

Christmas Eve

INTERGENERATIONAL NATIVITY SERVICE



In-person and live-streamed
worship service

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | SARASOTA, FLORIDA
DECEMBER 24, 2022 at 4:00 PM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME

Rev. Timothy Boggess

LIGHTING THE ADVENT AND CHRIST CANDLES

Patrick Monahan, Rose Monahan

Isaiah spoke to a people called chosen,
To a tribe called Israel, with a light of hope.
Gabriel came to a town called Nazareth,
To a girl called Mary, with a light of joy.
Mary went to a place called Bethlehem,
To a stable called a nursery,
With a light of love.

(The Advent candles and Christ candle are lit.)



As we light our Advent candles and Christ candle,

We rejoice with Mary, for Love has flesh.

Come now, O Child of Mary.

Come now, O Prince of Love.

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!*

Refrain

*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! (Refrain)*

SPECIAL MUSICAL OFFERING *Go Tell It On the Mountain*
(The Children and Youth)

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)**

MEDITATION

Sore Afraid

Pastor Timothy Boggess

----- **The Nativity** -----

POEM

The Child Is Born Again, by Ann Weems
(Olivia Bressan and Charlie Weitekamp)

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 celebration among the angels!
For in the finding of one lost sheep,
the heart of the Shepherd is glad, and
Christmas has happened once more.
The Child is born anew
and one more knee is bowed.

THE PROPHETS

Narrators: Charlotte Chapdelain, Spencer Chapdelain

Prophets: Olivia Bressan, Charlie Weitekamp

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.*

MARY AND JOSEPH ARE CALLED

Narrators: Henry Mills, Quinn Gulliver

Angel Gabriel: Alice Mills

Mary: Georgia Cotter; Joseph: Devin Gulliver

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!*

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

Narrators: Caroline Clissold, Daniel Clissold

Mary: Georgia Cotter; Joseph: Devin Gulliver

Innkeepers: Olivia Bressan, Sofia Musolino, Evelyn Richards

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.*

SING | Away In a Manager

*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.*

*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 cradle until morning is nigh.*

ANGELS CALL TO THE SHEPHERDS

Narrators: Devin Gulliver, Quinn Gulliver
Angel Gabriel: Alice Mills; Shepherds: Virginia LeBlanc, Lily Walther
Heavenly Host: Olivia Bressan, Nora Hinker, Ellie McCausey, Sofia Musolino,
Emma Musolino, Emily Rose LeBlanc, Evelyn Richards, Mabel Richards,
Ted Richards, Vivian Walther, Charlie Weitekamp

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.
Glo-ri-a in excelsis Deo!
Glo-ri-a in excelsis Deo!*



KING HEROD AND THE MAGI

Narrators: Caroline Clissold, Daniel Clissold
The Three Magi: Eli Bressan, Marguerite LeBlanc, Wells Weitekamp

SING | 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.*

ONE SOLITARY LIFE

Patrick Monahan, High School Senior Class of 2023

CANDLE LIGHTING

Please light your candles at this time.



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.*

*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!*

BLESSING

Timothy Boggess

MERRY CHRISTMAS

This evening we celebrate our 34th Family Nativity Service. In 1950, Rev. Donald C. Kerr preached a sermon from King David to the birth of Jesus that later led to him telling this Bible story to the children in his Baltimore church. The children acted the parts in pantomime. In 1989, Rev. Kerr's son and daughter-in-law, Doug and Gee Dee Kerr, created a script of this same Christmas story that would be presented by children and youth for generations.

Over the years, the presentation of this timeless story has been adapted in creative ways. The Nativity team has used technology to present this service in-person and live-streamed, making it interactive with wide intergenerational participation.

We are grateful to the families that helped to make this year's presentation possible. Special thanks go to Emily Weitekamp and Leah Cotter, Carrie Mills, Rebecca Clissold, Rose Monahan; Steven Phillips, Director of Music; Jimi Camastro, Sound Tech Leader; Ted Eastmoore, Music Leader.



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