

Christmas Eve Communion Service

December 24, 2022

5:00 P.M.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

TRINITY CHIMES

OPENING MUSIC

"O Holy Night"
Kate Miles

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Trent, Amber, Torvi & Talon Graybeal

HYMN #25

"Away in a Manger"
(verses 1 & 3, The Presbyterian Hymnal)

OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, we open ourselves to you, this Christmas Eve. Enter our lives this night. Illumine our paths with the light of Christ's presence, that we may clearly see the way before us, the truth to speak and the life to live for our Lord Jesus Christ. Transform us into the disciples you would have us be. Amen.

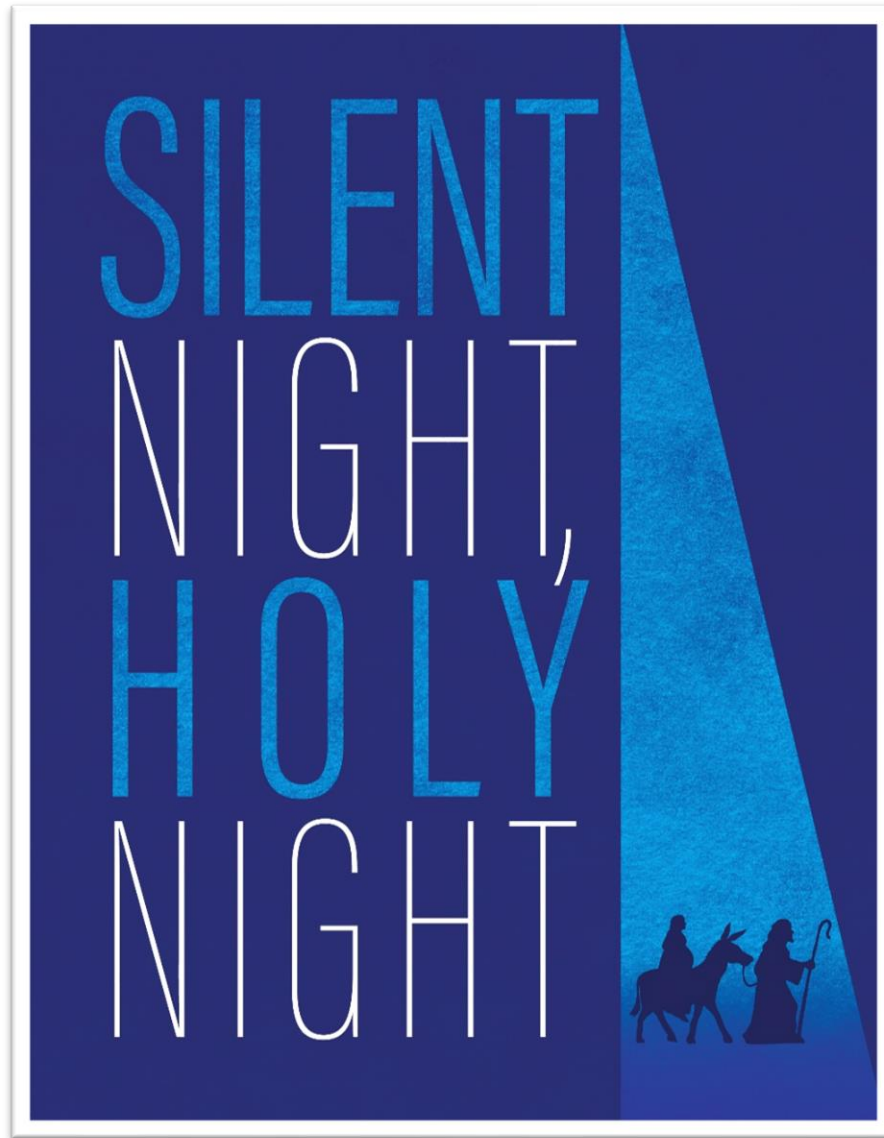
HYMN #31

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"
(The Presbyterian Hymnal)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, Light of the World, you caused light to shine out of darkness in the advent of Jesus our Christ; calling us to repent. We confess our unwillingness to see the light and to walk in your ways. We have not always opened our eyes to the needs of others, and our feet have wandered from the paths of justice and peace. We ask that the Spirit of Christ be born anew within us, this night, that our hearts may be stirred to glorify you with acts of compassion and service. Amen. *(Please take a moment for silent confession.)*



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ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: God's love knows no bounds. Love comes down at Christmas—a love so deep and so profound that nothing will ever be the same again. Know that this love is for you—to touch you, to heal you, to forgive you, to make you whole.

People: We are made whole in the light of the Christ child. Amen.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE *“Angels We Have Heard on High”*
(refrain only, The Presbyterian Hymnal)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

ANTHEM *“Gloria, Our Savior Found Us”*

SCRIPTURE READING John 1:1-14

CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION Rev. Valerie Hicks

GIVING GOD OUR OFFERING AND OUR CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Offertory *“Adore”*

Offering Prayer

Creator God, there are so many things to be thankful for tonight. Receive these tokens of our gratitude for your love made flesh in the Christ child. May our gifts help to make evident your presence, God-with-us, for all the world. May they breathe your love back into a world that needs a sense of wonder and joy. Amen.

HYMN #41 *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*
(The Presbyterian Hymnal)

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE WORDS OF THE INSTITUTION AND THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

ANTHEM *“It Was A Holy Night”*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHTING

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

People: All things came into being through him.

Leader: In him was life.

People: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Leader: The God who said, “Let there be light,” has caused light to shine in our hearts. That light is the glory of God reflected in the life of Christ. As our candles are a sea of light lit from the one light of Christ, so may this community of faith reflect Christ's light and love in the world.

People: Amen.

HYMN #60 *“Silent Night, Holy Night”*
(The Presbyterian Hymnal)

Leader: Jesus said, “You are the light of the world. “As you extinguish your candle, let your light so shine that people around you will be moved by the good things you do to glorify God in heaven.

BENEDICTION

Leader: Gabriel foretold it.

People: The angels heralded it.

Leader: The shepherds came to see for themselves.

People: And it is true.

Leader: Immanuel, God with us.

People: God is with us through Jesus Christ, the babe of Bethlehem and our resurrected Lord.

Leader: The world will never be the same;

People: we ourselves will never be the same.

Leader: Go then and tell the world — Jesus Christ is born.

POSTLUDE

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The Session and Staff of Bethpage Presbyterian Church of Kannapolis wish you a blessed and joyous Christmas. As we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, may he again be born in our hearts, may our faith be renewed, and may our commitment to follow him be strengthened.