Our cover art, “Peaceful Night” was created by local North Canton artist Tina Meyers and we thank her for letting us use it. You can check out more of her work on facebook @eyesplinterart.

Christ Presbyterian Church
Tuscarawas Street at McKinley Avenue
530 Tuscarawas Street, West
Canton, Ohio 44702
Christmas Eve Family Service

December 24, 2019
Six-Thirty O'Clock

*At these moments, we invite you to stand in body or spirit Please silence all electronic devices prior to the worship service.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Welcome! We rejoice that you are here to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! We invite you to prepare young children by telling them the responses to our liturgy as well as alerting them to the carols, too. All should respond (with great enthusiasm!) where the print is bold.

Prelude “Gesu Bambino” Pietro Yon
Jean Burnquist, soprano

Call to Worship
Leader: Tonight we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the One whose life reveals God’s deep and lasting love for all.
People: O, come let us worship God!

*Carol No. 133 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

1. 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!

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

2. True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Very God, begotten, not created! (Refrain)

3. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all Glory in the highest! (Refrain)

4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)
Lighting of The Christ Candle
The Wallace Family
Michael, Courtney, Theo, Neva, & Nathaniel

Hebrew Bible Reading
Isaiah 9:2-7

Anthem
“Little Star”
Children’s Choir
Greg Gilpin

Little Star up in the sky
Shining brightly from on high
Leading to a tiny child
Little Star up in the sky
Venite adoremus Dominum (O come let us adore him)

A Reading for Children
The Christmas Promise
Alison Mitchell
(At this time children are invited to come forward for a reading of a special story.)

*Carol No. 119
“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

A Thought for Adults

A Christmas Prayer (responsively)
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia!
Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!
O Christ, splendor of God’s eternal glory,
the mighty Word, sustaining the universe:
Renew our lives by your presence.
Lord, have mercy.
O Christ, born into the world in the fullness of time
for the liberation of all creation:
Release all into your promised freedom.
Lord, have mercy.
O Christ, begotten of the Father before all time,
born in a stable at Bethlehem:
May your church be a sign of hope and joy.
**Lord, have mercy.**
O Christ, truly God and truly human,
born to a people in fulfillment of their expectations:
Fulfill our desires in you.
**Lord, have mercy.**
O Christ, born of the virgin Mary,
child of wonder and splendor,
mighty God of all ages, Prince of Peace:
May the whole world live in peace and justice.
**Lord, have mercy.**

**Offertory Anthem**  “The Friendly Beasts”  Hal Hopson  
Children’s Choir

Jesus our brother, kind and good  
Was humbly born in a stable rude,  
And the friendly beasts around him stood:  
Jesus, our brother, kind and good.

“I” said the donkey, shaggy and brown,  
“I” said the dove, from the rafters high.
“I” said the cow, all white and red,  
“We” said the lamb, from the manger high.
“I” said the sheep with curly horn,  
“Thus every beast, by some good spell
And the friendly beasts around him stood:  
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*I Carol No. 145 (stanza 3—sung by all)  GREENSLEEVES*  
So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, one and all, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone him.  
*This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!*

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)*  
What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
But what I can, I give Him, I give Him my heart. Amen.
*Congregational Carols* (now we invite you to light your candles)

**Refrain:**

Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

1. While shepherds kept their watching O’er silent flocks by night,  
Behold throughout the heavens There shone a holy light. **Refrain**

2. The shepherds feared and trembled When lo! Above the earth,  
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior’s birth. **Refrain**

3. Down in a lowly manger The humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn. **Refrain**

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

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.

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! 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.

*Benediction*

*Organ Voluntary*  “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  David Willcocks

*For anyone wishing confidential individual prayer, immediately following the service a member of the Stephen Ministry will be available in the Chapel.*
The 10:00pm Christmas Eve Service will be broadcast live on WHLO-640 AM, beginning at 9:30pm with Special Music.

In observance of the Christmas and New Year Holiday the Church office and building hours will be as follows:

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
9:30pm Festival Choral and Organ Music
10:00pm Candlelight Communion Service in the Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25:
Office & Building closed all day

SUNDAY, DEC. 30:
Christmas Lessons & Carols at 10:30am
De-decorate at 11:45am (Lunch included)

TUESDAY, DEC. 31 & WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1:
Office & Building closed all day

FCP Ministry + PB & J + You = EPIPHANY!
. . and the equation also equals happy clients at Christ Presbyterian Church’s twice-monthly food and clothing distributions! On Sunday, Jan. 5, we will be celebrating Epiphany. As we remember and celebrate the Gifts of the Magi, The Food, Clothing and Prayer Ministry is again looking forward to your generous “gifts” of 18-ounce jars of Peanut Butter & Jelly. These donations will be collected Jan. 6 but they can also be brought to the Church any time. Thank you for your generous support of this ministry throughout the year with your donations of time, clothing items, food items, and money. We are definitely here to serve those in need in downtown Canton! With much gratitude ~ The Food, Clothing & Prayer Ministry Team

On Sunday, December 29, we will be taking down the Christmas decorations. We need several people to help take down the trees, wreaths, garland, and bows. This will take place after the 10:30 am worship service. The more helpers we have, the faster the task is completed. A simple meal will be provided. Please sign up in Cloister Hall or online if you can help.
TAG — Tuesday Afternoon Group  
Tuesday, January 21, 11:30 am — Bravo

For January and February, TAG is going out to eat! We will meet at restaurants while the TAG chefs take a well-deserved vacation. These lunches will also be easier to cancel in case it snows.

January’s TAG will be held at Bravo Cucina Italiana. Bravo is located at 4224 Everhard Road NW on the north side of the Belden Village Mall. You will be able to order anything you’d like and get an individual check. We will gather at 11:30 for a time of fellowship and greeting friends, with lunch at noon. In the event of bad weather, TAG will be cancelled if the Canton City Schools are closed for the day.

Because we will need to give the restaurant a headcount, please sign up for January TAG no later than Sunday, January 19. You can sign up in the kiosk area or call the church office. You can also sign up online. Thank you!

Lunch Bunch—A new opportunity to fellowship and break bread

When: Every Sunday following 10:30am worship service
Where: La Pizzaria
(3656 Dressler Rd. NW, Canton, OH 44718)
Who: Everyone and anyone!

Lunch bunch is an informal gathering of church members, visitors, and friends at La Pizzaria at approximately 12:00 PM every Sunday. It is a great way to meet other people and get to know new friends. If you would like to attend, but need transportation or have any questions, please call Carolyn Hess at 330-353-0909.
EPHYPANY MADRIGAL FEAST

Saturday, January 4, 2020
in Westminster Hall

Doors open at five o’clock
The Feast begins at half past five

featuring
Firestone High School Madrigal Singers

Tickets are $25 for Adults; $10 for Children
Tickets available online and in the Church office.
Proceeds from this event benefit the Food, Clothing, and Prayer Ministry of Christ Church.
Seating is limited to 120 guests.

Hey kids!
Put on your comfiest jammies for church on
Sunday, January 12!

It might be winter outside, but we’ll be comfy and cozy inside with cocoa, treats, games, and stories. Be sure to invite a friend and don’t forget your slippers! Grown ups are welcome to join in the fun too!