

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church



December 24, 2025

The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord

December 24, 2025

5:00 P.M.

THE GATHERING

MUSIC FOR THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

PRELUDE

"Yule"

Moren

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the holy darkness of this night,
amid labor pains and newborn cries,
angel songs and shivers of fear,
tears of relief and expressions of amazement,
our Savior takes his first breath.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come to us.

*PROCESSIONAL CAROL 134

"Joy to the World!"

ANTIOCH

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Mary and Merlin Trausch

We have watched; we have waited:
in hope. (The first candle is lit.)
for peace. (The second candle is lit.)
in joy. (The third candle is lit.)
in love. (The fourth candle is lit.)
Tonight we light the candle of Nativity! The Christ candle.
Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia! Amen!

CAROL 140

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

CRANHAM

THE WORD

TIME FOR OUR YOUNGEST DISCIPLES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"O Come, Emmanuel"

Hagenberg

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:1-20

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"Where Did Jesus Go?"

THE RESPONSE

*CAROL 133

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"
(Verses 1, 2, & 4)

ADESTE FIDELES

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

(The offering this evening goes to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.
Your gifts will help others throughout the year. Please designate your gift for the fund
by noting it on the memo line of your check or on the envelope at your seat.)

OFFERTORY

"Noel"

Bouvard

*DOXOLOGY

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

REGENT SQUARE

**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 OVER THE GIFTS

CAROL 121

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

ST. LOUIS

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

(Responsive, congregation please read **bold** print.)

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, O Lord, our God...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

(singing...)

Sing choirs of angels, Sing in exultation!

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all Glory in the highest!

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior...Great is the mystery of faith:

(saying...)

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ...we bless you, God of glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray together:

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 I not temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(To receive communion when you come forward, please open your hands and a portion of bread will be given to you to partake.

If you prefer gluten free, please tell the server. Then pick up a small cup from the tray and partake. As you return to your seat, there will be a basket in which you can place your cup. If you would like a server to come to you, please raise your hand.)

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Lullaby for Christmas Eve"

arr. Henninger

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)

Holy and astounding God, at this table, in this meal, we have been met by Christ – the reflection of your glory, the imprint of your being. As we go from this service, may our lives be a joyful song, proclaiming the good news of your righteousness and peace to all the world. Amen.

THE SENDING

*SPREADING THE LIGHT (See below)

"Silent Night"

STILLE NACHT

(During the singing of the carol, when passing the flame, always keep your lit candle upright while the next person tilts the unlit candle into yours. Candles may be extinguished following the Benediction and returned to the baskets in the Gathering Space.)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Adeste Fidelis"

Lemare

HYMN 122

"Silent Night, Holy Night!"

Stille Nacht

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 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.

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.

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Anne Hébert, Pastor

Carol Johnson, Liturgist

Marty Havlin, Dennis Keeney, Ushers

Ross and Dianne Stephenson, Greeters

Mary and Merlin Trausch, Advent Candle Lighters

Chris and Dave Jahr, Communion Preparers

Diane Pharr, Online Digital Greeter

Michael Beery, Music Director

Polly Mauer, Pianist

Laurence Smith, Organist

