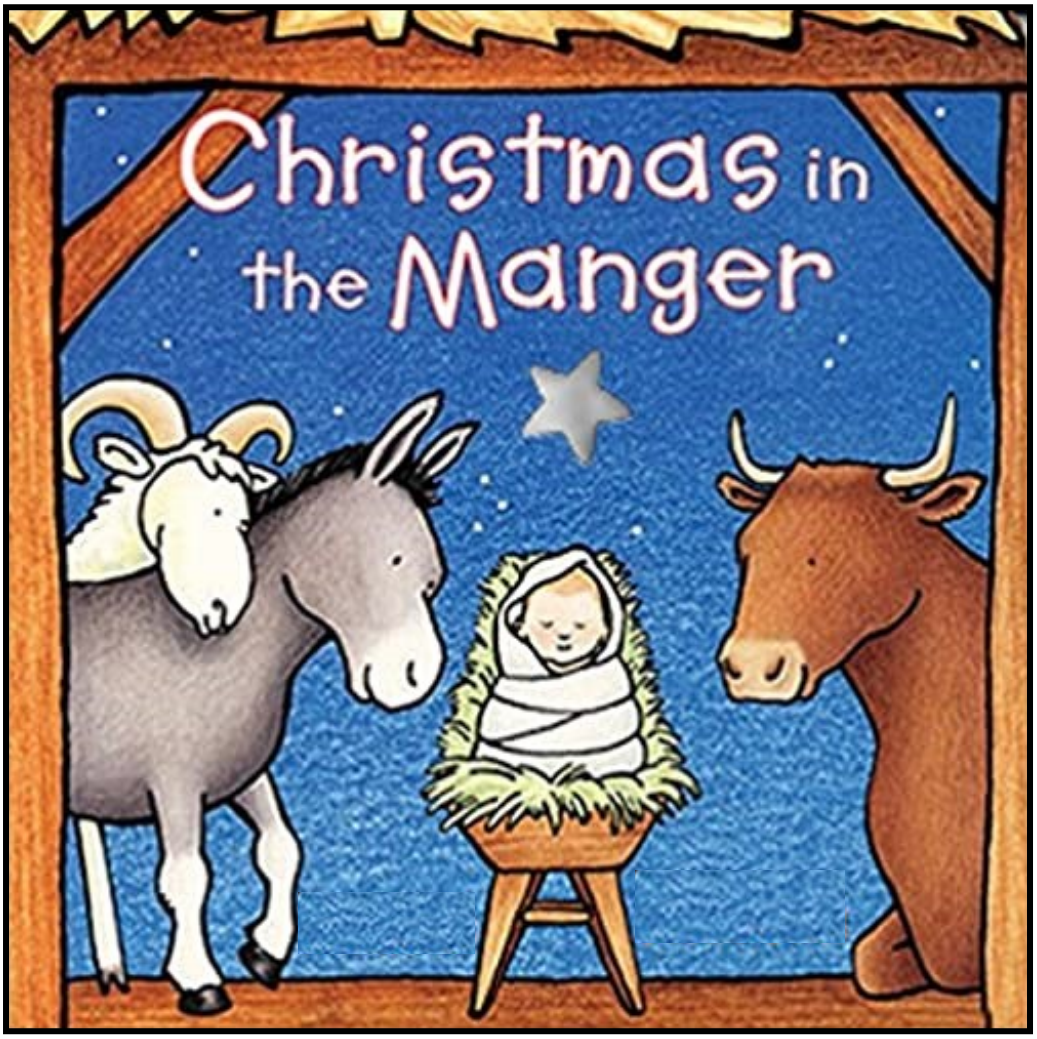
CHRISTMAS EVE

FAMILY NATIVITY SERVICE



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | SARASOTA, FLORIDA
DECEMBER 24, 2021 - 4:00 PM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE *A Christmas Medley*
(Steven Phillips, piano)

WELCOME Margaret LaMotte Torrence

***CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES** Isaiah 9:2, 6-7
Mariah Martin, McLain Miller, Lauren Reasoner, Tyler Reasoner

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

(The Advent candles and Christ candle are lit.)

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Friends, the night is far gone; the day is at hand.
Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

***OPENING HYMN** *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

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!

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!

** Those who are able will please stand. Please silence your cell phones.*

SPECIAL MUSIC BY THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. **(Refrain)**

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. **(Refrain)**

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. **(Refrain)**

MEDITATION Margaret LaMotte Torrence

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM - FISHER JAY SWICK
SON OF MATTHEW AND GEORGIA SWICK
GRANDSON OF JAY AND CANDY SWICK

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Do you believe in God, the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate
Was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.



The star in the east was given by the Knopik family
in loving memory of Leanna Mae (1996-2012)
and honors those families who have experienced such losses.

The Nativity

POEM - The Child Is Born Again
by Anne Weems

Reader: Olivia Bressan

Each year the Child is born again.
Each year some new heart
Finally hears
Finally sees
Finally knows love.
And in heaven
There is great rejoicing!
There is a festival of starts!
There is celebration among the angels!
For in the finding of one lost sheet.
The heart of the Shepherd is glad, and
Christmas has happened once more.
The Child is born anew
And one more knee is bowed!

PRESCHOOL SONG | *Mary had a Baby Boy*
(to the tune of *Mary had a Little Lamb)*

Mary had a baby boy, baby boy, baby boy;
Mary had a baby boy, and his name was Jesus.

Joseph loved that baby boy, baby boy, baby boy;
Joseph loved that baby boy, and his name was Jesus.

Shepherds came to see him there, see him there, see him there;
Shepherds came to see him there, and his name was Jesus.

Choir of Angels (featured on screen and live): Eli Bressan, Olivia Bressan, Andrew Harrington, Charlotte Harrington, Alice Mills, Emma Musolino, Sofia Musolino, Piper Saah, Lily Walther, Vivian Walther, Oliver Watson, Lochlan Watson, Charlie Weitekamp, Wells Weitekamp

SCENE ONE: THE PROPHETS

Narrators: Abby Clissold, Devin Gulliver,
Quinn Gulliver, Patrick Monahan,

SING | *The First Noël*

The first noël the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noël, noël, noël, noël!
Born is the King of Israel.



SCENE TWO: MARY'S ANNUNCIATION

Narrators: Charlotte Chapdelain,
Spencer Chapdelain, Charlie Armstrong

SING | *What Child Is This?*

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?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing,
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, the babe, the Son of Mary!

SCENE THREE: JOSEPH IS CALLED

Narrators: Abby Clissold, Devin Gulliver,
Quinn Gulliver, Patrick Monahan

SING | *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

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.

SCENE FOUR: IN BETHLEHEM

Narrators: Charlotte Chapdelain, Charlotte Harrington,
James Harrington, Alice Mills, Henry Mills

SING | *Away in a Manger*

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky look down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

SCENE FIVE: ANGELS CALL TO THE SHEPHERDS

Narrators: Caroline Clissold, Daniel Clissold

SING | *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains:
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

SCENE SIX: HEROD AND THE MAGI

Narrators: Charlotte Harrington, James Harrington,
Alice Mills, Henry Mills

SING | *We Three Kings*

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

ONE SOLITARY LIFE

Readers:
Abby Clissold, Hazel Landers, Patrick Monahan

CANDLE LIGHTING

SING | *Silent Night, Holy Night*

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.

* **BENEDICTION**

* **HYMN 134** *Joy to the World*

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.

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.

* **POSTLUDE**

Tonight's offering will go to All Faiths Food Bank.
The funds will be used to feed those in need in our community.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are so glad you found your way to our service tonight.

As we celebrate our 33rd annual Family Nativity Service, we remember Doug and Gee Dee Kerr, who in 1989 invited the children and youth of this church to enact the Christmas story with a script that they developed. The presentation of this timeless story has evolved through the years and will continue to find fresh expression in years to come. Tonight you will see a combination of prerecorded and live elements.

Doug Kerr died on December 1 of this year, but the gifts of the Kerr family continue to bless us.

We are grateful to the families that helped to make this year's presentation possible. Special thanks go to Carrie Mills, Director; Lydia Chapdelain, Children and Youth Leader; Molly Horner, Children and Youth Coordinator; and Jimi Camastro, Sound Tech Leader. We also thank our ushers and greeters for their dedicated service.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2050 Oak Street | Sarasota, FL 34237
941.955.8119 www.firstpressarasota.org