

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

Greetings

Rev. Dr. Matthew Camlin

Prelude – *Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella* arranged by Cater/Norman/Beesley
Tawnee Hunter and Mary Boyd – flutes, Kathy Montgomery – piano

Call to Worship

Good news! Great Joy!

Jesus Christ is born!

Good news! Great Joy!

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

*Hymn (on screen), *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

“Good news of great joy,” the angel said,

“for to you a savior is born.”

“Peace on earth,” the choir sang,

“for God reigns in the highest.”

“Follow me,” the star beckoned,

“For Hope was born in Bethlehem.”

Unison Prayer:

God of Love Incarnate, we confess that, with the shepherds, we are terrified of your glory; for in glory’s light we see plainly all that is wrong in the world: how oppression still enslaves; how garments of war are still stained with blood; how those seeking refuge still find no place of safety. We also see what is wrong in us: how passionately we pursue the things of this world, but forget to ponder the mystery of faith; how we do not practice the peace you intend in our relationships, our community, or even in the church. Forgive us, we pray, and help us not to be afraid. Like the shepherds, we want to follow and find you. In the Savior’s name we pray. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Special Music –

Worship Team

He Shall Reign Forevermore by Chris Tomlin and Matt Maher

First Lesson – *Luke 2:1-7*

Hymn (on screen) – *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Second Lesson – *Luke 2:8-14*

Special Music –

Carillon Handbell Choir

Meditation on an Old French Carol arranged by Derek K. Hakes

Third Lesson – *Luke 2:15-20*

Anthem – *Sing Glory to the King!* by David Schmidt

Chancel Choir

Fourth Lesson – *Titus 3:4-7*

Sermon – *Boundless Life*

Rev. Dr. Matthew Camlin

Hymn (on screen and music insert) – Congregation and Worship Team sing

Make Room by Chris Tomlin and Matt Maher

Litany for Christmas and The Lord’s Prayer (*“forgive us our sins”*)

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 in 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 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.

All-power and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Teach us to proclaim the birth of your Son Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever, and who taught us to pray saying, **“Our Father...” Amen.**

Dimming of the Lights

*Song, *Silent Night, Holy Night*

1. ***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 ...***

2. ***Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing: “Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born ...***

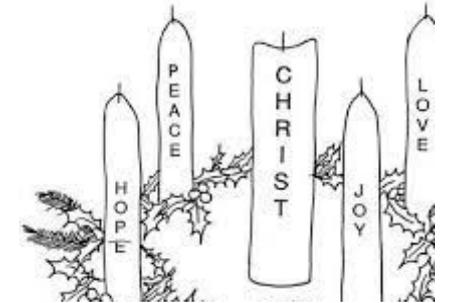
3. ***Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love’s pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth ...***

4. ***Silent night, holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born ...***

*Benediction

Postlude – *What Child Is This?* arranged by Tedd Smith and Don Hustad
Patty Vogeley - piano, Kathy Montgomery – organ

*Hymn (on screen) – *Joy to the World!*



New Wilmington Presbyterian Church

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Worship Team's Special Music – *He Shall Reign Forevermore*

by Chris Tomlin and Matt Maher

VERSE 1

In the bleak mid-winter
All creation groans
For a world in darkness
Frozen like a stone
Light is breaking
In a stable for a throne

CHORUS

(And) He shall reign forevermore, forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore
Unto us a Child is born
The King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore, forevermore

VERSE 2

If I were a wise man
I would travel far
If I were a shepherd
I would do my part
But poor as I am
I will give to Him my heart

BRIDGE

Here within a manger lies the One
Who made the starry skies.
This baby born for sacrifice
Christ the Messiah
Into our hopes into our fears
The Savior of the world appears
The promise of eternal years
Christ the Messiah

Chancel Choir's Anthem – *Sing Glory to the King!* by David Schmidt

A virgin girl would be the one to bear to earth God's only Son,
Magnify the Lord on high; Sing, "Glory to the King!"
A carpenter would raise the boy, who'd bring the world eternal joy.
God with us, Emmanuel; Sing, "Glory to the King!"
The prophets said from David's line a King would come whose light would shine.
Breaking chains, God sets us free; Sing, "Glory to the King!"
The humble village of Bethlehem would be where God became as man.
Christ the Savior is born this day; Sing, "Glory to the King!"
Born in a lowly stall, yet he is Lord of all, Lift your voices and sing!
Glory be to God in the highest and peace, good will to all.
A King is born; his name will be Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, the Prince of Peace; Sing, "Glory to the King!"
Some shepherds in a field at night, the sky was calm, the stars were bright.
Love was coming down to us; Sing, "Glory to the King!"
Then suddenly the heavens rang as heavenly hosts praised God and sang,
"Glory be to God on high!" Sing, "Glory to the King!"
This is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe the son of Mary.

VERSE 1

A family hiding from the storm
Found no place at the keeper's door
It was for this a child was born
To save a world so cold and hollow

VERSE 2

A sleeping town they did not know
That lying in a manger low
A Savior king who had no home
Has come to heal our sorrows

CHORUS

Is there room in your heart
Is there room in your heart
Is there room in your heart
For God to write His story

VERSE 3

Shepherds counting sheep at night
Do not fear the glory light
You are precious in His sight
God has come to raise the lowly

CHORUS 2

You can come as you are
It may set you apart
When you make room in your heart
And trade your dreams for His glory
Make room in your heart
Make room in your heart

VERSE 4

A mother holds the promise tight
Every wrong will be made right
The road is straight, the burden's light
For in His hands He holds tomorrow



Worship Notes and Music Insert

Worship Reminders: Due to the current high rate of new cases of COVID in Lawrence County, the Session passed the following mask guideline: *"For the safety and welfare of our congregants we highly recommend the wearing of masks by all persons."* The Session is utilizing CDC guidelines and state mandates. Seating remains arranged to ensure social distancing. Hand sanitizer is available.

Childcare: The Nursery for babies and toddlers (infants-age 2) is located through the side doors of the sanctuary to the left of the pulpit area. Our thanks to **Linda Black** and **Marilyn Reeher** for providing care this evening.

Children's activity bags (for ages 3-6 & 7-12) are found at the ramp door.

Greeting you this evening are Jon, Nancy, Emma and Lena Welker.

We extend our appreciation to all who helped decorate the church building and especially the sanctuary for Advent this year.

Thank you!

