

**Liturgist**            *Diana Davis*  
**Music**                *Bob Eubanks, Nancy Wells, George Hill, Will Eaken, Evelyn Spencer*  
**Minister**             *Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse*

**Announcements**

**Christmas Joy Offering**

*All of the offering taken this evening will go to Christmas Joy Offering. The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years.*

**The Church Office will be closed through January 1<sup>st</sup>, reopening on Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.**



**Christmas Eve Service  
7:00pm**

**Prelude**

**Word of Welcome**

*Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse*

**Advent Candle Lighting**

*Pam and Bob Eubanks*

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

Leader: This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you -

**All: God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all**

Leader: If we claim friendship with God but live in the darkness,

**All: neither our words nor our actions are true.**

Leader: If we walk in the light as He is in the light,

**All: then our friendship with God and each other is genuine, and the blood of Jesus, God's Son, cleanses us from all our sins.**

**Congregation**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel**

**Call to Worship**

*Diana Davis*

Leader: This is good news of great joy for all people!

**People: To us is born a Savior, which is Christ the Lord!**

Leader: Glory to God in the highest!

**People: And peace on earth, good will to all people!**

**\*Hymn #270 Joy To The World**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.  
Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

### ***Call to Confession***

Leader: The angel told Joseph, “You must call him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” Let’s pray together for God’s mercy on our sins.

*Diana Davis*

### ***Prayer of Confession***

**All: Lord Jesus, we have all kinds of other missions for You. We even like to control Your stated mission of saving us from our sins. We prefer to define how You save us and what our sins are. In reality, the right thing is to throw ourselves on Your mercy, accepting both Your judgement and Your grace. Forgive us, Lord Jesus, and help us walk away from here living a true life and seeing in true light, for we ask in Your Name, AMEN.**

*Diana Davis*

*(Time for Silent Confession)*

### ***Assurance of Forgiveness and Peace***

Leader: “Therefore, if the Son makes you free, you are truly free.” (John 8:36)

*Diana Davis*

### ***Passing the Peace***

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all

**All: And also with you**

*Diana Davis*

### ***\*Gloria Patri***

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost,  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen. Amen.**

### ***Special Music Gesu Bambino***

*solo, Evelyn Spencer*

### ***Prayer of Illumination***

*Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse*

### ***Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-20***

*Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse*

### ***Sermon Characters in Order of Importance***

*Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse*

### ***\*Hymn #250 O Little Town of Bethlehem***

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.  
  
For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.  
  
How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.  
  
O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

### ***Holy Communion***

#### ***\*Affirmation of Faith - The Apostles' Creed***

*Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse*

**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.**

#### ***The Invitation***

#### ***Words of Institution***

#### ***Serving of the Bread and Cup***

#### ***Prayer After Communion & The Lord's Prayer***

*Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse*

**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**

#### ***Call for Offering***

*Diana Davis*

Leader: Our offering this evening goes to the Presbyterian Christmas Joy Offering, supporting retired ministers and racial ethnic colleges. Let’s give freely as God leads.

#### ***Offertory Away in a Manger***

#### ***\*Doxology***

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts  
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost**

#### ***\*Prayer of Dedication***

*Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse*

#### ***\*Hymn #253 Silent Night! Holy Night!***

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 Saviour is born! Christ the Saviour is born!  
  
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.”  
  
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!

#### ***\*Benediction***

*Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse*

#### ***Postlude***