

## The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...Therefore we break forth together into singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and wondrous God, ... Celebrating these gifts from our Savior, we speak the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Recalling his death and resurrection...

And we continue our prayer using the words Jesus taught us

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.

## Communion of the People

### Communion Music

*Still, Still, Still*

Chancel Choir

Austrian Carol

Arranged by Norman Luboff

### Prayer after Communion

## We Share the Light of Christ

### ENTRANCE OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

John 1:1-14

### CONGREGATIONAL 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."

### †CONGREGATIONAL CAROL 134

*Joy to the World*

ANTIOCH

#### 1. 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.

#### 3. 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.

#### 2. 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.

#### 4. 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.

### †BENEDICTION IN WORD

### †BENEDICTION IN MUSIC

*Toccata on 'Angels We Have Heard on High'*

Michael Helman

# St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

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## Christmas Eve

December 24th, 2021

11:00 PM



*Wishing you a truly blessed Christmas, and God's joy and peace in the New Year.*

## Welcome

We are glad that you are worshipping with us this Christmas Eve.

No matter where you have been or where you are going, you are welcome here. If you seek communion with God and with neighbor, you will find it in this house.

We invite you to participate with our congregation in worship, study, and service, as we seek to be faithful followers of Jesus. Please join us on the journey of faith.

## Guide for Worshipers

**Special Offering** Our recipient for the Christmas Eve special offering is the Six Star Refugee Assistance Group, which is working out of Memorial Drive Ministries. 100% of what is given this evening will go to this group, which is helping to resettle refugee families in our area from Afghanistan. Memorial Drive Ministries is a church-based non-profit that fosters diverse worshipping communities, innovative social services, and transformative relationships. Located on the campus of the historic Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church, Memorial Drive Ministries convenes critical leadership, organization, and a wide network of loving neighbors to create a new expression of God's Beloved Community. Use the QR code on the pew card for a link to give securely.

**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper** All are invited to the Lord's Table to receive Communion. Those worshipping onsite will receive individual portions of bread and juice as they enter the sanctuary. Those worshipping online are invited to have their own bread and juice while watching so that we can all share the elements together, no matter where we are.

**Candle Lighting:** During *Silent Night* ushers will bring the flame from the Christ Candle to worshippers in the pews. Lit candles should always be held upright; allow the person seated beside you to light his/her candle, passing the light down the row. Ushers will have candle snuffers as you exit the sanctuary. After you extinguish your candle, place it in the boxes at the doors when you leave.

**Worship will be online December 26<sup>th</sup>** Join us online for worship on our YouTube channel as we are led in worship by Light of Grace and St. Andrews' Staff.

## Prelude for Christmas Eve

The Christmas Story in Historic Carols set by American Composers

### Veni, Veni Emmanuel

12th century plainchant

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

### Noël Goemanne

(1926-2010)

### Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

Wachet Auf ~ 16th century German chorale

“Sleepers wake!” a voice astounds us, ~  
The shout of rampart guards surrounds us: “Awake, Jerusalem arise!”  
Midnight’s peace their cry has broken; Their urgent summons clearly spoken:  
“The time has come, O maidens wise!  
Rise up and give us light; The Bridegroom is in sight. Alleluia!  
Your lamps prepare and hasten there, that you the wedding feast may share.

### Paul Manz

(1919-2009)

### Il Est Né Le Divin Enfant

Traditional French carol

He is born, the divine Christ-Child; Send forth the oboes with pipes replying  
He is born, the divine Christ-Child, Sing we praise to the infant mild.

### Noël Goemanne

### What Child Is This?

16th century English melody

What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angel sing.  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the babe the son of Mary.

### Searle Wright

(1918-2004)

### God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

18th century English carol

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay. Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day,  
To save us all from woe and sin when we were gone astray. O, tidings of comfort and joy.

### Noël Goemanne

### Lo, How a Rose e’er Blooming

Es ist ein’ Ros’ ~ 14th century German carol

### Jean Pasquet

(1896-1977)

## Gathering in God’s Name

Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

† When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit, as able.

### INTROIT

*Hodie Christus Natus Est*

12<sup>th</sup> century Plainchant

David Lukens ~ Cantor

*Hodie Christus natus est. Hodie Salvator apparuit. Today Christ is born. Today our Savior has appeared.*  
*Hodie in terra canunt Angeli laetantur Archangeli. Today angels sing on earth and archangels sing in heaven.*  
*Hodie exsultant justi decentes, Gloria in excelsis Deo. Today we rejoice to sing: Glory to God in the highest.*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

An unmarried teenage girl was invited—  
**to carry Christ into this world.**

An ordinary carpenter was invited—  
**to be a father to a child unlike any other.**

The shepherds were invited—  
**outcast and isolated, included at the manger.**

The Magi were invited—  
**foreigners and seekers, included at the manger.**

And if she was invited, and he was invited, and they were invited—

**then we can trust that we too are invited.**

This story is for us.

**This love is for us.**

Family of faith, this is our invitation. Welcome home.

**Amen.**

### †PROCESSIONAL CAROL 133

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

### CONFESSING OUR SIN

**Holy God, You throw open the door and invite us into relationship, day in and day out. However, instead of running toward you, we dip our toes in the water of this faith. We hold our breath. We play it safe. We struggle to believe that a love so unfettered, so unfiltered, could be for us. As a result, we often deny this worth for ourselves and others. Forgive us for ignoring your invitation to be the people you call us to be. Forgive us for the ways in which we hold back from deeper connection to you or withhold your radical love from others. Open our ears to not only hear your invitation, but to trust that this good news exists even for us. Gratefully we pray...**  
*(a time of quiet personal confession)*

### DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Family of faith, Even when we fail to trust God’s love, and even when we fail to love others as we should, God still loves us. That door never closes. So hear and believe this good news:

**God invites us into a life of faith. God loves us through every season of life. God forgives us when we lose our way and invites us deeper every step of the way. We are loved, invited, claimed, celebrated, and forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

### †JOYFUL RESPONSE

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

IN DULCI JUBLIO

**Good Christian friends, Rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven’s door, and we are blest for evermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

### MUSICAL OFFERING

*Sing We Now of Christmas*

traditional French carol  
Arr. Mark Hayes

## Hearing and Responding to God’s Word

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

John McCrosky

### HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

### GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:1-20

### SERMON

*Invited Home*

Rev. Camille LeBron Powell

### †CONGREGATIONAL CAROL 113

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

GLORIA

## Giving Thanks to God: Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

### OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

#### Offertory

*Before the Marvel of this Night*  
Chancel Choir

Carl Schalk  
Text by Jaroslav Vajda

#### †Sung Response

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Praise God above ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

#### †Prayer of Dedication

### CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

#### Invitation to the Lord’s Table