



Florida's first Presbyterians, since 1824

*Embodying Jesus'  
All-Encompassing  
Hospitality*

December 24, 2021

3:00 & 5:00 p.m.

### **Christmas Eve**

The Session recommends that while on the MPC campus people follow the latest CDC guidelines for COVID-19. The CDC currently recommends that fully vaccinated people: wear a mask in public indoor settings if they are in an area of substantial or high transmission.

Children's worship activity bags are available at the doors for children to use during worship. Please leave the bags in the pews at the conclusion of services.

#### **PRELUDE**

Angels We Have Heard on High

Dale Wood

Festival Variations on "God Rest You Merry"

Gordon Young

O Holy Night (5:00 p.m.) – *Ian Denby, solo*

Adolfe Adam

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 133** "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELES

*O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant.*

*O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!*

*Come and behold Him, Born the King of angels!*

Refrain:

*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,*

*O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.*

*Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning,*

*Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;*

*Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing!*

Refrain

*Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation!*

*Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!*

*Glory to God, all Glory in the highest!*

Refrain

**GREETING & WELCOME** *(responsive)*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**FIRST READING**

Luke 1:26-37

*The angel Gabriel visits Mary.*

**HYMN NO. 113**

**“Angels We Have Heard on High”**

GLORIA

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly swinging o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.*

Refrain:

*Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?*

Refrain

*Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.*

Refrain

**SECOND READING**

Luke 2:1-7

*Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem.*

**\*HYMN NO. 115**

**“Away in a Manger”**

MUELLER

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

*The cattle are lowing, the poor Baby wakes, But 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 me, 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.*

**THIRD READING**

Luke 2:8-14

*The angel announces the birth of the Savior.*

**\*HYMN NO. 145**

“What Child Is This”

GREENSLEEVES

*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.*

Refrain:

*This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!*

*Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.*

Refrain

*So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king to own Him;  
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.*

Refrain

**\*THE PEACE** *(responsive)*

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we also ought to forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Please greet those around you with words and signs of God's reconciling peace.*

**FOURTH READING**

Luke 2:15-20

*The shepherds visit the Christ child.*

**HOMILY**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

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.

## OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

*Please use this time to reflect on how you might offer yourself, and your resources, to God.*

*Four ways to give: Drop a check in the offering plate as you exit the sanctuary, mail a check to the church office, click the GIVE NOW button on our website, or text STAMPC to 73256.*

**OFFERTORY (3:00)**                      "The Light Came Down"                      Josh Garrels  
*Matt and Caitlyn Posey*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM (5:00)**    Candlelight Carol                      John Rutter

*How do you capture the wind on the water? How do you count all the stars in the sky?  
How can you measure the love of a mother, or how can you write down a baby's first cry?*

Refrain:

*Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star glow shine on His cradle till breaking of dawn.  
Gloria, Gloria in excelsis deo! Angels are singing; the Christ Child is born.*

*Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore Him, Seraphim round Him their vigil will keep;  
Nations proclaim Him their Lord and their Savior,  
but Mary will hold Him and sing Him to sleep.*

Refrain

*Find Him at Bethlehem laid in a manger: Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay.  
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation:  
A child with his mother that first Christmas Day.*

Refrain

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(responsive)*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Great God of power, we praise You for Jesus Christ, who came to show us Your way of love and grace. We thank You for the hope of the prophets, the song of the angels, and the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. We thank You that in Jesus You became flesh and dwelt among us, sharing human hurts and pleasures. Glory to You, for Your grace-filled love. Glory to You, eternal God; through Jesus Christ, Lord of lords, and King of kings, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Candle lighting liturgy.*

## LIGHTING OF CHRISTMAS CANDLES

*The light is passed throughout the sanctuary as the carol is sung.*

### HYMN NO. 122

“Silent Night, Holy Night!”

STILLE NACHT

*(Please remain seated)*

*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 host 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.*

## CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

**\*HYMN NO. 134**

**“Joy to the World”**  
*(Please stand)*

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 world! The Savior reigns; Let us our 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.*

## **\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

Postlude on “Gloria”

Jason D. Payne

*\*Please stand as you are able*

## WORSHIP LEADERS

**3:00 p.m.**

**Rev. Dr. Susan Rose, Parish Associate:** Greeting and Welcome, Prayer of the Day, Second Reading, Homily, Christmas Proclamation, Charge and Benediction

**Anne Reid Broos, Director of Ministries to Children and Young Families:** Fourth Reading, Prayers of the People, The Lord's Prayer, Offering, Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Ray McDonald, Director of Music and Organist**

**Readers:** First: Sophia Budd; Second: Susan Rose; Third: Clara Grant; Fourth: Anne Reid Broos

**Lighting the Christ Candle:** Dr. Carolanne Kuntz and Susan Kuntz

**Offertory Song:** Matt and Caitlyn Posey

**5:00 p.m.**

**Rev. Dr. Hunter Camp, Pastor and Head of Staff:** Greeting and Welcome, Prayer of the Day, Second Reading, Homily, Christmas Proclamation, Charge and Benediction

**Rachael McNeal, Director of Youth Ministries:** Fourth Reading, Prayers of the People, The Lord's Prayer, Offering, Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Readers:** First: Caenan McCarthy; Second: Hunter Camp; Third: Paxton Millard; Fourth: Rachael McNeal

**Lighting the Christ Candle:** Tim, Nicole, Alicia, Abigail and Annabelle Sawyer and Mike and Luppy Barbour

## MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Called by Jesus Christ to love God, neighbor, and self by the power of the Holy Spirit

### VISION STATEMENT

Embodying Jesus' all-encompassing hospitality



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