



First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Lessons & Carols Worship First Sunday of Christmas – December 26, 2021

*All who are able, please stand.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & SHARING OF CHURCH LIFE

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

*CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER (responsive)

In darkness, in stillness, while all lie sleeping, **Jesus Christ is born.**

Gently, humbly, while we are looking elsewhere, **God has come among us.**

In hope, in peace, while the world pursues all manner of things, **Jesus Christ is born.**

Let us behold the wonder of God's gift to us. Let us pray:

O God, into a realm of clerics and kings you sent your child to teach the wise and show the world what power there is in love. Keep us vigilant to hear the voices of those who speak your truth. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

*HYMN #132

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;

ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

2 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!

He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

THE FIRST LESSON

"Sin's Consequences"

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of mystery and wonder, far beyond our knowing and yet closer than our breath, as we celebrate the joy of Jesus' birth, we confess our reluctance to live as he directs. The justice and righteousness close to his heart are often far from what we do. With tender mercy, restore us. With Christmas glory, bathe us. With love made flesh, inspire us; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

***CAROL #88**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

THE SECOND LESSON

"God's Promise to Abraham"

Genesis 22:15-18

ASSURANCE OF PARDON***RESPONSE**

"Noel"

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you: **and also with you.**

GATHERING SONG #115

"Away in a Manger"

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

THE THIRD LESSON

"The Branch from Jesse"

Isaiah 11:1-9

CAROL #129

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright she bore for us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.

THE FOURTH LESSON

"A Promised Ruler"

Micah 5:2-5a

CAROL #121

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

1 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.

THE FIFTH LESSON

"Joseph's Acceptance"

Matthew 1:18-24

RESPONSE #91

"Come, Come, Emmanuel"

Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel. (*repeat*)

THE SIXTH LESSON

"Mary & the Angel"

Luke 1:26-35,38

CAROL #145

"What Child is This?"

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

THE SEVENTH LESSON

"The Birth of Jesus"

Luke 2:1-20

CAROL #119

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

1 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!"

THE EIGHTH LESSON

"The Journey of the Magi"

poem by T.S. Eliot

CAROL #151

"We Three Kings"

1 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!

THE NINTH LESSON

"The Word Became Flesh"

John 1:1-14

***CAROL #134**

"Joy to the World!"

1 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.

SHARING OF THIS WEEK'S PRAYER REQUESTS

CHRISTMAS PRAYER, & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***HYMN #113**

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

1 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!

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PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Thank you, God, for all the gifts you have given us. Most of all, we are grateful for the human child who became the embodiment of your Love. With our offerings, we worship the babe of Bethlehem and recommit ourselves as disciples of the man of Nazareth who he grew up to be. May the ministry and mission of this church be true to our crucified and risen Savior, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN #136**

“Go, Tell it on the Mountain”

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)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Participants in this worship service:

Shaun Cloonan, minister of music | Sunny Sakai, pianist | Tyler McGuigan, song leader
John Foster, Johnny Hrebik, Stephanie McGuigan, Jim Segedy, Lisa Segedy, readers
John Foster, videographer

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IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY: first, welcome! Please fill out a blue visitor's card found in the pew rack. If you are interested in being on our email or newsletter mailing lists, provide that information so we can keep in touch. We hope you consider joining us more often!

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED tomorrow in observance of the Christmas holiday.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: If you have an article or information you would like to include in the January issue of *News from the Edge*, please get it to Judy by **Monday, December 27** so we can get it out by the New Year.

Join us for upcoming worship services:

January 2 – Epiphany Reader's Theater
January 9 – Baptism of the Lord, Communion, Ordination of Officers
Rev. Fairlight Lower preaching
January 16 – Emerging Worship, Rev. Bob Ruefle preaching
January 23 – Rev. Bob Ruefle preaching, Congregational Meeting follows
January 30 – Jason Dauer preaching



*Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ,
our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to
love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.*

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