Christmas Service
of
Lessons & Carols

CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

December 25, 2022
10:30 AM

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

for Christmas Day
Christ Presbyterian Church, Canton, Ohio
December 25, 2022 at 10:30 o'clock

ORGAN VOLUNTARY "Prelude in G Major" BWV 541 J. S. Bach
"In dulci jubilo" BWV 608

WELCOME and WORSHIP NOTES

CALL TO WORSHIP *(remain seated)*

The Word was made flesh,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
And dwelt among us,
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Jesus, Son of the living God, splendor of the Father, Light eternal:
Glory to you, O Lord!
Jesus, King of glory, Sun of righteousness, born of the Virgin Mary:
Glory to you, O Lord!
Jesus, Wonderful Counselor, mighty God, everlasting Lord:
Glory to you, O Lord!
Jesus, Prince of Peace, Shepherd of souls, perfect in holiness:
Glory to you, O Lord!
Jesus, Friend of all, Protector of the poor, Treasure of the faithful:
Glory to you, O Lord!
Jesus, Good Shepherd, inexhaustible Wisdom, our Way, our Truth, and our Life:
Glory to you, O Lord!
Jesus, joy of the angels, and crown of all the saints:
Glory to you, O Lord!
Christ is born! Give him glory! Christ has come down from heaven! Receive him!
Christ is now on earth! Exalt him! O earth, sing to the Lord!
O you nations praise him in joy, for he has been glorified!
AMEN.

HYMN IN PROCESSION *(remain seated)* "Once in Royal David's City"

Child:

1. 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 the mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.

Choir:

2. He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
   And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
   With the poor, and meek, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

**Standing, the congregation joins in singing:*

3. Jesus is our childhood's pattern; day by day like us he grew;
   He was little, weak, and helpless; tears and smiles like us he knew;
   And he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.

4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love,
   For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;
   And he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.

5. Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
   We shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
   When like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

***BIDDING PRAYER**

Dear People of God: In this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us make this city glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in Stark County.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

> **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.**

May Almighty God bless us with his grace; may Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above, may the King of Angels bring us all.
The people respond: **AMEN.**

INVITATORY CAROL "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light" J. S. Bach

FIRST LESSON Genesis 22:15-18 Kristi Wood

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

***HYMN** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Man and beast before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

SECOND LESSON Isaiah 11:1-9 Becky Banfield
The peace the Christ will bring is foreshown.

CAROL "Dona nobis pacem" J. S. Bach
Grant us peace.

THIRD LESSON Luke 1:26-35, 38 Donna Wood
The angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.

CAROL **"**Gabriel's Message" Robert Grogan

(The children are now invited to come forward for the reading of the Fourth Lesson.)

FOURTH LESSON Luke 2:1-7 Jennie George
Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

***HYMN No. 115** "Away in a Manger"

FIFTH LESSON Luke 2:8-16
The Shepherds and the Angels

CAROL "Up, Good Christen Folk and Listen" William Greene

SIXTH LESSON Matthew 2:1-12 Beth Pansino
The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

***HYMN No. 147** *(verses 1-3 and 6)* "The First Noel"

The Good News of Redemption is celebrated in the Gospel reading amid a blaze of light:
*(*We invite the people to stand in body or spirit for the reading from the Gospel of John.)*

***SEVENTH LESSON** John 1:1-18 Rev. Michael Wallace

The Word was made flesh and we have seen his glory.

***Hymn No. 110** "Love Has Come"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All the ends of the earth
have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia!
Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!
O Christ, splendor of Gods eternal glory,
the mighty Word, sustaining the universe:
Renew our lives by your presence.
Lord, have mercy.
O Christ, born into the world in the fullness of time
for the liberation of all creation:
Release all into your promised freedom.
Lord, have mercy.
O Christ, begotten of the Father before all time,
born in a stable at Bethlehem:
May your church be a sign of hope and joy.
Lord, have mercy.
O Christ, truly God and truly human,
born to a people in fulfillment of their expectations:
Fulfill our desires in you.
Lord, have mercy.
O Christ, born of the Virgin Mary,
child of wonder and splendor,
mighty God of all ages, Prince of Peace:
May the whole world live in peace and justice.
Lord, have mercy.
All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world
has brightened weary hearts with peace.
Teach us to proclaim the birth of your Son Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY CAROL "The Holly and the Ivy" Craig Phillips

PRESENTATION HYMN GREENSLEEVES

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.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angles sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** *(unison)*

Incarnate Christ, be born in me this Christmas.
May my voice be as the angels', joyfully proclaiming Good News;
my knees as the animals', quietly bent in adoration.
May my feet be as the shepherds', running eagerly to find you;
my hands as the wise man's, offering up all that I have.
May my heart be as the manger, poor yet treasure filled;
my life as the stable, hallowed ground settled with your presence.
Incarnate Christ, be born again in me this Christmas.

BEING CHRIST'S CHURCH—LIVING OUR FAITH

***HYMN IN PROCESSION No. 143** "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

***BENEDICTION**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY "Carillon on a Ukrainian Bell Carol" Gerald Near

Daily Grace
CPC Rhythms of Worship and Discipleship
The Week of December 25, 2022

Using Sunday's Order of Worship, we enter into
worship and prayer every day of the week. We worship together . . . separately.

The Call to Worship
The Prayer of Adoration (Followed by silence)
The Prayer of Confession (Followed by silence)
The Assurance of Pardon
Scripture Readings — Worship texts for Sunday, ***January 1:***

Monday: Isaiah 43:1-7	Thursday: Isaiah 43:1-7
Tuesday: Hebrews 2:10-18	Friday: Hebrews 2:10-18
Wednesday: Matthew 2:13-23	Saturday: Matthew 2:13-23

Silent Meditation and Prayer
(Listening for God's voice in Scripture and silence)
Prayers of the People
(Lifting others before God)
Prayer of Dedication

Becoming Familiar With Holy Scripture

If you wish to become more familiar with the Bible and the best known stories of scripture, read ***Jesus Talks to Nicodemus (John 3).***

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY, January 1, 2022

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 43:1-7, Hebrews 2:10-18, Matthew 2:13-23

Consider: Where has the light that enlightens the world been shining in your life this year? What aspects of the life around you have you been most drawn to notice? What is Christ's light showing you in those people and events? How is it changing your relationship with yourself and with other people?

The Cathedral Hour this Christmas Morning is given in loving memory of Grandpa, Harry Everhard, from Steve & Cyndy Lucas.

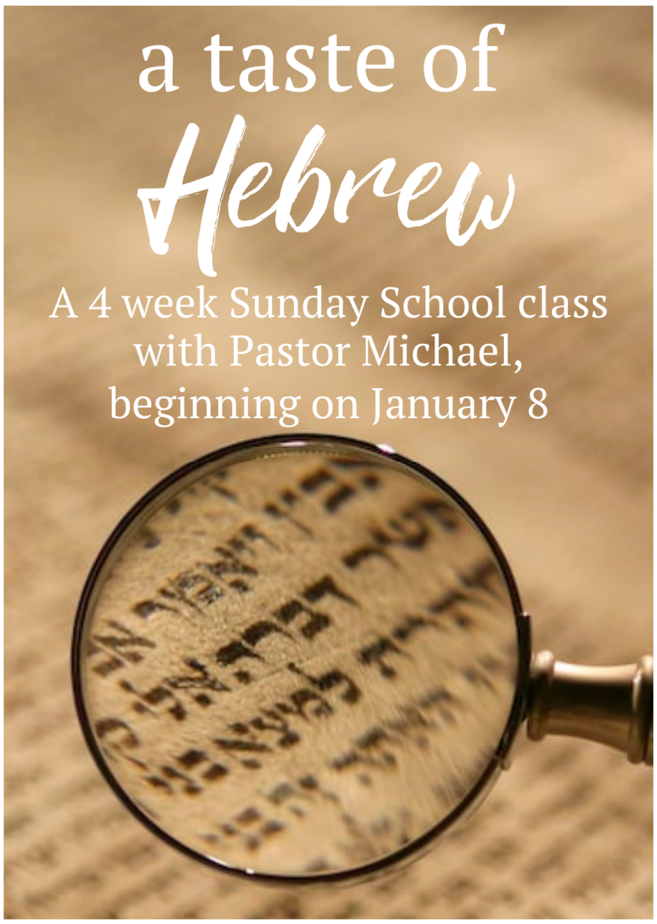
Holiday Office/Building Hours

In observance of the
Christmas and New Year Holiday,
the Church office and Building will be closed as follows:

Monday, December 26—Closed All Day
Thursday, December 29 – Open 8-11am
Friday, December 30—Closed All Day
Monday, January 2—Closed All Day

Christ Church Choir Members

Jan Anderson
Verna Barrett
Marilou Berg
Becky Blackford
Jean Burnquist
Cathy Dillon
Judy Douglass
Barb Elsass
Charity Gingerich
Amy Hosking
Teresa Houston
Dot Kandel
Janet Mason
Deanna McMaken
Linda Norton
Nancy Okonak
Carol Orin
Debby Paulis
Sarah Pozderac-Chenevey
Alice Rauch
Kathy Schlabach
Rich Geib
Roger Gray
Jan Bartchy
Jon Elsass
Fred Linxweiler
Jerry Norton
Merle Smith
Tom Okonak
Joe Orin
Bert Smith
Loren Souers
Michael Wallace



2023 Offering Envelopes

If you requested envelopes, you will find them in alphabetical order on the table in Cloister Hall. If you do not find envelopes with your name, and would like to receive them, please call the church office or print your name on the pad found on the table. If you are not able to pick up your envelopes, please call the church office, and we will gladly mail them out to you.

2022 Charitable Contribution Deduction:

Please remember that all cash donations and/or stock transfers must be delivered to the Church Financial Office by December 31, 2022, in order to claim them as a charitable contribution deduction on your 2022 tax returns. Checks placed in the Church offering on the first Sunday in 2023 *will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2022*, even if the check is predated to 2022 or was actually written in 2022.

When contributing stock, please send a letter of direction and intent to Merrill Lynch and also a copy to myself in the church office.

Thank you,
Diane Nave

Please Note:

January 1
Combined Worship at
10:30 am
No 8:30 am Worship
& No Sunday School for
Children or Adults

Elders of Christ Presbyterian Church

Jennifer Anderson
Charles Ash
Becky Banfield
David Hudson
Nancy Okonak
Bert Smith
Byrdie Stocker
Adam Wiggins

Deacons of Christ Christ Presbyterian Church

Mary Ann Beck
Debbie D'Antonio
Mary Jane Ebie
Terry Everett
Mike Gravilla
Nick Grinder
Kari Hershberger
Deanna Maze
Susan Oliver
Millie Snyder

Christ Presbyterian Church Staff

Ministers: The People of Christ Church
Senior Pastor: Rev. David de Vries
Associate Pastor: Rev. Michael Wallace
Director of Music & Organist: Heather Cooper
Director of Chancel Choir: Britt Cooper
Director of Children's and Family Ministries: Jennifer George
Director of Youth Ministries: Bonnie Wiggins
Pastor and Director of Camp Wakonda: Rev. Benjamin George
Camp Maintenance: Brian Husted
Business Administrator/Assistant Treasurer: Diane Nave
Director of Communications, Media, and Technology: Brian Ohler
Custodian: Kurt A. Gottschick

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HEARING LOOP INSTALLED
Switch hearing aid to T-coil