children in each different place will see the baby Jesus' face
Like theirs, but bright with heavenly grace and filled with holy light.

O lay aside each earthly thing and with thy heart as offering,
Come worship now the infant King. 'Tis love that's born tonight!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 debts¹ 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.

*CAROL OF LIGHT

Silent Night

No. 122

Lights will be dimmed and candlelight will be distributed. To pass the candlelight down the row, keep your lit candle upright while your neighbor tilts their unlit candle, bringing the wick to your flame.

**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."**

¹ When saying the Lord's Prayer, some prefer to use the words "forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us" or "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Please pray as you feel led.

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, wondrous star, lend the light;
With the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RECESSIONAL CAROL Joy to the World! *stanzas 1, 3, 4* No. 134

Joy to the world; the Lord is come; let Earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing.
Joy to the Earth, the Savior reigns; our mortal songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, Repeat the sounding joy.
He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love.

*At the conclusion of the service, kindly extinguish your candles
and leave them in the containers by the doors. Merry Christmas!*

READERS

First Lesson

England, Reid England, Owen Lee-Cornell

Second Lesson

Susan Canvello

Third Lesson

John Guidry, Samantha Guidry, Amelia Chrestman, England, Reid England, Owen Lee-Cornell

Fourth lesson

Samantha Guidry, Amelia Chrestman, Reid England

Fifth Lesson

Elaine Christoph

We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us.
Lakeview Presbyterian Church brings God's word to life
in a welcoming atmosphere of worship, prayer, and fellowship,
while spreading the love of Jesus Christ
through Christian education and outreach, wherein all are welcome.