

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

Greetings

Rev. Dr. Matthew Camlin

Prelude – *In dulci Jubilo*, 14th century German carol arranged by Peter Crisafulli
Tawnee Hunter, flute

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 41 – *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

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 weapons of war are still in constant use; 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

Congregational Response – *A Candle Shines* by Phillip M. Hayden

A candle shines in the window for Christ, to melt our hearts of stone.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and make our hearts Your home.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

A candle shines in the window for Christ to melt our hearts of stone.

First Lesson – *Luke 2:1-7*

Hymn 44 – *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Second Lesson – *Luke 2:8-14*

Special Music – *Glory (Let There Be Peace)*

by Chris Stevens, Matt Maher, and Rachel Popadic

Worship Team

Third Lesson – *Luke 2:15-20*

Anthem (words on insert) – *Away in a Manger (Forever Amen)*
arranged by Molly Ijames

Chancel Choir

Fourth Lesson – *Titus 2:11-14*

Reflection – *But Why?*

Rev. Dr. Matthew Camlin

*Song of Praise (on screen) – *All Is Well* by Michael W. Smith and Wayne Kirkpatrick

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.

Fifth Lesson – *Isaiah 9:2-7*

*Hymn, *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

*Hymn 40 – *Joy to the World!*

*Postlude – *Break Forth Into Joy* by J.S. Bach



New Wilmington Presbyterian Church

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Worship Notes

Childcare: The Nursery is not staffed this evening but if parents would like to use the nursery, it is open. It is located through the side doors of the sanctuary to the left of the pulpit area.

Copies of the **Children's Worship Bulletin** for ages 3-6 & 7-12 are located on the table at the ramp door.

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



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Chancel Choir's Anthem – *Away in a Manger (Forever Amen)*

Arranged by Molly Ijames

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed;
the little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky look down where He lay;
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing the Baby awakes,
the little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love Thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky, and
stay by my side until morning is nigh.
Be near , Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
close by me forever and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with Thee there. Amen.



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