

St. John's Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve – 2017

8:00 p.m.

Participating in our Worship this Evening

Gary Postma
Steve Dubinsky
Therese Motard
Rev. Ian K. Johnston

The Session and Staff
Wish each of you a Blessed Christmas
and a Joyous New Year

If you are travelling to be with family and friends,
we pray God will bless you with travelling mercies. Thank you for
worshipping with us this evening.



Prelude

Carols - Organ & Cello

Welcome

Call to Worship (Responsive)

The night is passing. The light has dawned. The hope of the world is hours old. God's promises are fulfilled. The new covenant is written.

A baby is born, the Son of God, our Infant Saviour.

A virgin has born a son. He has been called, Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

A baby is born, the Son of God, our Infant Saviour.

Angels have announced His birth. Shepherds have seen the newborn King. The baby Jesus.

Glorify to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth!

Behold, God's Word has come!

Carol *O little town of Bethlehem* 164 v 1

The Father's Love Begotten

Gospel Luke 2: 1-5 NT pg. 54

Prayer of Adoration

Carol *Away in a manger* 149 v 1

Gospel Luke 2: 6 – 7 NT pg. 55

Carol *Unto us a child is born* 160 vv 1,2

Gospel Luke 2: 8 -14 NT pg. 55

Carol *Angels from the realms of glory* 146 v 1

Gospel Luke 2: 15 – 20 NT pg. 55

Carol *As with gladness men of old* 172 vv 1,3

The Liturgy of the Christ Candle

Hymn Open our eyes, Lord 445

Special Music

O Holy Night - Adam/Clappeau/DeFord [cellist: Therese Motard]

We Must Celebrate (Responsive)

Hosanna in the highest!

The light of God shines forth with blinding radiance.

The glory of God shines in our hearts,

The Lamb of God takes away our sins.

The Word of God bestows mercy and forgiveness.

Praise the God of all creation, praise the Son of our beginning, praise the Spirit of our reconciliation.

The Lord's Prayer (debts) in unison.

Our world admits darkness.

We wait in darkness and seek the One Light.

We move from darkness to light.

We share the gift of the Light.

Carol *It came upon the midnight clear* 148

Christmas Offering

The Christmas Offering this evening will be given as a gift to the Baldwin House

Offertory Choir Anthem

My Heart, My Bethlehem – Schram/Gaines

Offering Dedicated

Carol *Joy to the world* 134 vv 1.2.4

A Shared Benediction (Responsive)

God of love, Your Word, made flesh, is come to us tonight.

We bless Your Holy Name.

Pour out Your grace unbounded, promised through Jesus Christ.

Let us go forth in peace.

May God the Father, Son and Spirit, bless you now and forevermore.

All: Amen

Postlude

Carols - Organ & Trumpet [Steve Dubinsky]