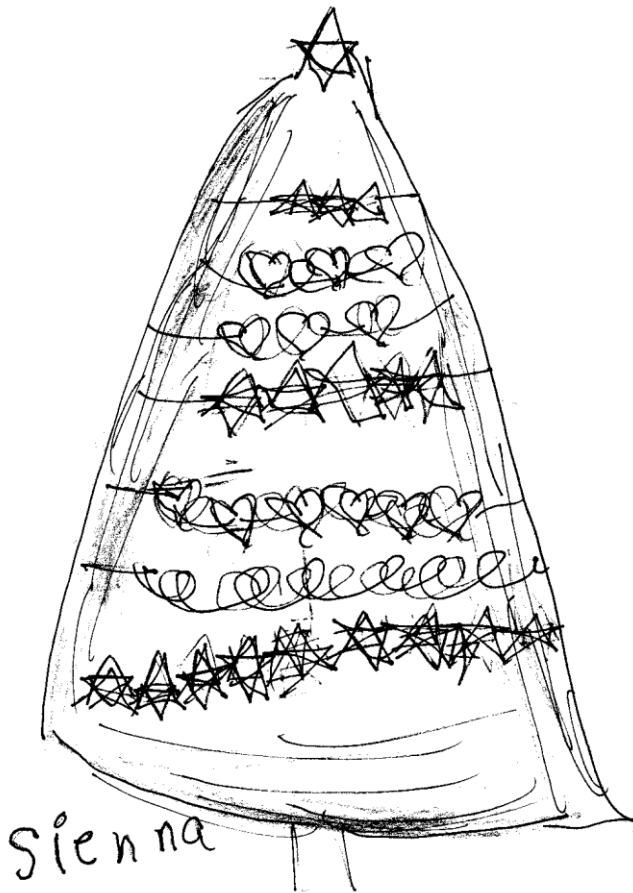


Hope for the World

*The Presbyterian Church in Morristown
Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m., December 24, 2016*



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN MORRISTOWN
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE, 2016, 4:00 p.m.

Gathering in God's Name

PRELUDE

The Holly and the Ivy
Barbara Valenti and Joel Ramseyer, piano

arr. Victor Labenske

* *CALL TO WORSHIP*

The Reverend Sarah Green

Mary and Joseph are in the stable, the hay is in the manger.
Children of God, rejoice!

Our Savior is born!

The shepherds are in the field, the angels are singing.
Children of God, be glad!

Our Savior is born!

The star is in the sky, the wise men are on a journey.
Children of God, shout praises!

Our Savior is born!

Let us celebrate Jesus' birth and worship God together.

* *HYMN*

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!**

**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!**

OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Green

Hearing of the Word

FIRST CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH -

The Story - Luke 2: 1-7

(The Beginner's Bible)

ANTHEM

Mary, Did You Know?

Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene

Gwyneth Butler, Leah Curnow, Lena Schmitt

SECOND CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Story - Luke 2: 8-14

ANTHEM

Sing We Nowell!

Terry D. Taylor

The Bel Melodia Choir

Barbara Valenti, piano

THIRD CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Story - Luke 2: 15-20

*** HYMN**

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Go Tell It

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

FOURTH CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Story - Matthew 2:1-2, 8-11

*** HYMN**

The First Nowell

The First Nowell

**The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.**

**The 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.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.**

**And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.**

CHRIST CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Story - John 1: 1-5

ANTHEM

The Christ Child's Lullaby
The Bel Canto Choir

Carol McClure

Barbara Valenti, piano

Response to the Word

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFERING AND DEDICATION

Rev. Green

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Alleluia
The Tower Choir

Jerry Estes

SYMBOLIC ACT

Alexandra Mead

CLOTH FOR THE CRADLE

Amanda Schmitt, soloist

***Refrain: Cloth for the cradle, cradle for the child,
The child for your every joy and sorrow;
Find him a shawl that's woven by us all
To welcome the Lord of each tomorrow.***

Darkness and light and all that's known by sight silence and echo fading,
weave into one a welcome for the Son, set earth its own maker serenading. **R**

Hungry and poor, the sick and the unsure, wealthy whose needs are stranger,
weave into one a welcome for the Son, leave excess and want beneath the manger. **R**

Claimant and queen, wage earners in between, trader and traveling preacher, weave into one a welcome for the Son, whose word brings new life to every creature. **R**
Wrinkled or fair, carefree or full of care, searchers of all the ages, weave into one a welcome for the Son, the Savior of shepherds and of sages. **R**

Sending into the World

SPREADING OF THE LIGHT

(Please remain seated for the spreading of the Light and extinguish your candles as you stand to sing the hymn.)

In the Bleak Midwinter arr. Amy Visscher
Gwyneth Butler and Amy Visscher, cello

* *HYMN* *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 us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

* *BENEDICTION* *Rev. Green*

POSTLUDE *Jesus, Priceless Treasure* arr. Aaron David Miller
Joel Ramseyer, organ

Leading this service of worship are the Reverend Sarah Green and Alexandra Mead, Director of Christian Education. The music is under the direction of Julie Ramseyer, Director of Children's Music. Service music and accompanying provided by Joel Ramseyer.

Participating in the service are the Bel Melodia, Bel Canto, and Tower Choirs.

“Cloth for the Cradle” is taken from *Cloth for the Cradle: Worship Resources and Reading for Advent, Christmas & Epiphany*. Copyright 1997 Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community. GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American Distributor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME YOU to this service of worship at The Presbyterian Church in Morristown. Whether you are a first-time visitor or a long-time member, it is our hope that tonight you will consider this your church home. May the joy, hope and peace of Christ be with you in this season and always.

If you would like more information about the church, its ministries and missions, children's music and Sunday School programs, Inquirer's classes, please call the church office, (973) 538-1776, or visit our website at www.pcmorristown.org

The lovely nativity figures used in this afternoon's service were made for the children of The Presbyterian Church in Morristown by Elder Ernst Bolten. He applied his considerable creativity and skill to our idea of an Advent Wreath pageant creating figures light enough for even the smallest child to carry and simple enough to allow the children to use their own imaginations. They have been decorated with material by the children who attend *Midweek* and will be used for many years to come. Thank you, Ernst.

THE POINSETTIAS for Christmas are funded by gifts from members and friends of the Presbyterian Church. The names of those honored are listed in a booklet available on the literature tables.

Christmas Services of Worship

December 24 – The wonder and joy of Christmas Eve is celebrated in our sanctuary:

7:00 p.m. – A traditional candlelight service, preceded by a prelude by the Ringers on the Green at 6:30 p.m.

11:00 p.m. – A traditional candlelight service, preceded by a prelude by the Chancel Ringers at 10:30 p.m.

December 25 –

10:00 a.m. - Service of Worship – Lessons and Carols,
in the Sanctuary

January 1, 2017.

10:00 a.m. - Service of Worship with Communion, in the Sanctuary

THE CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Dr. David Smazik, Senior Pastor

The Reverend Sarah Green, Associate Pastor

*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 the PCM Nursery School: **Jeanne Mueller***

*Communications Coordinator: **Deborah McComber***

*Administrative Assistants: **Mary Jo Hashagen, Julie Hess, and Kristin Stuek***

*Sextons: **Kristo Pango and Viktor Muskaj***

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