

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT

December 24, 2016 | 11 pm

Prelude

“Music for Christmas”
Phil Sargeant, oboe; Fred Markey, organ

*Hymn No. 155

“Once in Royal David’s City”

Irby

Verse 1: *Valerie Kraft-Simonsen, soprano*

Organ Interlude: *(The congregation is invited to stand and sing)*

Verses 2-4: All

Call to Worship

Isaiah 40

Pastor: Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,

People: Cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned,

Pastor: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;

People: Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Pastor: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;

People: The uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Pastor: And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,

People: And all flesh shall it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn No. 145

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Adeste Fideles

Prayer of Confession

Dr. Robert Norris

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

*Hymn No. 141

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

St. Louis

New Testament Reading

Luke 1:26-33

page 855, pew Bible

Anthem

“See Amid the Winter’s Snow”
High School and Sanctuary Choirs;
Colin Johnson, bass; Traci Klemm, piano; Daniel Mears, percussion

John Goss
arr. Dan Forrest

Alleluia!

See amid the winter’s snow, born for us on earth below,
See, the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.

*Hail thou ever blessed morn, hail redemption’s happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem: “Christ is born in Bethlehem.”*

Alleluia!

Lo, within a manger lies he who built the starry skies;
He who, throned in light sublime, sits amid the cherubim.

*Hail thou ever blessed morn, hail redemption’s happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem: “Christ is born in Bethlehem.”*

Alleluia!

Sacred infant, all divine, what a tender love was thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this.

*Hail thou ever blessed morn, hail redemption’s happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem: “Christ is born in Bethlehem.”*

Alleluia!

~ Edward Caswell

Prayer of Intercession

Dr. Robert Norris

Hymn No. 118

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

Divinum Mysterium

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

“O Holy Night!”
Valerie Kraft-Simonsen, soprano; Fred Markey, organ

Adolphe Adam

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining, it is the night of our dear Saviour’s birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining, ’til he appear’d and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born;
O night divine, O night, O night Divine.

Truly he taught us to love one another; his law is love and his gospel is peace.
Chains shall he break for the slave is our brother; and in his name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise his holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise his Name forever, his power and glory evermore proclaim.
His power and glory evermore proclaim.

~ Placide Cappeau

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:1-7

page 573, pew Bible

Sermon

“Gone with the Gloom”

Dr. Todd Smedley

Hymn No. 125

“Joy to the World!”

Antioch

***Responsive Reading**

Pastor: In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

People: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Pastor: The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

People: Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

Pastor: As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

People: I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.

***Hymn**

“Silent Night”

Stille Nacht

All: 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.

Natalie Conte, soprano: 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.

Long ago and far away, Jesus in a manger lay
In Bethlehem this morning. Glory, honor, laud and praise
Be to God for endless days. Christ was born to save!

All: 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!

Benediction

Postlude

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

Wilbur Held

*As you share the light through the Sanctuary, please tip the unlit candle toward the lit one.
Please extinguish candles at the end of the service and place in boxes by the Sanctuary doors. Thank you.*

Christmas and New Years Day

Sunday Worship Services—11am

December 25

“What’s in a Name?”

Matthew 1:18-25

Dr. Todd Smedley

January 1, 2017

“Knowing Your Options”

Romans 8:12-17

Rev. Rob Yancey

No childcare provided for either of these services.
Room 210 will be open on Sunday with a live feed of the service for parents who need to care for their children, 3 & under.

Fourth
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Fourth Presbyterian Church is a member congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC).

Dr. Todd Smedley, *Senior Pastor*; Rev. Corey Gray, Rev. Ron Meyer,
Rev. Thomas Myrick, Dr. Robert Norris, and Rev. Rob Yancey, *Pastors*