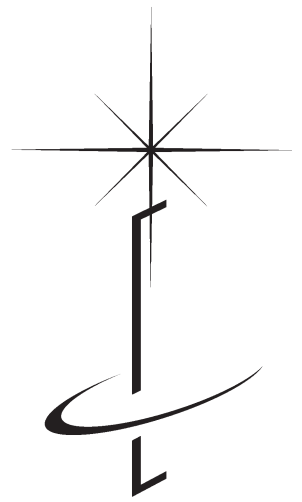


Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

*First Presbyterian Church
Spartanburg, South Carolina*

December 24, 2017

6:00 and 11:00pm



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Christmas Pastoral

Robin Milford

ENTRANCE OF THE LIGHT

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Christ Candle

† PROCESSIONAL HYMN

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

*God of God, Light of Light,
Lo! He abhors not the virgin's womb; very God, begotten, not created!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!*

*Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
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!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!*

GREETING

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

† *Please rise in
body or spirit.*

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 60:1-6

ANTHEM

In the Bleak Mid-Winter

Harold Darke

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 1:1-4

ANTHEM

Before the Marvel of this Night

Carl Schalk

THIRD LESSON

Luke 2:1-14

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND WINTER WARMTH OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

What Strangers are These?

arr. Dan Forrest

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

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**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

*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.*

*For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.*

*How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.*

*O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!*

For our Christmas Eve offering, all non-designated gifts will be used to support the Winter Warmth Project. For over 20 years, First Presbyterian's Winter Warmth Project has put new coats on the backs of needy school children throughout Spartanburg County. Last month, we served more than 600 children who otherwise would not have had a warm coat this year. Through a long-standing partnership with Belk at WestGate Mall, we are able to purchase coats at a cost of \$35 each. Please help support our largest mission project in any amount you are able.

MEDITATION

*Christmas Gifts:
The Divine Manger*

Dr. Thomas E. Evans

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Silent Night, Holy Night!

STILLE NACHT

*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 hosts 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.*

Each person will offer light from his candle to his neighbor. As you take the light, please tilt your un-lit candle toward the flame to avoid spilling wax. To symbolize our sharing of the light with the world, raise your candles high for the singing of the final verse of "Silent Night." Please remain seated.

RINGING IN OF CHRISTMAS

† HYMN

Joy to the World

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 earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their 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.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

David Cherwien

Please extinguish your candle and leave it at the door.

PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENING'S WORSHIP SERVICES

Dr. Thomas E. Evans, Rev. Joanne R. Hull, Rev. Christi O. Brown,
Rev. L. Craig Foster, Mr. R. Holt Andrews

Christmas Eve Choir

Janet Kuntz, flute

Will Manello and Reel Robertson, soloists

String Quartet

Allison Key and Peter Moore, violin; Mary Ada Poole, viola; Kathy Foster, cello

If you are visiting with us today, you are our honored guest! For more information about First Presbyterian, check out the church website (www.fpcspartanburg.org).

Childcare is available for the 6:00pm Candlelight Service in Room 106 in the Clark Building.

A hearing loop has been installed in the Sanctuary. If your hearing aid or cochlear device is equipped with T-coil technology, please switch it to the "T", T-Coil, or telephone position for improved hearing during the service.

Hearing impaired devices and large-print bulletins are available from the ushers upon request.

WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Sunday, December 31

8:45am MorningSong (Fogartie Hall)
11:00am Traditional Worship (Chapel)
Join us as we worship together!
(No Sunday School nor Children's Worship. Nursery provided for infant through age 3.)

Sunday, January 7, we will resume our regular schedule and observe Communion:

8:45am MorningSong (Fogartie Hall)
8:45am Traditional Worship (Chapel)
9:45am Sunday School for All Ages
11:00am MorningSong (Fogartie Hall)
11:00am Traditional Worship (Social Hall)

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Thomas E. Evans, Senior Pastor; **Rev. L. Craig Foster**, Associate Pastor, Education/Discipleship;
Rev. Joanne R. Hull, Associate Pastor, Congregational Care; **Rev. Christi O. Brown**, Pastoral Associate for Missions;
Holt Andrews, Director of Music; **Marcia Andrews**, Asst Dir of Music/Organist;
Beth Burris, Director of Children's Ministries; **Beth Cecil**, Parish Nurse;
Colleen Darrall, Director of Recreation; **Jane Mullins**, Director of Hospitality



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