



Bethlehem Presbyterian Church

Welcomes you on this Christmas Eve

December 24, 2020

2:30 PM

PRELUDE

Margaret Hubenthal

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Leader: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

Leader: Today we recall the hope we have in Christ. Today we light again the candles of hope, peace, joy and love.

(Each candle will be lit as the reader speaks)

First Candle We speak of hope - because God keeps his promises to us.

Second Candle We work for peace - because Jesus is the 'Prince of Peace' and he calls his children to work for peace in his name.

Third Candle We share joy - because the Holy Spirit fills our hearts and minds with the presence the love of God.

Fourth Candle We show love - because Jesus gave everything for us and led us to know the forgiveness of God.

Last Candle Now we light our last candle to remember the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As the prophets promised so long ago, you have come to us once again; and with the shepherds, we are filled with wonder and amazement.

(Light the white Christ candle now.)

All Pray:

Lord, you come as a tiny, fragile baby; yet we know that you are God and you are with us. May the flame of this candle remind us that you are the light of the world and that if we follow you, we will never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life.

Come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen.

(ThisisChurch.com)

*Hymn: Joy to the World

Margaret Hubenthal

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Behold! I bring good news for all people.

People: **Unto us a child is born, a Savior, Christ the Lord.**

Leader: This day the angels sing on earth.

People: **Glory to God in the highest!**

Hymn:

Sara Walthery

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

The Coming of Jesus Is Announced to Mary

Luke 1:26-38

“Hey Mary”

Tom Blackford

The Preparations for the Birth of Jesus

Luke 2:1-5

Hymn:

Sara Walthery

Jesus is Born

Luke 2:6-7

Solo:

Margaret Hubenthal

The Shepherds Find the Baby Jesus

Luke 2:9-18

“The First One Ever”

Tom Blackford

The Wise Men Bring Their Gifts to Jesus

Matthew 2:1-11

Hymn:

Sara Walthery

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE (We invite you to have a piece of bread and a cup of juice to hand.)

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy....

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, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

We are filled with joy for we have heard good news of great joy.

We are filled with love for we have tasted the sign of God's great love.

We are filled with hope for the angels still sing in our world

and there is a Light for us to follow.

Closing Hymn as Benediction

Silent Night