

LIMESTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE  
LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 24, 20235:30 PM

Prelude“O Holy Night” (arr. Ritter)Rita Harmon

Lighting the Advent WreathThe Morris Family  
Tonight we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

Welcome & IntroductionRev. Dr. Lynn Miller

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.

Lesson 1:Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19Scott Berry  
God tells Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise.  
\*Carol: “O Come All Ye Faithful” #41 (verses 1&3)

Lesson 2:Genesis 22:15-18Sara Setzer  
God promises that through Abraham and Sarah all the nations of the earth will be blessed.  
Carol: “Away in a Manger” #25 (all verses) Please remain seated.

Lesson 3:Isaiah 9:2-7Johnny Wyatt  
The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.  
Carol: “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” #38 (verses 1&4) Please remain seated.

Lesson 4:Isaiah 11:1-9Sarah Lovelace  
The peace that Christ will bring is described.  
\*Carol: “Joy to the World” #40 (verses 1&4)

Lesson 5:Micah 5:2-4Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller  
The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.  
\*Carol: “The First Nowell” #56 (verses 1&2)

Lesson 6:Luke 1:26-35, 38Joyce Infante  
The angel Gabriel visits Mary.  
Carol: “O Little Town of Bethlehem” #44 (verses 1&4) Please remain seated.

Lesson 7:Mark 1:1-8Jim Watts  
The proclamation of John the baptizer.  
\*Carol: “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing” #31 (verses 1&3)

Lesson 8:Luke 2:1-20Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller  
Luke tells of the birth of Jesus. The shepherds go to the manger.

The Light Goes Into the World  
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.

We light the Christ Candle to celebrate and rejoice that the light of the world is born.  
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 building, and the congregation will follow from front to  
back. You will receive a candle to carry out to the front 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.



CONNECT WITH US: [limestone-presbyterian.com/](http://limestone-presbyterian.com/) 864-489-6079  
f /limestonepresbyterian i @limestone\_pres\_gaffney  
109 SOUTH LIMESTONE STREET • GAFFNEY, SOUTH CAROLINA

**LIMESTONE**  
**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
PC(USA) • GAFFNEY, SOUTH CAROLINA