

LIMESTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 24, 2022 5:00 PM

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|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Pre-Service Music                                            | Celtic Harp                      | Sharon Thompson      |
| Prelude                                                      | “O Holy Night” (arr. Ritter)     | Rita Harmon          |
| Welcome & Introduction                                       |                                  | Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller |
| Piano Solo                                                   | “Away In A Manger” (Traditional) | Jim Simmons          |
| Lighting the Advent Wreath                                   |                                  | The Wyatt Family     |
| Prayer of Invocation (unison)                                |                                  |                      |
| God of creation, we are waiting.                             |                                  |                      |
| Waiting for Christ to return to earth.                       |                                  |                      |
| We wait faithfully, with expectant hearts.                   |                                  |                      |
| Tonight, even as we wait for his return in glory,            |                                  |                      |
| we remember the humble way he was first born into our world. |                                  |                      |
| With joy we hear again the story of your love,               |                                  |                      |
| shown in your promise of redemption for us, your people.     |                                  |                      |
| Open our ears, our minds, our hearts tonight. Amen.          |                                  |                      |

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Lesson #1:                                                                    | Isaiah 40:1-8    | Cody Sossamon        |
| *Carol: “O Come All Ye Faithful” #133 (verses 1&3)                            |                  |                      |
| Lesson #2:                                                                    | Jeremiah 23: 5-6 | Vicki Miller         |
| Carol: “Away in a Manger” #115 (all verses) Please remain seated              |                  |                      |
| Lesson #3:                                                                    | Zechariah 9:9-10 | Nancy McElroy        |
| Carol: “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” #123 (verses 1&4) Please remain seated |                  |                      |
| Lesson #4:                                                                    | Haggai 2:6-9     | Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller |
| *Carol: “Joy to the World” #134 (verses 1&4)                                  |                  |                      |
| Lesson #5:                                                                    | Isaiah 35:1-6    | Layla Lemmonds       |
| *Carol: “The First Nowell” # 147 (verses 1&2)                                 |                  |                      |
| Lesson #6:                                                                    | Luke 1:26-35,38  | Melinda Hart         |
| Carol: “O’ Little Town of Bethlehem” #121 (verses 1&4) Please remain seated   |                  |                      |

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|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Lesson #7:                                               | Mark 1:1-8  | Mac Carroll          |
| *Carol: “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing” #119 (verses 1&3) |             |                      |
| Lesson #8:                                               | Luke 2:1-20 | Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller |

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**  
We light the Christ Candle to celebrate and rejoice that the light of the world is born.

Hear these words from John’s gospel:  
*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.*

May this light bear our hopes, confirm our peace, rejoice in our joy and show us how to love. Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

**People (unison): Glory to God in the highest heaven. And peace to God’s people on earth.**

**Prayer of Benediction (unison)**  
O God, you have caused this holy night to shine  
with the brightness of the true Light.  
Send us out carrying the Light of the World,  
mindful of your holiness and beauty,  
and grateful for the privilege we have had  
of kneeling at your manger. Amen.

\*Sharing the Light of Christ: “Silent Night” (lyrics printed on back)  
As we sing "Silent Night," we will follow the light of the Christ Candle out into the world. The minister will recess out of the Sanctuary, and the congregation will follow from front to back. In the Narthex you will receive a candle to carry out to the front steps of the church. We will conclude our singing outdoors, sharing the light of Christ with our community. May the Lord be with you and those you love on this special night, and may Christ be born in you.

\*Please stand as you are able.

- 1. 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.
- 2. 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!"
- 3. 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.
- 4. 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



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