

FAIRFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2024

11:00 p.m.

Prelude

Pifa (Pastoral Symphony)

G. F. Handel, arr. Robert Glover

Welcome

Introit

Gently

Cecily/Barber

Sarah Dobson-Heretick & Ashley Foster

Lighting of the Advent Candle

***Carol # 154**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni 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

Adeste Fideles

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

Mendelssohn

Scripture Lesson

Luke 1: 46-55

(Pew Bible p. 57 - New Test.)

Anthem

O Holy Night

Sarah Dobson & Matt Wenninger

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

Special Music *He Has Come For Us/God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*
Ashley Foster & Sarah Dobson-Heretick

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

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

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

Offering and Offertory** *Interlude on "Coventry Carol"* arr. W. S. Lloyd Webber

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

Special Music *Baby King* Gray
Praise Chorus

Sermon "Boundless Spirit" Dr. Steve Starzer

***Carol #190** *Lo How a Rose e'er Blooming* Es Ist Ein Ros'

Special Music *Out of the Orient Crystal Skies* Zgodava
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.

Litany of the Candles

Pastor: Here in the darkness, I saw one faint glimmer-
one candle flickering, one small voice against the silence.

Pastor & Women: and then through some brave gesture of God-given
grace, another held a candle to the flame. Two flickers against the
darkness, two voices faintly raised against the silence....

Add Men: Two, then four, then more grace multiplied until faces of all God's people are illumined for the world to see and their voices in mighty chorus proclaim:

Everyone: JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!

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

Carol (see insert) *Silent Night! Holy Night!* Stille Nacht

Special Music *Midnight Clear* Praise Chorus

Benediction

Postlude *Fantasia on "In Dulci Jubile"* Johann Sebastian 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.

