

FAIRFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2023

11:00 p.m.

Prelude *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* arr. Michael Hassell

Welcome

Introit *He Has Come for Us* Ingram/Andrews
Sarah Dobson & Ashley Foster

Lighting of the Advent Candle Larry & Fran Hansbrough

Reader #1 We light this candle to symbolize God's promise fulfilled.

Reader #2 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. Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to all on whom his favor rests.

All: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

***Carol # 154** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Call to Worship

Leader: In the holy darkness of this night,

People: amid labor pains and newborn cries,

Leader: angel songs and tremors of fear,

People: tears of relief and looks of amazement,

Leader: our Savior takes his first breath.

People: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come to see us.

***Carol #182** *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Scripture Lesson Isaiah 9: 2-7 (Pew Bible p. 638 - Old Test.)

Special Music *Still, Still, Still* arr. Luboff
Praise Chorus

Scripture Lesson Luke 1: 26-28 (Pew Bible p. 56 - New Test.)

***Carol # 185** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Scripture Lesson Luke 1: 46-55 (Pew Bible p. 57 - New Test.)

Anthem *O Holy Night* Sarah Dobson & Matt Wenninger

Scripture Lesson Luke 2: 1-14 (Pew Bible p. 58 - New Test.)

***Carol #179** *Joy to the World!*

Scripture Lesson Matthew 2: 1-2,10-12 (Pew Bible p. 2 - New Test.)

Offering and Offertory** *What Child Is This?* arr. John Rasley

Scripture Lesson Luke 2: 15-20 (Pew Bible p. 58 - New Test.)

Special Music *Out of the Orient Crystal Skies* Zgodava
Praise Chorus

Sermon "A Child Changes Everything" Dr. Steve Starzer

***Carol #190** *Lo How a Rose e'er Blooming*

Special Music *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* Tomlin
Praise Chorus

Lighting of the Candles

As the lights are dimmed and we sing "Silent Night, ushers will light the candle of the worshiper at the end of each row. That person will light the candle next to them and on down the row. Remember that the lighted candle remains upright; the unlighted candle is tipped to be lighted. You may extinguish your candle as soon as the Postlude begins.

The Gospel of the Incarnation John 1: 1-2, 14 The Rev. Dr. Keith Curran

Carol (see insert) *Silent Night, Holy Night*

Benediction

Postlude *Chorale Prelude on "In Dulci Jubilo"* J. S. Bach

* Those who are able, please stand.

**Tonight we are receiving the Christmas Joy Offering. The Christmas Joy offering of our denomination is taken to support “the unmet needs of families who have given their lives to the mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), some of them after their retirement, others while they continue to serve.” Monies collected also assist students at racial ethnic schools and colleges. “As we celebrate the love of Jesus that the angel heralds-overflowing into, through, and beyond our lives - may our gifts bear joyful witness to that uncontainable love.”

There is no nursery provided tonight, but parents are welcome to take restless children to the nursery at any time during the service.



MERRY
CHRISTMAS
FROM THE
STAFF