

# ***TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH***

**Order of Worship for December 24, 2020**

**Christmas Eve – 7:00 PM**

Gathering Music

Prelude – **It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

SORENSEN

Advent Candle Lighting & Christ Candle Lighting – Megan & Sharon Davis

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him. In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Candlelighting song

Call to Worship

Emmanuel, God with us,

**you are our heart's delight.**

Because of your amazing love,

**you came to earth, you became one of us,**

**you reached out to us while we were lost,**

**you rescued us from death, you brought us salvation.**

Your love is so high and wide and deep that it, and only it, could reach this suffering world.

**You came to bring an end to our sadness, to dry our tears, to still our fears, to give us hope.**

## Hymn- **O, Holy Night**

### Call to Confession

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. God we acknowledge that you are light and we often walk in darkness. Let us now confess our sins.

### Prayer of Confession (In unison)

**God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness.**

**We confess that we have not welcomed the light, nor trusted good news to be good.**

**We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.**

### Silent Confession

***(A time of silence will be observed for personal confession.)***

### Assurance of Pardon

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

### \*Hymn **#56 - The First Nowell**

**The first Noel the angel 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.**

**Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

**First Scripture Lesson**

**Isaiah 52:7-10**

52:7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

52:8 Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

52:9 Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

52:10 The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

**Second Scripture Lesson**

**John 1:1-14**

1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

1:2 He was in the beginning with God.

1:3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being

1:4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

1:5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

1:6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

1:7 He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

1:8 He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

1:9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

1:10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him.

1:11 He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

1:12 But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,

1:13 who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

1:14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**Sermon-**

**Rev. Jennifer Baer**

Music for Meditation – **In the Bleak Midwinter**

*Take a moment to prepare for the table of grace*

Communion

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory – **O Jesus So Sweet**

BACH

\*Doxology (Hymn 592)

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy  
Ghost. Amen.***

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn #60 – “Silent Night”

STILLE NACHT

***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, heav'nly 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 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.”***

\*Sending Forth and Benediction

\*Postlude – “Joy to the World”

HANDEL

Soloist: Jessica Hitchcock

Liturgist: Meryl Davis

Head Deacons: Karen Perzia & Rich Burkhardt

Pastor: Rev. Jennifer A. Baer

Music Director: Pamela Carroll

**“Called to Serve and to Witness”**

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