



Community
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

of Clarendon Hills



Fra Angelico, Italian, c. 1395 - 1455, Fra Filippo Lippi, Italian, c. 1406 - 1469, *The Adoration of the Magi*, c. 1440/1460

Worship on Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols

December 24, 2024
9:00 pm

Prelude

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
Away in a Manger
O Come, All Ye Faithful

arr. Terry Wilson
arr. Michael D. Costello
arr. James Biery

Words of Welcome

Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

*Opening Words

One: In those days, in the beginning, Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem.

He was to be registered, and she was expecting a child.

The time came for Mary to give birth, so she delivered her child, wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger.

All: And the angels sang,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth, peace to all whom God favors.”

One: Let us worship God, Emmanuel, God with us.

All: Let us sing songs of praise!

*Carol 133 v. 1, 3

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Marla Rainey, Larry Schulz, Wendy Wilhelm

Call to Confession

Doug Newkirk

One: Christmas Eve is one of the most joyful and hopeful days of the year.
The candles are lit! The children are antsy with anticipation. The music is joyful.
It is a good night!

But even here, on this good night, we know that we are works in progress. Even here, on this good night, we know that we could love more deeply. So join me in the prayer of confession, not because we have to, but because naming that truth out loud allows us to receive God's grace. And God's grace only makes a good night better. So let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

All: Loving Christ, when the shepherds heard that you were born, they dropped their things and ran. They trusted the angels' invitation. They believed that your love existed for them. We wish that we were more like that.

Instead, somewhere between the angels' song and the manger, we tend to lose our way.

We doubt ourselves.

We doubt the invitation.

We doubt that love could know our names.

Remind us that your love is personal and specific. Remind us that the good news of this night is for us. With hope we sing, we pray, and we run. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

One: Family of faith, the angels are singing: unto you a child is born.
It is a love that is personal. It is a love that knows your name.
So hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:
You are seen. You are claimed. You are forgiven. You are loved.

**All: Glory to God in the highest heaven!
Glory to God here and now.
Alleluia! Amen.**

*Sung Response 583

Glory to God

GLORIA (Taizé)

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: As a sign of our reconciliation with God and with one another, let us share the peace.
The Peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you.

Lessons & Carols

*Carol 140 v. 1, 2	<i>Once in Royal David's City</i>	IRBY
First Scripture Lesson	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 <i>For the people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. A child has been born for us.</i>	Beth
Anthem	<i>Come Thou Long Expected Jesus</i>	arr. Robert Hobby
Second Scripture Lesson	Luke 1:26-35, 38 <i>An angel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child.</i>	Beth
*Carol 119 v. 1, 3	<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>	MENDELSSOHN
Third Scripture Lesson	Luke 2:1-7 <i>Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem where Mary gives birth to her child.</i>	Doug
Carol 145 v. 1, 3 (remain seated)	<i>What Child Is This</i>	GREENSLEEVES
Fourth Scripture Lesson	Luke 2:8-17 <i>Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah.</i>	Beth
Meditation		Rev. Beth Freese Dammers
Carol 147 v. 1, 3 (remain seated)	<i>The First Nowell</i>	THE FIRST NOWELL
Fifth Scripture Lesson	Matthew 2:1-12 <i>Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus</i>	Beth
Anthem	<i>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</i>	arr. Anders Öhrwal
Offering Our Gifts to God		
Invitation		Beth
Music	<i>O Holy Night</i>	Adolphe Adam
*Doxology 607 words / 606 tune	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	OLD HUNDRETH
*Prayer of Dedication		Doug

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: (prayer continues)...Thank you for every ounce of beauty that marks this season; it has made it possible for us to join our voices with the angel chorus.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord; God of pow-er and might. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - - ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the high - est! Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

One: Even in the face of remarkable joy, O God, we still bring weary and worried hearts to you this night.

(prayer continues)...

...so that no matter where we go, we might trust in the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain. Ho - san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

(prayer continues)...

The Lord's Prayer (using "sins")

**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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

*Ushers will invite you to come forward for the receiving of communion.
All are invited to come to the table using the center aisle and return via the outside aisles.
The center station offers allergen-free wafers and prepackaged communion elements.
The other two stations offer bread and grape juice.*

Communion Music

Meditation on "Silent Night"
In the Bleak Midwinter/ Away in a Manger
All is Well

arr. Larry Shackley
arr. Phil Perkins
arr. Lloyd Larson

Prayer After Communion (unison)

God of angel choruses, curious shepherds, and expectant parents, there are a million other places we could be, but tonight we wanted to be here. Tonight, we needed to be here—worshiping together on this joy-filled Christmas Eve. For when we gather around this Table, we remember the ways that you always make room for us. Help us to carry that inclusive spirit into the rest of our lives, for we know that love like that is what turns weariness into joy. With grateful hearts we pray, amen.

Anthem

Of the Father's Love Begotten
Chancel Choir with Liz Monson, Barb Webster, Bells

arr. Lloyd Larson

Sixth Scripture Lesson

John 1:1-5, 9-12, 14
*The word of God becomes flesh
and lives among us, full of grace and truth.*

Beth & Christopher Cock

*Carol 122 v 1, 3, 4

Silent Night, Holy Night!
Sharing the light of Christ – lighting of the candles

STILLE NACHT

(The worship leaders will take the light from the Christ Candle and bring the lighted candle to the end of each row. Please hold lit candles upright while tipping unlit candles to receive the flame.)

*Charge and Benediction

*Carol 134 v. 1, 2, 4

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

Postlude

Ding, Dong! Merrily on High

arr. Lloyd Larson

* Please rise in spirit or body

All speak emboldened type

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES: Dr. Christopher Cock

USHERS / GREETERS: John Boxell, Lindy Steeves

COMMUNION PREPARATION: John Boxell

COMMUNION SERVERS: John Boxell, Ingrid Ellithorpe, Lindy Steeves, Judy Johns Schloegel

LITURGIST: Doug Newkirk

ONLINE HOST: Linda Cirillo

AV: Erich Kretchmer, Liz Monson

Prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Next Sunday in Worship, December 29

First Sunday of Christmas

Luke 2:10 & Isaiah 9:2-3

Matt 2:10 & Psalm 148

Psalm 126:1-3 & Isaiah 55:12-13

Lessons & Laughter



*During this holy and joy-filled season,
we extend to you a warm welcome and invite you to a deeper life of faith with God
through the worship and caring ministries we share as a church family.*

Worship:

- Sundays at 9:30 a.m., in person and livestream online
- Communion celebrated at least monthly
- Special worship services for Advent, Lent & Holy Week

Adult Education and Faith Formation:

- *Read * Prayer * Share* (book and discussion group), Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.
- *Presbyterian Women Bible Study Circles*, 4th Tuesday, various times & locations
- Sunday morning Adult Education classes, discussion groups, 10:45 - 11:45

Children:

- Sunday Faith Formation for children 3-11 yrs, 9:45 - 10:30
- Kids' Academy Preschool for children 2 ½ - 5 yrs and after school care for children 5 - 12 yrs
- Kids' Academy Summer Day Camp, ages 3-5 yrs

Youth:

- Middle School Youth Group (Grades 6th-8th) Sundays
- High School Youth Group (Grades 9th-12th) Sundays, 5:00-7:30 p.m.
- Youth weekend retreat
- Summer Youth Mission Trips

Music:

- Chancel Choir, Wednesdays, 7:00 pm
- Clarion Hand Bell Ensemble, Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.
- Concert Series; four concerts per season

Support and Concern:

- Stephen Ministry (providing one-to-one confidential compassion and prayers for people experiencing difficulty or change)
- Older Adult Ministries (assistance for older adults and their families to provide resources and support)
- Pastoral Care with pastor
- At Home Communion

Fellowship:

- Presbyterian Women Programs, 1st Tuesday, 12:30 p.m.
- “50+ Friends” Luncheons, held quarterly following worship
- Circle of Voices Women’s Book Group, 3rd Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

Mission:

- Amos Group: advocating for the dismantling of racism
- Partnership with Iglesia Presbiteriana–Reformada Church in San Antonio de los Baños, Cuba
- Mission partners: Association House, LOVE Christian Clearinghouse, monthly food donations support Hinsdale Community Services, People’s Resource Center and more.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be

closed Tuesday, December 24 at noon - Sunday Dec 29
open Monday Dec 30 & Tuesday Dec 31 9:00 – 5:00
 closed Wednesday, January 1, 2025
open Thursday January 2 and Friday Jan 3, 2025 9:00 am - 5:00



YEAR-END GIVING

As we approach the end of the year, please consider additional financial gifts to the church. Whether you are completing your pledge for 2024 or providing a year-end gift, all gifts are important and deeply appreciated.

To ensure your donations are credited to your 2024 giving please:

- Mail donations with a postmark no later than December 31
- Give on-line by December 27 at <https://onrealm.org/cpc/-/form/give/now>
- Bring your donation to church office by **noon, Monday Dec 30**
- NOTE: Office closed Wed Dec 25 - Fri Dec 27

JOSIE FALBO JAZZ QUINTET

Sunday, January 12
3:00 pm

We welcome the Josie Falbo Jazz Quintet. Josie has been one of Chicago's busiest and most frequently heard studio singers for over 35 years. Vocally she can deliver the Gospel power of Mahalia Jackson, rock as hard as Pat Benatar, Be-Bop with the best of them, or perform today's contemporary hits with a style and sound that will amaze and impress any audience.

The program, “Swinging Ladies of Jazz,” will incorporate songs made famous by the most revered female jazz singers and others. Josie will be joined by Jeremy Kahn (piano), Eric Hochberg (bass), Bob Rummage (drums), and Eric Schneider (saxophone).





FAMILY CONCERT: WENDY AND DB

Sunday, January 26

3:00 pm

Sanctuary

This concert will feature singer/songwriting team Wendy and DB - a multicultural, award-winning children's music duo. They write their songs with inclusion, diversity, love, kindness and family values, and their themes examine the world with curiosity. This interactive musical event is suitable for the whole family, young and young at heart.

The CPC Concert Series is pleased to partner with CPC's Kids' Academy to offer this fun, family concert. Click here to learn more about [Wendy & DB](#)

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN ART

Art Exhibit at CPC

Jan 12 - Feb 2

Embracing Our Differences is a nonprofit organization based in Southwest Florida along Florida's Cultural Coast, that uses the power of art and education to celebrate and promote our individuality and common humanity. They accomplish this through an annual, large-scale, juried exhibition and a comprehensive series of educational initiatives, programs, and resources designed for educators and students. Smaller canvas sized art pieces are coming to CPC!



Join us to expand our horizons of what makes us human and what brings us together with 25 pieces of art created by children from around the world. Click [here](#) to learn about Diversity and Inclusion in Art and preview the exhibit.



SAVE THE DATES

February 2, Sunday: Annual Meeting

We will worship at 9:30 a.m. with Communion followed by our Annual Meeting. Don't miss this opportunity to gather with the church family and celebrate 2024 and our exciting plans for 2025.

February 9, Sunday: Youth Sunday

Please join us as our high school youth lead worship and the senior class shares their meditations.



Community Presbyterian Church

39 North Prospect

Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

630-323-6522

www.chcpc.org

