

A Service of
Nine Lessons and Carols
Christmas Eve 2014

7:00 and 11:00 p.m.

December 24, 2014

Welcome to Our Church

We **gather** from many places to practice traditions that have carried meaning for centuries and create a setting for sacred worship. We **proclaim** beliefs in this space that ground our lives and **nurture** Christ-likeness in our relationships and service.

We are happy to have you visit with us today and hope that your worship experience was blessed. Please come back again. Visitor's Information brochures are in the stands at the entrances to assist you in finding your way around our campus.

Visiting with Children?

Activity materials for young worshipers are in the drawers of the literature chests in both vestibules. Please accompany children (under 10 years of age) to the restrooms, accessible through door in the front left area of the sanctuary.

Special Needs?

Feel free to ask for assistance if you have any questions or special needs. Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available from the ushers in the back of the church.

Please come again

We invite you to join us in worship at The Presbyterian Church in Morristown
December 28 at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Regular Sunday mornings services resume on January 4 at
7:45 a.m. for Worship with Communion in the Chapel and
10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary of the Church on the Green and
on Wednesdays at noon in the Chapel.

More information on our Church, our programs and special musical events
is available on our website www.pcmorristown.org

The Staff: The Reverend Dr. David Smazik, Senior Pastor

The Reverend David C. Lawrence, Pastoral Associate

Linda Gaden, Pastoral Assistant

Director of Music: Matthew Webb

Director of Children's Music: Julie Ramseyer

Director of Christian Education: Alexandra Mead

Director of Youth & Young Adults Ministries: Angela Rines

Director of Nursery School: Katherine Henckler

Communications Coordinator: Deborah McComber

Administrative Assistants: Mary Jo Hashagen and Jo Potter

Sexton: Kristo Pango

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

DECEMBER 24, 2014 – 7:00 AND 11:00 PM

** If you are able, please stand*

VOLUNTARIES (*beginning at 6:30 and 10:30pm*)

Clarion Call

Christmas Fantasia

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

The Ringers-on-the-Green

Michael Joy

Jason W. Krug

Cathy Moglebust

Grand Jeu et Duo

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

Les Bergers (*from Nativité du Seigneur*)

In dulci jubilo, BWV729

Louis-Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

Tobias Krebs (1690-1762)

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Ryan Kennedy, organ

INTROIT

Personent Hodie

The Chancel Choir

arr. Lara Hoggard

(1915-2007)

On this day earth shall ring with the song children sing to the Lord, Christ our King,
born on earth to save us; him the Father gave us. Ideo Gloria in excelsis Deo!

His the doom ours the mirth when he came down to earth, Bethlehem saw his birth;
ox and ass beside him from the cold would hide him.

God's bright star o'er his head, wise men three to him led; kneel they low by his bed,
lay their gifts before him, praise him and adore him.

On this day angels sing; with their song earth shall ring, praising Christ, heaven's King,
born on earth to save us. Gloria in excelsis Deo!

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Allison Family (7:00)

Amy and Glenn Visscher, and Gwyneth Butler (11:00)

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*)

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**People: Those who lived in the land of deep darkness,
on them light has shined.**

Leader: For a child has been born for us,

People: A son given to us.

Leader: Let the heavens be glad;

People: Let the earth rejoice!

*HYMN 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!

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!

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!

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,

Jesus, to thee be all glory given;

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

HOMILY

The Reverend Dr. David Smažik

BIDDING PRAYER

BELOVED IN CHRIST, be it this Christmas Eve our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels; in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

But first let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity and brotherhood within the church he came to build, and especially within our country of the United States, and within this city of Morristown, New Jersey.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; all who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that great cloud of witnesses, whose hope was in the word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

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.

FIRST LESSON

Read by Dr. David Smazik (7:00)

Craig Valenti (11:00)

Humanity is created in the Image of God and has been charged to care for all of creation. (Genesis 1: 26-31)

THEN God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.” So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL 112

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

Sussex Carol

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring;
on Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring,
news of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should we on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad;
then why should we on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place;
when sin departs before his grace, then life and health comes in its place;
heaven and earth with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night;
all out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night:
“Glory to God in highest heaven; peace on earth and goodwill. Amen!

SECOND LESSON

Read by Ken Hashagen (7:00)

Jenny Tooley (11:00)

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed. (Genesis 22: 15-18)

THE angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

Thanks be to God.



ANTHEM

I Wonder as I Wander

Carl Rütli

The Chancel Choir

(b. 1949)

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, how Jesus the Saviour did come for to die
for poor on'ry people like you and like I. I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,
with wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.

But high from the heavens a star's light did fall, and promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing, a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing, he surely could have it,
'cause he was the King.

THIRD LESSON

Read by Dawn Bryan (7:00)

Richard Albright (11:00)

The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior. (Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7)

BUT there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light, those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 144

In the Bleak Midwinter

Cranham

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan;
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there;
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But his mother only, in her maiden bliss,
Worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

What can 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.

FOURTH LESSON

Read by Lynne Harmen (7:00)

Alexandra Mead (11:00)

The peace that Christ will bring is foretold.

Isaiah 11: 1-4a

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots, the spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD, His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

Thanks be to God.

*** HYMN 119**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born 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 new-born King!"
Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

FIFTH LESSON

Read by Carolyn Crosthwaite (7:00)

Linda Schober (11:00)

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Luke I: 26-35, 38

IN the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. Then Mary, said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

A Hymn to the Virgin

Benjamin Britten

Choir I: The Chancel Choir

(1913-1976)

Choir II: Elise Figa, Robin Bruen, Sam Brusco, Steven Gaden

Of one that is so fair and bright, velut maris stella, [like a star of the sea]
Brighter than the day is light, parens et puella. [mother and maiden]
I cry to thee, thou see to me, Lady, pray thy Son for me, Tampusia, [thou Holy One]
That I may come to thee. Maria! [Mary]
All this world was forlorn, Eva peccatrice, [through Eve, the sinner]
Till our Lord was yborn de te genetrice. [of thee, the mother]
With ave it went away darkest night, and comes the day salutis; [of salvation]
The well springeth out of thee virtutis. [of virtue]
Lady, flower of everything, rosa sine spina, [rose without a thorn]
Thou bare Jesu, heaven's King, gratia divina: [by divine grace]
Of all that bear'st the prize, Lady, queen of paradise, Electa: [chosen one]
Maid mild, mother es effecta. [thou art proved]

SIXTH LESSON

Read by Jack Fraebel (7:00)

Susan Hubbard (11:00)

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

(Luke 2: 1, 3-7)

IN those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Thanks be to God.

OFFERTORY

ANTHEM

The First Nowell

Mack Wilberg

The Chancel Choir

(b. 1955)

The first nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay,
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Nowell, born is the king of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the East beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood mankind hath bought.



SEVENTH LESSON

Read by Jenny Ayanian (7:00)

Linda Gaden (11:00)

The shepherds go to the manger.

(Luke 2: 8-16)

IN that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people. To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

My Lord Has Come

Will Todd

The Chancel Choir

(b. 1970)

Shepherds, called by angels, called by love and angels:

No place for them but a stable. My Lord has come.

Sages, searching for stars, searching for love in heaven;

No place for them but a stable. My Lord has come.

His love will hold me, his love will cherish me, love will cradle me.

Lead me, lead me to see him, sages and shepherds and angels;

No place for me but a stable. My Lord has come.

EIGHTH LESSON

Read by Lisa Fraebel (7:00)

Walt Fleischer (11:00)

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus. (Matthew 2: 1-11)

IN the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it was written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Carol of the Magi

John Rutter

The Chancel Choir

(b. 1945)

Amy Visscher, cello

We rode all night through fields of darkness, Our guiding light the Eastern star;
We came to Bethlehem, we all were weary: We'd travelled far that night, we'd travelled far.
We heard that here we'd find Messiah, Foretold by seers from days of old;
We looked for palaces and found a stable: Could it be here, so bare and cold?
We entered in and there we saw him; It seemed we'd known him from long before:
A child like any child, yet somehow different: The face of every child in him we saw.
We'd brought him gifts, and now we offered them; We knelt down low in silent prayer.
With eyes that seemed to know both joy and sadness The child looked down as we knelt there.
So long ago, yet I remember That child who lay at Mary's knee;
How strange that every child seems so much like him: His is the face I seem to see.

NINTH LESSON

Read by Matthew Webb

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation. (John I: 1-14)

IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Thanks be to God.

[Then, all seated, the candles are lighted during the singing of the hymn.]

HYMN 122

Silent Night, Holy Night

Stille Nacht

All: 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.

Female Voices: 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."

Male Voices: 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.

All: 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.

[Following the hymn, the candles are extinguished.]

PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

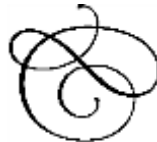
O GOD, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him; who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

People: Amen.

Leader:

CHRIST, who by his incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness of inward peace and goodwill, and make you partakers of the divine nature; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

People: Amen.



THE PEALING OF BELLS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY *(11:00 only)*

Ringers-on-the-Green

***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 world! 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.

***BLESSING**

VOLUNTARY

Fugue on *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*, Op. 52
Ryan Kennedy, organ

Max Reger
(1873-1916)



The Presbyterian Church in Morristown

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