

First Presbyterian Church
Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols

December 24, 2017

9:00 p.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude Music	“Preludium”	Charpentier
	“Quem Pastores”	Haan
	“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”	Powell
	“In the Bleak Midwinter”	arr. Dempsey
	“Coventry Carol”	arr. Powell
	“All My Heart This Night Rejoices”	Ebeling

Call to Worship from Isaiah 9:2, 6

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Light has shined on those who lived in a land of deep darkness.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us.

***He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.***

* Processional Hymn 133 "O Come All Ye Faithful"

* Prayer of Adoration

***Living God, on this holy night we gather -
to stand with shepherds, amazed at your glory;
to sing with angels, rejoicing in your work;
to wait with Joseph, trusting in your promise;
to sit with Mary, cradling your love.
May the good news of this night inspire us
to tell world of our great joy,
for to us is born a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.
Glory and praise to you forever! Amen.***

* Lighting of the Christ Candle

Refrain ***“O come, let us adore him . . . Christ the Lord.”***

Words of Welcome

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Lesson Isaiah 11:1-9

Carol "Who But the Lord?"

Craig Courtney

Lesson Micah 5:2-5

Hymn 121 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Lesson Luke 1:26-38

Carol "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"

Lesson Luke 2:1-7

Carol "Away in a Manger"

Susan T. Nelson

Lesson Luke 2:8-20

Hymn 119 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Sermon: "Waking Up to Christmas"

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 134 "Joy to the World"

* Affirmation of Faith

from John 1:1-18

***The true light, which enlightens everyone,
was coming into the world.
He was in the world, and the world came into being through him;
yet the world did not know him.
He came to what was his own,
and his own people did not accept him.
But to all who received him, who believed in his name,
he gave power to become children of God,
who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh
or of the will of man, but of God.
And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son,
full of grace and truth.***

Offering
Offertory “Away in a Manger” arr. Lau

* Prayer of Dedication and the Lord’s Prayer
The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Let us pray . . .

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Candlelighting Hymn 122 "Silent Night, Holy Night" arr. Chilcott
All will sing the first verse. The choir will sing the second verse.
All will sing verses three and four.

Please be careful in lighting candles. For safety, please hold lit candles upright.
Unlit candles are tipped toward flame.

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude “Angels from the Realms of Glory” arr. Laskey

* All who are able shall stand.

PARTICIPANTS IN TONIGHT’S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William Carter
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Susan Kelly
Pianist	Beverly Bright
Instrumentalists	Connie Weiss-oboe; John Weiss-cello
Readers	Betsy Ellis, John Diven, Myrna Diven, Hoyt Keiser, Steve Selige
Ushers	Jim McLaughlin, Anne Rich, Drew Taylor
Candlelighting Family	John and Anne Rich and family

First Presbyterian Church
300 School Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411
(570) 586-6306 www.fpccs.org

We welcome our visitors and are glad you are here!

Our Deacons would like to give a gift to our guests. Please speak to them at the sanctuary doors as you depart. We would also appreciate knowing that you are here, and invite you to sign either the red pads in the pews or the guest book in the lobby.

Interested in discovering more about our church? Visit our website at www.fpccs.org.

On Sunday, December 31st we will worship at **10:00 a.m.**

Large print bulletins, hymnals, and Bibles are available from ushers. Please return worship aids to ushers after use.

2018 offering envelopes for adults will be available in the narthex shortly after the first of the new year.