This evening's Christmas offering will be donated to the Calvin Center in Hampton, Georgia. For 60+ years Calvin Center, originally named Camp Calvin, has been a place where kids have come for the adventure of summer camp and horseback riding, while others have come to retreat and find rest and renewal surrounded by nature on the beautiful campus. Over the years St. Andrews youth have participated in service days and mission retreats here, while our adults have enjoyed numerous music and Presbyterian Women retreats as well. Of special note, SAPC member Paul Burns is currently the Facilities Director who lovingly tends to the 536-acre campus. Calvin Center offers a welcoming sanctuary for re-creation and Christian nurture.

You are welcome at St. Andrews. We have Sunday school for all ages and nursery care for babies and preschoolers Sundays at 9:00 AM. Worship is every week at 10:00 AM.

Staff

The Rev. Dr. Camille LeBron Powell, Pastor
LaVerne Byas-Smith, Coordinator of Congregational Vitality
Pat Baker, Director of Older Adult and Caregiver Ministries
David Lukens, Director of Music
Edward Weaver, Associate Director of Music and Organist



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Contact Us- 770-938-2833, office@sapctucker.org

Worship Online- https://www.youtube.com/@sapctucker

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

December 24th 2023 5:00 PM



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.

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. Please extinguish candles following the benediction, and place them in the boxes at the doors

Order of Worship

Please join in reading those parts of the service printed in **bold** and singing the words printed under the carols.

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

PRELUDE

Shepherd's Pipe Carol

Dale Wood

WORDS OF WELCOME

†CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

There is room for you here.

If you're weary and worn, or hopeful and patient.

If you're tired and lost, or wrapped up in hope.

If you're new to this place, or have been here before.

Come in, come in. There is room for you here.

The angels are singing,

"Be not afraid."

The angels are singing,

"Good news and great joy!"

So come in, come in!

There is room for us here.

As we turn to lighting the advent candle, I ask you:

How does a weary world hold onto hope, practice peace, spread joy, or know love?

How does a weary world combat cruelty?

How does a weary world shine a light into our bleakest night?

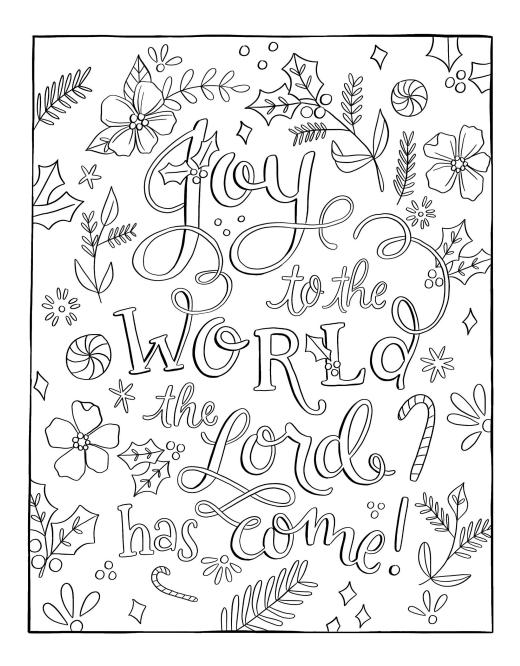
We do all these things with God's help. For tonight, a child is born in Bethlehem.

Tonight, Christ draws near.

Tonight, we light the Christ Candle.

Tonight, we are not alone.

God is near. Love has drawn close. Rejoice! For God loves this weary world. Amen.



†HYMN 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.

†BENEDICTION IN WORDS

Wishing you a truly blessed Christmas, and God's joy and peace in the new year.

†HYMN 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful ADESTES FEDELIS
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!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal, Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; Very God, begotten, not created! Refrain

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

PRAYER

LaVerne Byas-Smith

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 1:26-38
Luke 2:1-7

Lily Powell

HYMN 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 READING

Luke 2:8-16

THE STORY

Rev. Dr. Camille LeBron Powell

PRESENTATION OF THE 2023 CHRISMONS

HYMN 119 Hark the Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

KINGS OF ORIENT

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king. Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies; with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Response

We Three Kings

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never
over us all to reign

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Prayer of Dedication

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

We will share the light of Christ as we sing Silent Night.

Please tip an UNLIT candle towards a LIT one to spread the light throughout the sanctuary.

HYMN 122

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,
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!"