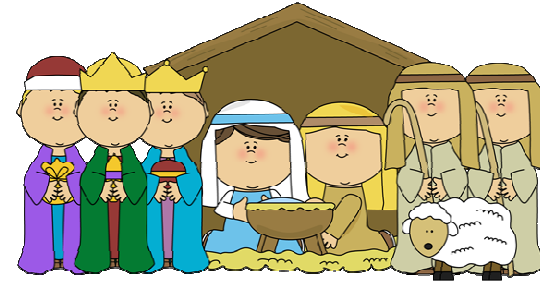


**A big thank you to all of the children and youth who helped
tell the story of Christmas!**

Readers:

Abigail Grove
Kaitlyn Hanley
Fletcher McCarthy
Drew Patrick
Maggie Taylor



Mary, Joseph and Jesus: Cal and Julia Evatt and Hampton

Angel Gabriel: Grey Epps

Prophet: Emmy Lou Patrick

Inn Keeper and Wife: Sam Waters and Carah Ellen Morrill

Angels: Maggie Pray, Bren McCoy, Avery Richards, Olivia Grove, Halle Cate Epps, Anna Louise Harbert, Elle Tuten, Meghan Martin, Ashley Isom, Harper Haynie, Henley Haynie

Star: Sarah Martin

Shepherds: Blake Richards, Chase Richards, Bo Wilkes, Bentley Melvin, Anders Epps, Jake Hosea, Ree Nowotnick, Austin Kinere, Dylan Hanley, Hogan Haynie

Wise Men and Caravan : Garrison Metz, Austin Walker, Mika Nowotnick, Madeline White, Wilson Tuten, Sam West, Ella Grace Clary, Huiet Ann Clary, Grace Metz

King Herod: James Walker

Animals: Lanning Morgan, Meriwether Baker, Caroline Hogan, Lilly Debrew, Baylis Ryan, Claire Ryan



A special thank you to Mrs. Debbie Carothers for costume design and to Mr. A.G. Caldwell, Ray Grove and Myles Wilkes for setting up the stage and backdrop.

NATIVITY OF THE LORD
First Presbyterian Church
December 24, 2017
10:30AM



WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

We Three Kings

Chase Richards, piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Henderson Wise, Elder

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 92

While We Are Waiting, Come

WAITING

(Verse 3)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Tolly Family

WE PRAISE GOD

◇ CALL TO WORSHIP

John 8:12

Jennifer Stewart

Leader: Jesus spoke to them saying, "I am the light of the world."

All: Whoever follows him will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

◇ CAROL 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

◇ LITANY OF CELEBRATION

Jennifer Stewart

Creator God, you opened up the heavens and sent part of yourself down in human form. He was, and is

Immanuel, God with us.

You sent your Angel to speak to Mary and Joseph, that she would conceive a miracle child, the Son of God; and that Joseph should take Mary as his wife, and name the child

Immanuel, God with us.

This is Jesus Christ, who was born in a stable and laid in a manger, whose life was Spirit-filled and blameless, who healed the sick and opened his arms to sinners, took upon himself the sins of all human kind, was crucified, died, and is risen.

Immanuel, God with us.

We celebrate and give thanks for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and we anticipate his return.

May your power be perfected in us, may we be a testament to your Great Love, and may our lives reflect your coming Kingdom, Immanuel, God with us. Amen.

During Advent, we mark each of the four Sundays by lighting a candle. These candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our world. Until that Great Day, we watch and wait for Christ's coming into the darkness of our world, lighting candles of hope, peace, love and joy; remembering the promises of God with prayer.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

THE PROPHECY (Isaiah 7:14, 9:2, 11:1-2) Abigail Grove

Carol *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* insert

THE ANNUNCIATION Fletcher McCarthy
(Luke 1:26-38, Matthew 1:18-25)

Carol *Angels We Have Heard on High* insert

THE BIRTH (Luke 2:1-7) Maggie Taylor

EXPRESSING THE FAITH *The First Noel*
Kaitlyn Brown, Ashley Burriss, Emily Burriss, Amelia White

THE SHEPHERDS HEAR OF THE BIRTH Kaitlyn Hanley
(Luke 2:8-20)

Carol *Away in a Manger* insert

THE WISE MEN SEEK HIM (Isaiah 9:6-7) Drew Patrick

◇ HYMN *Go Tell It On The Mountain* insert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MEDITATION *Hidden No Longer* Dr. Dennis Tedder

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERING

OFFERTORY *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen* arr. McLaughlin
Bette Ann Braeutigam, piano

◇ DOXOLOGY

◇ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Dr. Tedder

◇ HYMN OF DEPARTURE *Joy To The World* pg. 134

◇ BENEDICTION *Isaiah 9:6* Bentley Melvin

◇ POSTLUDE *For Unto Us* arr. Innes

*May the light of Christ fill your heart; and may you shine that light
so others can see the love of Christ in you.*

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Please remain seated for the Carols within the telling of the Christmas story.

Thank you for joining us in worship! We wish you and your family a blessed Christmas and New Year. Please come back and visit again.

On Dec. 31st join us for A Congregational "Wise Men" Breakfast at 9:30am in the Kirk followed by Worship at 10:30am in the sanctuary.

*Nursery is available for children under 2yrs.

*We will not dismiss the young disciples from the Sanctuary this morning. We encourage you to have them stay and enjoy the Christmas story. However, Extended Session is available in room 101 for children 4k and younger for those who need it.

Away in a Manger

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

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever
and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children
in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

Go Tell It On The Mountain

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
silent flocks by night, behold, throughout
the heavens there shone a holy light.

Refrain

The shepherds fear 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.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Dayspring, come
and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

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!