

The Service on Christmas Eve

December 24, 2017

11:00 p.m.

Prelude "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" arr. by K. Chapman

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation for Worship

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

*Call to Worship

The grace of god is with us now.

The Savior of the world has come.

Give thanks for the gift of grace from God.

Shine in our lives, Lord Jesus Christ.

*Carol 123 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

Lighting of the Christ Candle Pastor Baker Family

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God our Savior, we confess that we fail to live in your light. We pursue worldly passions and revere false idols. We cherish our possessions and spurn your good gifts. Forgive us, God of grace. Teach us to live as your people, following your holy way and rejoicing in your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Silent Confession) Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the promise of the Lord: See, your salvation has come! You are a holy people, redeemed by God, sought out, not forsaken. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

*Response of Praise (Gloria Patri, Hymnal #581)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

Hymn #115 "Away in a Manger"

Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-20

Christmas Homily "Light One Candle" Pastor Baker

Carol #124 "Still, Still, Still"

Christmas Prayer

Offertory "Good Christian Men, Rejoice" arr. by M. Bloedow

*Doxology (Hymnal #606) and Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion of the People (by Intinction)

Prayer after Communion (Unison)

God of grace and peace, as you have shared your life with us through the child in the manger and this simple meal together, let us share your life with others as the body of Christ in the world; through Jesus, bread of heaven. Amen.

The Festival of Light

Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world; those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

(The Christ candle represents Jesus, the Light of the World. The candle lighting ceremony is symbolic of the spreading of the Gospel Light from one life to another. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving light to another. The candles of the congregation should be extinguished after the reading of John 1: 1-5.)

Carol #122 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

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.

Gospel Reading John 1: 1-5

*Carol #134 "Joy to the World"

*Benediction

*Postlude "Noël" by L.-C. Daquin

*Please stand if you are able.

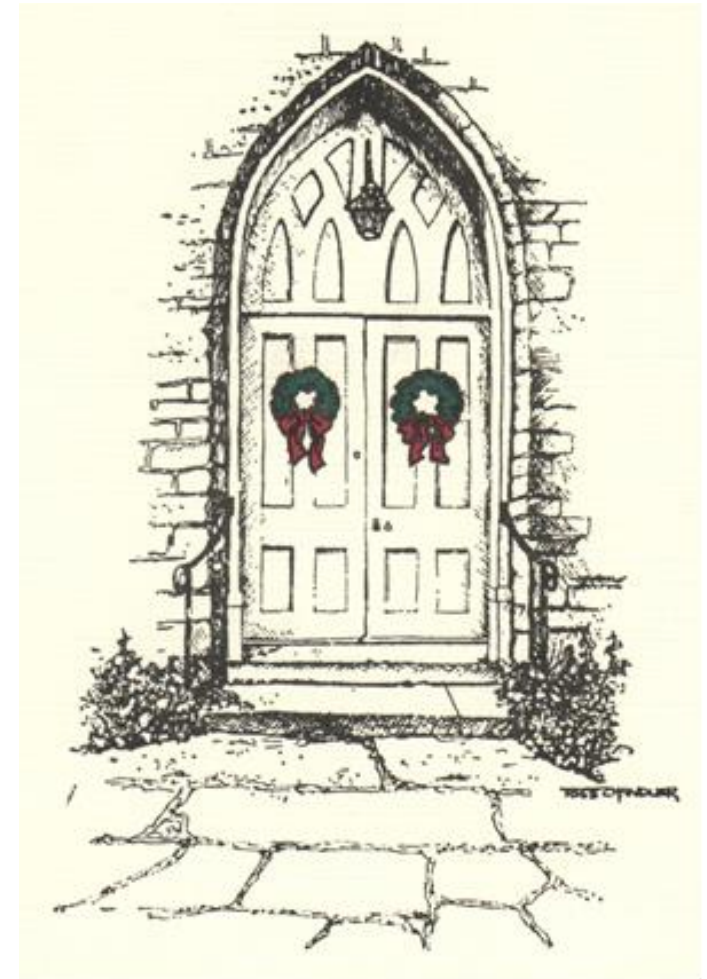
Greeters/Ushers: Stuart Brown and Missie Wood

Pisgah Presbyterian Church

Welcome to our Christmas Eve Service

Sitting on thirty acres of land, historic Pisgah Presbyterian Church was built in 1784 and has been a vibrant community of believers for over 230 years. This is God's place with its doors opened wide. If you are passing through, Godspeed; if you are looking for a home, stay here, you are welcome; if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you. For any assistance, concerns or cares, please call our church office at 873-4161.

Tonight's designated offering is for the Christmas Joy Offering of the PC(USA). Your gifts make a difference and change lives. The Christmas Joy Offering provides equal support to leadership development among Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges and assistance programs of the Board of Pensions. Please use the envelopes in the pews to dedicate your offering for this cause.



Founded 1784

*Worship God, study the Scriptures,
practice the Teachings of Jesus as Lord and Savior*