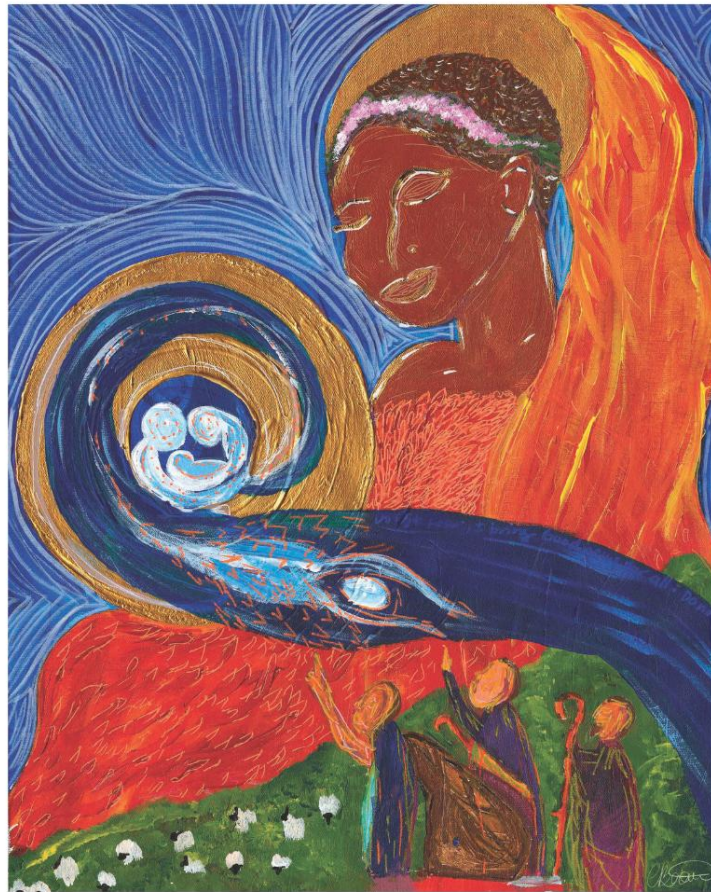


PAXTON

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Good, New by Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell | A Sanctified Art LLC

Good News is Louder Than Fear

December 24, 2025

WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2025

8:00 p.m.

PRELUDE "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"
Noel on "What Child is This"
"Silent Night "
-arr. J. Linker
- L. Visser
-arr. P. Manz

WORSHIP PREPARATION

**In preparing for our worship together please quiet yourself
and allow God's Spirit to ready your heart, mind, and soul.**

During this time, we invite you to sign the **guest book**, pass it down your row and back again and note friends and guests worshipping next to you. Please also complete a **prayer request card** at this time if you have a joy or concern for which you would like special prayers during the service. The ushers will collect them during the first hymn.

GREETINGS AND NEWS OF OUR COMMON LIFE

Praise the Lord!

The Lord's name be praised!

THE WORD GATHERS US

CALL TO WORSHIP – Lighting the Christ Candle (by Joel Raney)

Tonight, we celebrate hope fulfilled in the birth of Christ.

Joy to the world! The Lord has come.

Tonight, we celebrate the promise of peace on earth.

Let earth receive her King.

Tonight, we celebrate the joy of knowing a Savior has come.

Let every heart prepare Him room.

Tonight, we celebrate the love of God, through Jesus Christ.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!

* CANDLELIGHTING SONG – "Come, Lord Jesus, Come"

***Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our sins and fears release; let us find our rest in thee.***

* PRAYER OF PRAISE (written by Joel Raney)

***Gracious God, as we celebrate tonight we join with the angel choir in proclaiming your glory.
We thank you for giving us the perfect gift this Christmas Eve, the gift of eternal life through
Christ. We ask that you guide our feet, direct our minds, hear our prayers, and fill our hearts
with the hope, peace, joy, and love of this Christmas season. We ask these things in the name
of Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

* HYMN - 133

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

THE WORD PROCLAIMS TO US

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 9:2-7

HYMN - 115 "Away In a Manger"

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-7

ANTHEM "Of the Fathers Love Begotten" -arr. by Trevor Manor

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:8-20

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

* HYMN - 113

“Angels We Have Heard On High”

THE WORD INVITES US

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer

Anthem – Duet

“Away in a Manger”

- arr. by Stephen DeCesare

Prayer After Communion

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Invitation for the Offering

* Response of Praise - No. 606

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

SCAN HERE
TO GIVE
VIRTUALLY



* Prayer of Dedication

ANTHEM

“The First Noel”

- arr. by Dan Forrest

THE WORD SENDS US

SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-5

* HYMN – 122

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

* SENDING FORTH AND BLESSING

* HYMN – 134

“Joy to the World”

* POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World”

-arr. J. Perks

The () indicates that those who are able may stand.
The words printed in ***bold face italics type*** are said by all.

CCLI#2707192

Please use your phone’s camera to scan the QR code to visit our online giving page.

Directing our worship today: Preacher, Pastor Margaret Poteet;
Worship Assistant, Geoffrey Vinton; Director of Music, Sue Beckley; Organist, Jeanne Bruce;
Director of Youth Music, Andrew Vinton;
Vocalists, Janet and Rachel Hitz

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND The Session recently voted to start a Good Samaritan Fund in order to keep a few grocery gift cards on hand in the office for those who might reach out to us needing immediate food or personal supplies. The offering we collect on Christmas Eve will go to supporting this fund for the coming year. We are grateful for your generous love of our neighbors in need.

Paxton Presbyterian Church Staff

Pastor	x105	Margaret Poteet	pastor@paxtonchurch.org
Director of Faith Formation	x104	Michelle Sheppard	michelle.sheppard@paxtonchurch.org
Director of Music		Susan Beckley	
Organist		Jeanne Bruce	
Director of Youth Music		Andrew Vinton	
Office Administrator	x101	Abby Spencer	office@paxtonchurch.org
Financial Office/Treasurer	x102	John Palmer	treasurer@paxtonchurch.org
Nursery School Director	x103	Nicole Evenhuis	nurseryschooldirector@paxtonchurch.org
Custodian		Mary Bowers	

Board of Deacons

Tara Frank '25	Moderator	Merideth Staudenmaier '25	Secretary
Sally Appleby '25		Rich Lengler '26	
Jim Bruce '26		Diana Robertson '25	
Linette Burd '26		Deb Trephan '27	
Judy Frankford '27		Brenda Vinton '27	
Cheryl Holtzman '26		Bev Ziebell '27	

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Leaders	Gary Myers	Jane Sanford
Stephen Ministers	Karen Cirillo	Karen Herrold
	Cheryl Holtzman	Janice Hutchison
	Annette Kilpatrick	Nancy Lengler
	Steve Miller	Kathy Woodbridge

For a confidential referral please contact a Stephen Leader.

Session *Chair

Margaret Poteet	Moderator
Kitti Taylor	Clerk of Session
Karen Herrold '25*	Christian Education
Janice Hutchison '25*	Evangelism and Outreach
Nancy Lengler '26*	Budget and Finance
Judy Schmidt '27*	Mission
Gary Myers '26*	Nominating
Jay Kealey '26*	Personnel
Nino Giambrone '27*	Property Management
Craig Staudenmaier '25*	Stewardship
Sharon Webb '26*	Technology
Anita Laughery '27*	Worship and Music
Bob Frank '25	

At Paxton Presbyterian Church, we believe that every person is a beloved child of God, made in God's image and worthy of love, dignity, and belonging. Rooted in the grace of Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to be a welcoming and affirming community for all people - no matter their race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, socioeconomic status, mental or physical ability, or religious background.



O Come, All Ye Faithful 133

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain

born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

115

Away in a Manger

Capo 3: (D) F (G) B \flat (D) F

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes,
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

(A7) C7 (D) F

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
 close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

(G) B \flat (D) F

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

(A7) C7 (D) F (Em) Gm (A7) C7 (D) F

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
 and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

113 Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heaven - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - -

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

The image shows a musical score for a vocal piece. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are "ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!". The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment. The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a 4/4 time signature. The vocal line starts with a rest, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes, then a dotted quarter note, and ends with a half note. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines.

Silent Night, Holy Night!

122

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
 4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round you vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing
 with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"
 grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
 King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

134

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

and
 sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.
 heaven and na - ture sing,