

# Service for the Lord's Day

Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24, 2016

## Hear the good news of great joy for all!

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

*The Savior is born – the Child, the Messiah, the Lord. Glory to God! Glory!*

## Gathering

PRELUDE

*“Carols of the Season”*

Bock, Hamm, Lucas

WELCOME

Tom Laney

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Now let us pray together:

*There is good news of great joy for all! The Holy Child is born – the Messiah, the Lord. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.*

\*INTROIT #119

*“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

Wesley, 1739

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

We come tonight to praise God, who has done marvelous things among us.

*We are gathered here because Jesus Christ has united us into one family of faith.*

Sing praise to God's name, bow before God in prayer, open your hearts to God's saving word.

*The Child, the Son of God, the Holy Child is born!*

Because of this birth, life is full of promise for you and for me. Life is full of promise for our community and for the world.

*It is the season to sing and rejoice!*

Come, all who are faithful, and all who seek faith.

*Arise, shine, for your light has come! The angels of God are singing – Glory to God in the highest! Amen! Amen! Amen!*

\*HYMN #121

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

Brooks, 1868

CALL TO CONFESSION

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all through the Holy Child who gave

himself to redeem us. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins together first silently, then together using the words in the bulletin.

SILENT PRAYER

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*O Holy Child, who surrounds our lives with grace and love, we confess that our eyes are dull. Your presence in our lives takes us by surprise. We see only the outer signs – the feeding manger, the exhausted mother, the cattle, the straw. Help us to know you, not only in the angel's song, but in the ordinary happenings of our lives, that we may be channels of your grace in daily life. Teach us more about you, and open our minds to learn. Amen*

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

*“Lord, have mercy upon us,  
Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.”*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Do not be afraid, but believe. God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon each of us, through the gift of the Child of Bethlehem. In the name of the Child named Jesus, we are forgiven!

*We join our voices and rejoice in Christ, our Savior. The One who calls us blessed, is the same God who forgives us. Glory! Glory to God! Amen.*

\*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

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## Proclaiming

ANTHEM

*“I Worship You, Almighty God”*  
(Chancel Choir)

arr. Mary McDonald

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Psalm 96

Bibles, p.520/LG. p.677

The Word of the Lord

*Thanks be to God*

HYMN #143

*“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”*

Smart, 1867

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18-25

Bibles, p.1/ LG. p.1

The Word of God, for the People of God

*Thanks be to God*

SERMON

*“Joe? Mary? Don't be Afraid”*

Rev. Candice L. Klein

## Responding

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*“We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ. We believe that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. We believe that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker. We believe that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.” This, we believe. Amen. – The Confession of Belhar*

### \*HYMN #143

*“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”*

### MINISTRY OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY

*“If I Could Be a Shepherd”*  
(Chancel Choir)

Eugene Butler

### \*DOXOLOGY

### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## Sending

### \*HYMN #122

*“Silent Night, Holy Night!”*

Gruber, 1818

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*“Joy to the World”*

arr. Mark Reeves, CAGO

(\*) Those who are able may stand.

*Bold italic letters* indicate congregational responses.

**This week’s prayers and concerns:** Jack and Delbert Gray, the family of Jack Clark, Robbie Brooks, Syble DeLoach, Sally Hosea, Debbie Murphy, Juan Castro, Cindy Ratliff, Sue Williams and Dr. David Craig.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun. 12/25	Christmas Day Service	10:00am
Tues. 12/27	Pipeline Deadline	

Pastor: Rev. Candice L. Klein 903-392-8443 [fpchendersonrev@aol.com](mailto:fpchendersonrev@aol.com)  
Church Secretary: Lisa Temple Director of Music: Mark Reeves, CAGO  
Custodian: Bob Schauwecker Nursery Attendant: Martha Baughman