

Immanuel Presbyterian Church



10:00am Worship Service
December 31, 2023

*Discovering and displaying Christ
in here and out there*

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S DAY

(*Please stand as you are able)

PRELUDE *Angels We Have Heard on High* arr. Koerts

WELCOME

PRAYER OF ADORATION

*CAROL *Gentle Mary Laid Her Head* arr. MacMillan

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 4*

One: Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress.

All: Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

One: But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.

All: When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

One: Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

All: You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound.

One: I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

All: Let us worship our God of peace!

CAROL *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* German folk melody

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Trusting in God's forgiveness and faithfulness, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of love, all year long we pursue power and money, yet you come in weakness. All season long we covet great material gifts, when you alone offer what is lasting. Through the work of this Lord Jesus, who comes among us full of grace and truth, forgive us, heal us, correct us. Then open our lips, that we may sing your praise with the angels, and remake our lives, that we may witness to your transforming love. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Jeremiah 31

One: Hear the good news, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. Again I will build you, and you shall be built, o virgin Israel!" Sisters and brothers, you are renovated, restored, and renewed in Christ Jesus—be at peace!

All: Thanks be to God!

CAROL

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2: 1-7 NRSVue

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar 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 in the guest room.

One: The grass withers and the flower fades, but the Word of God endures forever.

All: Thanks be to God!

MEDITATION

Joeseph and Mary
Rev. John C. Tittle

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CAROL

What Child Is This

English ballad

OFFERTORY

Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming

arr. Hayes

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

One: Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

*HYMN

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

African American spiritual

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

arr. Hayes

Participants:

Rev. Dr. John C. Tittle

Clay Whittington, Director of Music Ministries

Kris Goorsky, Director of Christian Formation

Lori Stuckey, organist and music leader

Ed Vander Woude, Bradley Bishop and Michael Dungan - audio visual

Acknowledgments:

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Hymns are selected from the Presbyterian Glory to God hymnal.

Bulletin Artwork: "*Nativity Scene*" by Paul Chidlaw (1900-1989)



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