

Clifton Presbyterian Church
A Liturgy for Christmas Eve for Families
December 24, 2024 ★ 4:00 p.m.



A New King Reigns

If you would like to color this page, crayons are available near the entrance to the sanctuary.

We Gather to Worship God

PRELUDE

WELCOME

***LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

One: The Advent wreath is a circle with no beginning and no end.
It is a symbol of God's unending mercy and faithfulness.
Tonight we light the last candle, which is the Christ candle.
For on this night Jesus Christ, the light of the world is born,
And we celebrate that light shines in the darkness,
to bring hope, peace, joy, and love.

All: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

CAROL *O Come, All Ye Faithful

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

We Listen to God's Word

A NIGHT LIKE NO OTHER NIGHT

CAROL *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

THE TRAVELERS' JOURNEY

CAROL *Once In Royal David's City*

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

A ROOM TO STAY

CAROL *Away in a Manger*

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.

A BABY IS BORN

CAROL *Joy to the World*

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 nature sing.

THE SHEPHERDS COME WITH JOY

SPECIAL MUSIC

The First Nowell

arr. Dan Forrest

CPC CHOIR

THE MAGI FOLLOW THE STAR

CAROL *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

We Respond to God

A NEW KING REIGNS

OFFERING

The pastor will come to each row during the musical section below. You are invited, if you like, to come to the manger scene to place a star in the “sky” around Bethlehem as an offering to the Christ Child. If you prefer to stay where you are, you can hand your star to the pastor.

The offering plate is not passed in tonight’s service. If you would like to make a physical offering, you can place your financial gift in the offering plate in the middle of the sanctuary, or you can make an online donation at www.cliftonpc.org Any loose plate offerings this evening will go toward The Christmas Joy Offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The Joy Offering provides equal support to leadership development among Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges and assistance programs for PCUSA clergy, staff and retirees through the Board of Pensions.

*CAROL DURING OFFERING *Silent Night, Holy Night! Verses 1-4*

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 they light;
With the angels let us sing;
Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.

We Are Sent to God's World

SPECIAL MUSIC

How Quietly
CPC & BELL CHOIR

BENEDICTION

One: Go in peace to celebrate the Good News.

All: Christ is born in Bethlehem!

RINGING OF THE BELL AND POSTLUDE

Thanks to those leading us in worship

Hosts: Stewart Cranston and Joyce Rarumangkay

Lighting Christ Candle: Coyle Family

Readers: Audrey Howell, Jack Howell, Jack Kinzer, Laurel Kinzer, Natalee Lipinski, AnneMarie Radzikowski

Technical Team: Jen Basham

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from Onelicense #A-721138 and CCLI License 20618208.

Liturgy is adapted from *A Children's Liturgy For Christmas Eve* by Jerome Berryman

CPC STAFF

Rev. Dr. Diane Walton Hendricks, Pastor ♦ John Kim, Music Director

Hannah Harris, Lead Vocalist ♦ Debbie Kilpatrick, Office Administrator

Kate Trussell, Preschool Director ♦ Rev. Dr. Lynn Stanton-Hoyle, Pastor Emerita