

# Welcome to Derry Presbyterian Church

We proclaim God's Word, share God's love, and practice God's justice.



**December 24, 2020**  
**7:00 pm Livestream**

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# Service for Christmas Eve Worship

PRELUDE

*Gesu Bambino*  
Mary Lemons and Grant Wareham, piano

Pietro Yon, arr. Cindy Berry

WELCOME

Rev. Marie L. Buffaloe

INTROIT

*Once In Royal David's City*  
Natalie Taylor, soloist

C.F. Alexander

*Once in Royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for a bed.  
Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ, her little child.*

*He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
with the poor and meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.*

*Jesus is our childhood's pattern; day by day like us he grew;  
he was little, weak, and helpless; tears and smiles like us he knew;  
and he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.*

*And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;  
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.*

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES *(read responsively)*

We are here because we have heard a whisper of hope

**and we have faith its day will come.**

We have heard a promise of peace

**and we have faith its day will come.**

We have heard a song of joy

**and we have faith its day will come.**

We have heard a hint of love

**and we have faith its day will come.**

We have heard of the birth of the Christ-child

**and we have faith his day is here.**

**O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

CAROL 133

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye; O come ye, to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!**

REFRAIN:

**O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

**Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! REFRAIN**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! REFRAIN**

SCRIPTURE: The Promise of the One to Come

Isaiah 40:1-5

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of tenderness and love, breathe your grace into our lives.  
We confess that we doubt your promises and fear the unknown.  
We grieve what we have lost this year and forget the gift of hope you bring every year.  
Forgive our wandering ways, and guide us along your paths of peace.  
When we lose our way, and forget the reason and purpose of this season, carry us back to you.  
Lead us up to that high mountain of faith and hope,  
that we might truly proclaim: "Here is our God!"  
In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

"Comfort, O comfort my people," says our God.  
You have served your term. Your penalty is paid.  
Remember your baptism and believe the good news of the Gospel.  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven**

CAROL RESPONSE 121

*O Little Town of Bethlehem (Verse 4)*

ST. LOUIS

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

SCRIPTURE: A Child is Born

Matthew 1:18-24

ANTHEM

*Joseph, Better You Than Me*  
Ryan Yingst

Flowers, John, Tennent

*Well your eyes just haven't been the same, Joseph  
Are you bad at dealing with the fame, Joseph  
There's a pale moonshine, above you  
Do you see both sides, do they shove you, around*

*Is the touchstone forcing you to hide, Joseph  
Are the rumors eating you alive, Joseph*

*When the holy night is upon you  
Will you do what's right, the position is yours*

*From the temple walls to the New York night  
Our decisions rest on a child  
When she took her stand  
Did she hold your hand  
Will your faith stand still or run away*

*When they've driven you so far  
That you think you're gonna drop  
Do you wish you were back there  
at the carpenter shop*

*With the plane and the lathe  
The work never drove you mad  
You're a maker, a creator  
Not just somebody's dad*

*From the temple walls to the New York night  
Our decisions rest on a man  
When I take the stand  
Will he hold my hand  
Will my faith stand still or run away*

*And the desert  
It's a hell of a place to find heaven  
Forty years lost in the wilderness looking for God  
And you climb to the top of the mountain  
Looking down on the city  
Where you were born*

*Better you than me (better you than me)  
Yes*

*Well the Holy night is upon you (better you than me)  
Do you see both sides, do they shove you, around  
Better you than me, Joseph (better you than me)  
Joseph, Joseph, Joseph, Joseph  
Than me*

*Better you than me (better you, better you)  
Than me  
Well your eyes just haven't been the same, Joseph*

SCRIPTURE: The Promised Fulfilled

Luke 2:1-7

CAROL 115

*Away in a Manger*

MUELLER

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

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,  
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

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.

SCRIPTURE: Surprise to the Shepherds

Luke 2:8-20

MEDITATION

“Surprised Again”

Rev. Marie Buffaloe

ANTHEM

*O Holy Night*  
Julie and Gillian Miller

Adolphe Adam, arr. Adam Bullard

*O holy night! The stars are brightly shining  
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
Till He appear'd and the soul felt its worth  
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn*

*He knows our need, to our weaknesses no stranger  
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!  
Behold your King, Before Him lowly bend!*

*Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born;  
O night divine, O night, O night Divine*

*Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and His gospel is peace  
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother;  
And in His name all oppression shall cease  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we  
Let all within us praise His holy name*

*Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming  
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand  
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming  
Here come the wise men from the Orient land  
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger;  
In all our trials born to be our friend*

*Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever  
His power and glory evermore proclaim  
His power and glory evermore proclaim*

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE: The Gift-Givers

Matthew 2:7-11

CAROL RESPONSE 144

In the Bleak Midwinter (Verse 4)

**What shall I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.**

CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Unison*)

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

CAROL 134

*Joy to the World!*

ANTIOCH

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king; Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains.  
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove, The glories of his righteousness,  
And wonders of his love, And wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love.**

SCRIPTURE: The Light of the World

John 1:1-14

*(Please light your candles or turn on your LED candles)*

\*CAROL 122

*Silent Night, Holy 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, Heavenly 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 Thy 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.**

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*Go Tell it On the Mountain*  
Derry Brass

arr. Sammy Nestico