

○ come,

○ come,

Emmanuel

Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Service

December 24, 2014 • 6:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS SONG

John Campione, tenor

WELCOME & *CALL TO WORSHIP

L: *Do not be afraid – I bring good news of great joy!*

P: **Light shines on those who walk in darkness.**

L: *A child has been born for us, a son given to us.*

P: **Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

L: *Let us pray...*

All: Living God, on this holy night we gather: to stand with shepherds, amazed at your glory; to sing with angels, rejoicing in your work; to wait with Joseph, trusting in your promise; to sit with Mary, cradling your love. May the good news of this night inspire us to tell the world of our great joy: for to us is born a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord. Glory and praise to you forever! Amen.

*CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

HYMN 133

1. 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! (Refrain)
2. Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest! (Refrain)

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

*CAROL

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

HYMN 119

1. Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King. Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies; with angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
2. 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 newborn King!"

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

L: Hope, peace, joy, and love. Four candles, four promises continually offered to us by God, and all of them manifest in this last one light tonight. The Christ candle proclaims that, out of love for the world, God dispelled darkness forever through the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, the Light of the world. The candle is lit and shines for all to see. May the Lord Jesus Christ take all darkness out of our hearts, now and forever. Amen.

All: God of glory, your splendor shines from a manger in Bethlehem into the darkness of human night. Open our eyes to Christ's illumination in the shadows of our world so that we, like him, may become beacons of hope, peace, joy, and love to the world. Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you all.

P: **And also with you.**

CHRISTMAS SONG

John Campione, tenor

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE CHRISTMAS STORY:

Luke 2:1-20

Pew Bible: N.T. p. 58

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL

What Child Is This

HYMN 145

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping? (Refrain)

2. So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own Him. The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone Him. (Refrain)

Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing. Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

* CAROL

1. Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.

The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

2. Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay, close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

John Campione, tenor

Rob Leischner, percussion

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: *The Lord be with you.*

P: **And also with you.**

L: *Lift up your hearts.*

P: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

P: **It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The Table is open to all who put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ. Please come forward to the Communion Table by way of the center aisle, returning by the side aisles. We share one loaf, representing our unity in Christ - we who are many are one body. Communion will be served in the pew to any who are unable to come forward. Grape juice will be used in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Adam Wright, piano

COMMUNION PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Excerpt from John 1

The person sitting nearest the aisle in each pew will have their candle lit. Please pass the light by lighting the candle of the person sitting next to you. The candles will be extinguished before leaving the pews.

CAROL

Silent Night, Holy Night

HYMN 122

1. 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.
2. 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."
3. 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.

***CAROL**

Joy to the World!

HYMN 134

1. 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.
2. 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.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Adam Wright, piano

**Those who are able may stand.*

Greetings! We here at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church wish you and yours hope, peace, joy, and love in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! Whether you are a life-long church-goer or just beginning to find your way along your own spiritual path, we are delighted you are here. All of us at St. Andrew's strive to work daily to discern God's call on our lives, as individuals and as a congregation. Our hope is that here you will find a place safe to ask questions, share ideas, think and work creatively, and find Christ's wholeness in your life. Thank you for joining us this evening, and we hope you will join us again.

GOD'S BLESSINGS AND MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!