

ORDER OF WORSHIP
December 24, 2024
Christmas Pageant

4:30PM



CHRISTMAS EVE

children's pageant



CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Prelude

Carols from young musicians

Margaret Lilly Potashnick, Genevieve Mazzoni, Stephen Pollmann, Gavin Sehorn, Peter Surdo, and Meg Surdo

God Calls Us To Worship

God gathers us before
his heavenly throne for
a special time to renew
our relationship with
him together.

Standing (if able)

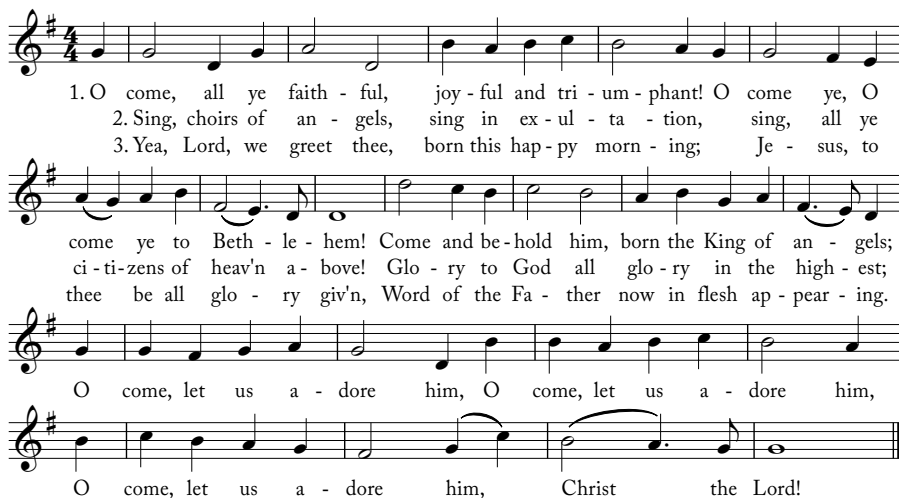
from Luke 2:11, 14; Colossians 1:19-20

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the Second Adam and image of God, Immanuel, God with us.
Give glory to God in the highest through Jesus, our Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell
and through him to reconcile to himself all things in heaven and earth.
Amen!

We Praise God

We respond to God's
call by honoring his
majesty and goodness
in song.

O Come, All Ye Faithful



1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O come ye, O
2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je - sus, to
come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
ci - ti - zens of heav'n a - bove! Glo - ry to God all glo - ry in the high - est;
thee be all glo - ry giv'n, Word of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing.
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: John F. Wade; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1841
Tune: ADESTE FIDELIS; John F. Wade

Seated

Lighting the Christ candle tonight are Justin & Pratibha Sadhu, Isabelle, Gabrielle, Adrielle

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

from John 1:14

Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

from Philippians 3:20-21

This is the Word of God, who gives light to everyone.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

from John 1:1, 5, 9

We respond to God by affirming our trust in his word.

Standing (if able)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, and gath - ered all a - bove,
3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem! De - scend to us we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by.
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of His heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
No ear may hear His com - ing, but in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
And prais - es sing to God the King and peace to men on earth.
where meek souls will re - ceive Him still the dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el.

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1868
Tune: ST. LOUIS; Lewis Redner, 1868

Seated

The Christmas Pageant

Pageant Greeting	Matthew 2:9-12	Narrator 3	
Luke 2:1, 3-7	Narrator 1	What Can I Bring?..... Angel Choir Words and Music by A. Ramsey	
Luke 2:8-10	Narrator 1	John 1:1-5, 9, 14	Narrator 3
Luke 2:10b-12, 14	Angel of the Lord	Prayer	
Luke 2:13	Narrator 1	Pageant Closing	
Luke 2:15-20.....	Narrator 2	Away in a Manger..... Angel Choir Text: st. 1, 2, anonymous; st. 3 John T. McFarland Tune: MUELLER; James R. Murray	
Late at Night Long Ago.....	Angel Choir Words:J. Nagy; Music: R. Nagy		
Matthew 2:1-8a.....	Narrator 2		
Matthew 2:8b.....	Herod		

Cast

<i>Pageant Greeter</i>	<i>Mary</i>	<i>Angel of the Lord</i>	<i>Wise Ones</i>
Addie McWilliams	Sybil Johns	Anola Heitmann	Genevieve Mazzoni (<i>Gold</i>)
<i>Narrator 1</i>	<i>Joseph</i>	<i>Angel Helpers</i>	Anola Heitmann
Gavin Sehorn	Samuel Cairns	Mary Kate Marsh	(<i>Frankincense</i>)
<i>Narrator 2</i>	<i>Innkeeper</i>	Isabelle Sadhu	Renee Brockhaus (<i>Myrrh</i>)
Preston Burgess	Preston Burgess	<i>Herod</i>	<i>Pageant Closing</i>
<i>Narrator 3</i>	<i>Shepherds</i>	Gavin Sehorn	Megan Bruce
Margaret Lilly Potashnick	Jude Lescher	<i>Star Bearer</i>	
	Stephen Pollmann	Sophia Stogsdill	

Angel Choir

Hugh Ayres, Jude Bester, Alex Brockhaus, Katie Bruce, Hannah Coste, Eloise Coste, Mháire Dodd, Laila Emamjome, Alice Flanagan, Margaret Grudzien, Aiden Harger, Maddie Lane, Owen Lescher, Hadley Marsh, Molly Marsh, Claire Northcott, Peter Pollmann, Elsie Pollmann, Goodin Potashnick, Gabrielle Sadhu, Micah Sehorn, Emmit Sehorn, Jonah Stogsdill, and William Thorne

Stephanie Stogsdill and Hannah Geisz Baartman, **Pageant Directors**
Whitney Cairns, **Angel Choir Director**
Ruth Stith, **pianist**

Pageant Parent Helpers

Susan Brockhaus, Taylor and Emily Bruce, Kirk Lescher, Stephanie Marsh, Jennifer Mazzoni, Julie McWilliams, Carolyn Sehorn

Angels We Have Heard on High

1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
 Say what may the tid - ings be, which in - spire you heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Glo - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o!

Text: Traditional French carol; 18th C.
 Tune: GLORIA; Traditional French melody

Matthew 1:18-25

pew Bible page 807

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
 and they shall call his name Immanuel"

²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

God Instructs Us In Scripture Reading

God speaks to us through the Bible to instruct, encourage, correct, comfort, and equip us to know, love, and follow him.

God Instructs Us In Preaching

God speaks to us to
explain what his word
means and how to
respond to him with
loving obedience in our
daily lives.

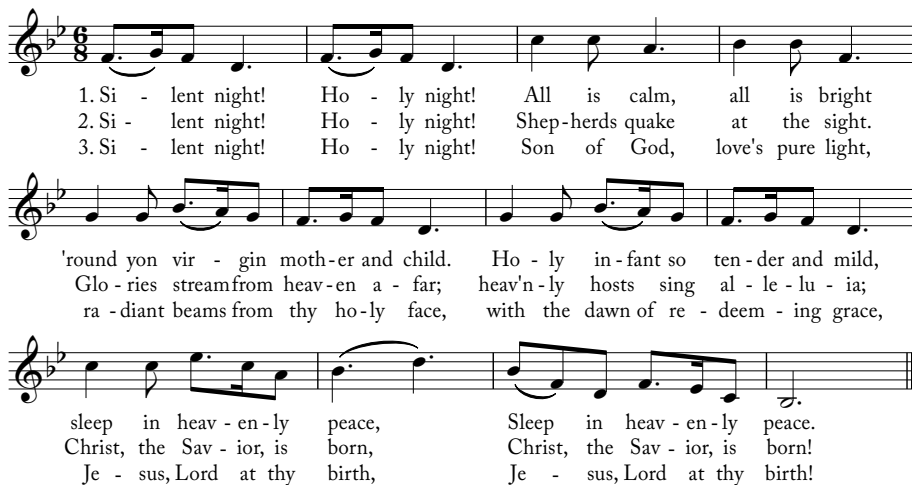
We Offer Ourselves in Gifts and Song

We respond to God's
word by offering
ourselves to God with
renewed love and
commitment both in
song and in gifts of
money to support God's
mission in the world.

"Growing Glory"- Rev. Taylor Bruce

Give electronically at centralpres.com/giving, or by texting CENTRALPRES to 77977

Silent Night



1. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
 2. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight.
 3. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light,

'round yon vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild,
 Glo - ries stream from heav-en a - far; heav'n-ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;
 ra - dian beams from thy ho-ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 Christ, the Sav - ior, is born, Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 Je - sus, Lord at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord at thy birth!

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1818
 Tune: STILLE NACHT; Franz Gruber, 1818

Standing (if able)

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come, let earth re - ceive her King.
2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em - ploy
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the ground.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions prove

Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him room, and heav'n and na - ture sing,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains re - peat the sound-ing joy,
He comes to make his bless - ings flow far as the curse is found,
the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness and won - ders of his love,

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and heav'n and na - ture sing.
re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound-ing joy.
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
and won - ders of his love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1719

Tune: ANTIOCH; G. F. Händel; adapt. Lowell Mason

And all God's people said...
Hallelujah! Amen.

We Praise God

God Blesses Us And Sends Us Out

God sends us out into
the world with his
blessing to live with him
and serve the mission of
his kingdom.

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!

P. Laubengayer

Postlude

Connect, Grow, Serve

At Central, we seek the transformation of our lives, communities, and the world through the renewing work of Jesus Christ, for the glory of God. This vision becomes more and more a reality when we **connect, grow, and serve**. Below are a few opportunities coming up for you to belong to God's mission and his work at and through Central.

Worship Times for December 29 and January 5

Merry Christmas! It is a joy to celebrate the birth of Jesus with you this year. Please note that our worship schedule will be slightly different next Sunday. Our Sunday worship schedule for the next two weeks will be as follows:

Sunday, December 29th: one service at 10:00 a.m., NO Sunday School, Nursery or Children's Worship

Sunday, January 5th: two services at 8:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., No Sunday School, but Nursery and Children's Worship will be available

Grow Your Faith in 2025

Perhaps you are here with us this Christmas for the first time in a while, or perhaps the first time ever. We are so glad that you are here! Getting connected at Central in the new year can be a wonderful way to deepen your faith, make new friends, and to experience the renewing work of Jesus in your life. We'd love to help you connect with us. Please send us a note at info@centralpres.com for more information or to speak with someone from our ministry team. You can also visit our website at www.centralpres.com to learn more about everything coming up in the new year. Merry Christmas and we hope to see you again!

Prayer and Support

It is a joyful time of year, but it can also be a challenging time of year for those of you who recently lost loved ones or are experiencing difficult life circumstances. If you find yourself in a tough place this Christmas season, please feel free to contact us at care@centralpres.com for prayer and also to get connected with our various care ministries. From Divorce Care to Grief Share, from marriage enrichment to career care, we have a range of different groups that you might find helpful.

If you would like more information about these or other upcoming opportunities, please scan the QR code to the right, email us at communications@centralpres.com, or call the church office at 314-727-2777.

CONNECT

GROW

SERVE

