



CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2025 at 5:00 pm

CHERRY HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dearborn, Michigan

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

December 24, 2025 at 5:00pm

**Those who are able are invited to rise in body or spirit.*

All hymn and carol texts are found at the end of this service program.

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on *Forest Green*
Of the Father's Love Begotten
Go Tell It on the Mountain
Carolyn Haury, piano
Gesu Bambino
Katie Garber, soprano

Richard Purvis
arr. John Carter

Pietro Yon

CHORAL INTROIT

A Boy Was Born in Bethlehem

Bruce Neswick

CALL TO WORSHIP

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!

*CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, as you came in the stillness of night,
enter our lives this night.

Overcome darkness with the light of Christ's presence,
that we may clearly see the way to walk, the truth to speak,
and the life to live for him our LORD, Jesus Christ. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES AND CHRIST CANDLE

*CAROL

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Regent Square

THE STORY BEGINS

Luke 1:26-38

ANTHEM

Still, Still, Still

arr. Norman Luboff

CHOOSING TO BELIEVE

Matthew 1:18-25

CAROLS

O Little Town of Bethlehem
Away in a Manger

THE TIME HAS COME

Luke 2:8-20

ANTHEM	Christmas Lullaby	John Rutter
CAROL	Angels We Have Heard on High	<i>Gloria</i>

EMMANUEL – GOD WITH US		Matthew 2:1-12
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*CAROL	We Three Kings of Orient Are	<i>Three Kings of Orient</i>
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MEDITATION	“The Christmas Question”	
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VOCAL SOLO	O Holy Night <i>Katie Garber, soprano</i>	Adolph Adam
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SPREADING THE LIGHT OF THE CHRIST CHILD

*The sanctuary will be darkened. The minister will light a candle from the Christ candle and then light the candles of the ushers who will light the worshipers' candles on the aisle.
Please tilt only the UNLIT candle to receive the light of Christ.*

*CAROL	Silent Night	<i>Stille Nacht</i>
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CHRISTMAS PRAYER

**This night, O God, a child is born for us and a Son is given to us.
Your eternal Word leapt down from heaven in the silent watches of the night,
and now your Church is filled with wonder and light at the nearness of our God.
Open our hearts so we may live out the joy of his coming
and the message which he has proclaimed; our Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.**

*CAROL	Joy to the World!	<i>Antioch</i>
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***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE	Carillon on the Ukrainian Bell Carol	Gerald Near
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Participants in Tonight's Service

The Rev. Teresa Peterson, Interim Minister
Mr. Charles Miller, Director of Music & Organist
The Rev. Dr. John Whitfield, Liturgist
Katie Garber, Vocal Soloist

Ushers

Jill Nichols & John Nichols and Bob Szwed

WELCOME to this very special service in which we celebrate God's greatest gift to all of humanity, the gift of a Child, a Savior—Jesus. If you are a guest at Cherry Hill Church, we especially welcome you! It is a joy to have you with us tonight when our house of worship is so beautifully adorned with poinsettias, trees, and candles, as well as joyous music. We hope you will join us again and consider attending on a regular basis. Christmas blessings to each of you!
— Rev. Teresa Peterson

OFFERINGS may be placed in the offering plates at each sanctuary door, mailed to the church office, or by our secure and easy online giving option! Please visit: www.cherryhillchurch.org for more information.

CHILDCARE FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN is provided during the worship service upstairs in the nursery (above the church offices). Olivia Gee is our childcare provider. Please ask a greeter for directions.

CANDLE-LIGHTING: Upon entering the sanctuary, you should have received a candle with a wax guard. These will be used during the candle-lighting ceremony at the conclusion of the service. The ushers will light the first candle in each pew on the aisle, and each worshiper is asked to share with their neighbor that light. Please always **tilt the unlighted candle** to the flame of the lit candle. After the service, return your candle to the baskets at each sanctuary entrance. This ceremony represents the light of Christ coming into the world. May we each experience Christ's light in our living!

For more information on Cherry Hill Church please visit our website (www.cherryhillchurch.org) or Facebook page. You may also call the church office. We have weekly email and monthly newsletter which highlights ministries, mission, and activities of the church. Send your email address to the church office (office@cherryhillchurch.org) and request to receive this information.

***WE WISH FOR EVERYONE GOD'S RICHEST BLESSINGS
THIS CHRISTMASTIDE AND THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR!***

CHERRY HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
24110 Cherry Hill Street, Dearborn, Michigan 48124
www.cherryhillchurch.org office@cherryhillchurch.org
313-563-4800

A member of the Presbytery of Detroit of the Presbyterian Church USA

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

Adeste Fidelis

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above.
Glory to God in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
we would embrace thee with love and awe;
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Regent Square

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye, who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King!

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King!

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great desire of nations. Ye have seen his natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King!

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King!

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

Forest Green

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

AWAY IN A MANGER

Mueller

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

Angels We Have Heard On High

Gloria

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

We Three Sings of Orient Are

Three Kings of Orient

**We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

**Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

**Frankincense to offer have I: incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising we are raising, worshiping God most High.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

**Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

**Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

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,
heav'nly 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.

JOY TO THE WORLD!

Antioch

Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King:
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns:
Let us our songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.