



# Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

## *Christmas Eve, 2024* 8 PM Service of Worship

*\*\*Indicates to stand if you are able*

### Prelude

Fantasy on *In Dulci Jubilo*

arr. H. Livingston, Jr.

Luke 1:47: *My Spirit rejoices in God, my savior!*

“Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!  
Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven’s door, and we are blest forevermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!”

(Words are Medieval Latin, translated by J. Neale, 1853; music is a 14<sup>th</sup> century German folk melody; public domain)  
(this piano solo: Lorenz Publishing Co., 2012)

### Welcome and Announcements

### Passing of the Peace

L: The peace of Christ be with you. P: **And also with you.**

## Gathering

### Call to Worship/Lighting of the Christ Candle

TBD

Through the waiting, watching and wondering, as the darkness grew---

1. We have trusted the Holy One who ignites our hope
2. We have entrusted ourselves to the Holy One who draws us on to peace
3. We have trusted the Holy One who inclines our spirits to joy---*light the pink candle*
4. We have trusted the Holy One whose love turns the world around.

**ALL:**

**Look, the light shines!**—*light the Christ candle*

**What came into being through the Word was life, and the life was the light for all people  
Jesus is the light in our darkness, the light of our lives.**

**\*\*Hymn -110**

*Love Has Come (all verses)*

## Call to Confession

**Shared Prayer of Confession:** End each "we have"petition with **"Forgive us, Holy One"**

God, you are good and merciful, and you look on us with love, enough that you humbled yourself to be birthed as one among us. We have often failed to honor the love shown to us in Bethlehem.

--We have resisted the changing of our world and of ourselves, denying your hope.

--We have worried but hung on tightly to our need to control and to be right, denying your peace.

--We have feared the worst and set courage aside, declining your call to joy.

--Because we have often found favor in the world, we shy away from love that turns us, and the world, around.

**Holy child of Bethlehem, baby in a manger, be born in us.**

**Come to us, live among us and in us, we pray. Amen**

Assurance of Pardon (from Zechariah's Song, Luke 1:68-72)

L: The Lord's grace is sure. God has looked with favor upon his people, and redeemed them.

**P: God has raised up a mighty savior from the house of David.**

L: God spoke through the prophets of old so that we would be saved from our enemies  
and from the hand of all who oppose us.

**P: God has shown mercy, and has remembered his promises.**

L: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**P: Thanks be to God!**

**\*\*Response - 119, v.3**

*Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!**

**Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings**

**Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die**

**Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth**

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

## Word

Prayer for Illumination

Liturgist John Salkeld

**We would make room for you this night of all nights, dear Lord: room in our minds and hearts; room also in our life together. Let your word be born again in us so that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we might join with all the saints and angels, giving you glory and offering peace and goodwill toward all people.**

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1-7, NRSVUE

Liturgist John Salkeld

Word in Song

*Jesus, Joy of the Highest Heaven*

by J. Martin

*from Joy Has Dawned*

*Luke 2:6-7: While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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.*

(words and music by K. Getty/S. Townend, 2005; ThankYou Music Integrity Music)

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:8-14

Liturgist John Salkeld

Hymn-143, v. 1-2

*Angels, From the Realms of Glory*

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:15-20

Rev. Janna VanderWoude

Homily

Rev. Janna VanderWoude

Word in Song

*Jesus Christ is Born!*

by J. Martin

from *Joy Has Dawned*

Isaiah 52:7: *How beautiful upon the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!"*

(Hope Publishing Co., 2019)

## Thanksgiving/Eucharist

### Invitation to Offering

*There are numerous ways to give to the work of CMPC. Offering plates will be passed through the pews during the offertory for checks or cash to be left today. Cards with a QR code that will direct you to our online giving page are located in the pew racks. Donations can always be mailed to the church at any time. Thank you for your gift!.*

*This evening, along with our regular offering, we will collect the Christmas Joy offering—one of the special offerings of the PC(USA). The monies collected as part of the Christmas Joy offering will be used to provide financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families as well as to enable deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic colleges and schools. Donations to the Christmas Joy offering may be put in the envelope found in the bulletin.*

### Offertory

*He Is Born with Pat-a-pan*

arr. M. Hayes

Isaiah 9:6: *For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

"He is born, the divine Christ child; raise your voices in joyful melody! He is born, the divine Christ child, sing of Jesus, the Baby mild. Through the ages, prophets told of a long-awaited Savior. Through the ages, prophets told of this Child we now behold. He is born, the divine Christ child; raise your voices in joyful melody! He is born, the divine Christ child, sing of Jesus, the Baby mild."

(Song is a 19<sup>th</sup> century French carol; public domain. Pat-a-pan is a French carol in Burgundian dialect, composed by Bernard de La Monnoye in 1720; public domain. This piano solo: Word Music 2001)

### \*\*Doxology—143

*Angels, From the Realms of Glory*

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son**

**Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One**

**Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King.**

## Prayer Introit

*Messiah* by F. Battistelli/J. Pando/M. Reed  
Allison and Hannah Miller, duet

Luke 2:10-12: *The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."*

(Meaux Jeux Music Da Bears Music, 2017; admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com at Word Music Francesca Music)

## Christmas Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer (using "debts")

# Sending

## The Festival of Light

*Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world; those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

The Christ candle represents Jesus, the Light of the world.

The candle lighting ceremony symbolizes the spreading of the light of Jesus from one life to another.

Hold a lighted candle upright when giving light to another: "Bow" the unlit candle toward the one that is lit.

Please extinguish candles after the final stanza of Silent Night.

## Hymn - 122 (seated)

## *Silent Night, Holy Night*

**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."**

## **\*\*Benediction**

***Thank you to John Kim and Neil Danzig for operating the sound board this evening!***  
***Thank you to Kofi Akuoko for operating the cameras!***

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## Love Has Come

110

Capo 3: (D)

(Bm7)

(Em7)

(A)

F

Dm7

Gm7

C



1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!  
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.  
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D)

(Bm7)

(Em)

(A7) (D)

F

Dm7

Gm

C7

F



Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all  
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the  
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A)

(D)

(Bm)

(D)

(A)

(G)

(D)

C

F

Dm

F

C

B<sup>b</sup>

F



heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of  
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her  
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7)

(F#7)

(G)

(A)

(Bm)

(A7)

Gm7

A7

B<sup>b</sup>

C

Dm

C7



joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a  
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she  
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

(D)

(A)

(G)

(A)

(D)

(A)

(A7)

(D<sub>sus</sub>)

(D)

F

C

B<sup>b</sup>

C

F

C

C7

F<sub>sus</sub>

F



Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.  
 Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."

## 143 Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er  
 2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your  
 3 Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions  
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; you, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing;  
 beam a - far; seek the great de - sire of na - tions;  
 Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 yon - der shines the in - fant light: come and wor - ship,  
 you have seen his na - tal star:  
 to the e - ter - nal Three in One:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king!

This familiar carol was first published as a poem in the Christmas Eve 1816 issue of a newspaper the author edited in Sheffield, England. The tune name celebrates the location of a prominent Presbyterian Church in London, sometimes called the "Presbyterian cathedral."