

# Davidson College Presbyterian Church



Christmas Eve  
Communion and Candlelight Service



Service of Worship  
Christmas Eve 2016  
11 p.m. Sanctuary

PRELUDE

Carols for Harp  
*Julianna Leimer, harpist*

\*CAROL No. 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

WELCOME

OPENING WORDS

We are here  
because we have heard a promise of peace,  
and we have faith its day will come.

**We have heard a rumor of justice,  
and we have faith its day will come.**

We have heard a whisper of hope,  
and we have faith its day will come.

**We have heard a hint of love,  
and we have faith its day will come.**

We have heard of the birth of the Christ-child,  
**and we have faith his day is here.**

GATHERING PRAYER

**Loving God, on this holy night we gather – to stand with shepherds, amazed at your glory; to sing with angels, rejoicing in your promise; to sit with Mary, cradling your love. May the good news of this night inspire us to tell the world of our great joy: for to us is born a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord. Glory and praise to you forever! Amen.**

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Isaiah 9: 2-7

In a time of violence and despair, an ancient prophet gives good news. We light the Christ candle, thankful that God has come to us, not as a conquering hero, but as a child, whose faithful, peaceful life will follow God's way of love.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2: 1-7

Reading "O Lord, You Were Born!"

Anthem Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine German, 15<sup>th</sup> cent.  
*Geneva Choir*

Luke 2: 8-20

Reading "Had We Been There"

Anthem Shepherds, Shake off Your Drowsy Sleep Besanscon carol  
Geneva Choir

John 1: 1-5, 14

Reading "The Coming of God"

\*CAROL No. 119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN

READING "The Gifts of the Magi"

THE OFFERING Music for Harp

\* RESPONSE 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!**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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 our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Sanctus (*sung to the tune for Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*)

**Holy, holy, holy, holy, Lo-ord God of pow'r and might.  
Heav'n and earth proclaim your glory,  
Glory to the Lord most high.  
Blest is he who comes in God's name;  
Sing hosanna, tell the Child's fame.  
Glory to the Lord most high.  
Glory to the Lord most high.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in 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 into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

#### SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*(Please come forward to partake by intinction)*

CAROL No. 121

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

*(everyone singing)*

CAROL No. 123

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

*(everyone singing)*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

#### THE CANDLELIGHTING

The reign of Christ comes not by conquest, domination, and manipulation,  
but by gracious love, gladly given and willingly received.

Christ, the light of the world, gives each one of us light, so that we too may shine  
with gratitude, hope, and love.

Receive the light that comes to you:

It comes from the Christ candle, but it reaches you only through your neighbors.

Receive the light from the children of God.

Hold the light and be thankful!

**Christ, we are your body: live in our hearts.**

**Christ, we are your people: govern our lives.**

**Christ, we are your witness: send us out in your name!**

\*CAROL No. 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.**

\*CAROL No. 134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

**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.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their 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.**

\*READING AND BENEDICTION

"It Is Not Over"

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

J.S. Bach

## **WORSHIP NOTES**

LEADING WORSHIP: Lib McGregor Simmons, John Ryan, Claire George-Drumheller and DCPC College Students

MUSIC: Jane Cain, Director of Music

SOUND: Larry Cain

BULLETIN COVER: Allison Wehrung

READINGS: from [Kneeling in Bethlehem](#) by Ann Weems

Join us Christmas Day at 11:00 for worship in the sanctuary.

Davidson College Presbyterian Church carries on a vibrant ministry to students at Davidson College. For information regarding how you can be involved contact the church office at 704-892-5641.

### **DAVIDSON COLLEGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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