

Special thanks to our Music Director Alexa Teebo and Organist/Pianist Luyang Liu for coordinating the special music for Christmas Eve.

Guest Musicians:
Xiaoru Wen, Pianist
Elizabeth Smith, Singer

Merry Christmas!

A special welcome to all of our visitors. You are all a blessed Christmas gift to us this evening. Please let us know if we might ever be of service. Feel free to call Pastor Ken at 732-501-6373 if you ever need assistance, have suggestions or just need a prayer.

Office Hours, Week of December 23

The office will be closed Monday, December 23th through Friday, December 29th.
Lindsay will return on Monday, December 30th, from 10:00 - 1:00 PM.

Updated Worship Schedule

12/29 Richard Ansah, 1/5 Linwood Bagby, 1/12 Ken Macari

Recent Prayer Requests

Families as they grieve: family of Jean B. Trumpp, the family of Dorothy (Dorie) Ledesma, Theodosia Ashie and her family; the family of Betty Zwicky, the family of Doug Clausen, Janet Scho and her family, The Miller family; the families of Ross Charnock, Emily Sena, Judy Walsh, Rob and Roseanne Lindemann. We pray for Eyad and Kristina Khalifeh and Raine Grace Khalifeh, Jillian Knetchtel's mother, Susanne Stamm, Cena Pollit, Marcie Pollit, The DeFazio Family Mary Jankowski, Bill Murphy, (Linda's uncle), the Herrlich family, Ellie Kramps, Betty Gustafson, Liz Henderson, Betty Sharret, Jeannie, friend of MaryAnn Miller; Jim Tway, Rev. Charlie and Mary Sutton, the people in countries at war. If there are matters of concern or thanksgiving you would like included in our prayers or if you would like a name removed from the list, please fill out the prayer request portion of the connection card and put them into the offering or contact Lindsay at Fanwoodpres@gmail.com.

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A Service of Carols and Lessons

5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service December 24th, 2024

Prelude Schubert: 4 Impromptus, Op.90 (Zimmerman)

Call to Worship and Lighting of the Christ Candle

One: On this night we hear God's Word, "Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy."

All: To us is born this night in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, our Lord.

One: This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.

All: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to all!

(Lighting of the Christ Candle)

One: Let us walk in the light of all life.

Opening Sentences Psalm 96

Sing to the Lord a new song;

sing to the Lord, all the earth!

Sing to the Lord and bless God's name;

tell the good news of salvation from day to day.

Declare God's glory among the nations,

God's marvelous works among all the peoples.

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

the world, and those who live in it.

Let the whole creation sing for joy

at the presence of God, who is coming.

God is coming indeed,

to judge the earth with righteousness,

and the peoples with equity and truth.

Praise the Lord!

Opening Hymn 41 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

First Lesson Genesis 3: 8-15, 17-19

Adam and Eve disobey God’s command and disrupt the order and goodness of creation.

Carol 44 “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (verses 1 & 3)

Joyful Noise Children’s Choir sings verse 1, Congregation joins for verse 3.

Second Lesson Genesis 22: 15-18

God promises that, through Abraham, all the peoples of the world will be blessed.

Third Lesson Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

The people who walk in darkness receive the promise of the Messiah.

Carol 38 “It Came Upon The Midnight Clear” (verses 1 & 4)

Fourth Lesson Isaiah 11: 1-4a, 6-9

The Messiah will come from the root of Jesse to restore the peace of creation.

Carol 48 “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

Fifth Lesson Luke 1: 26-35, 38

An angel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child.

Carol 31 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Sixth Lesson Luke 2: 1-7

Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where Mary gives birth to her child.

Carol 25 “Away in a Manger”

Joyful Noise Children’s Choir sings verse 1, Congregation joins for verses 2 & 3.

Seventh Lesson Luke 2: 8-16

Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah.

Carol 23 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Eighth Lesson Matthew 2: 1-11

Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus.

Carol 66 “We Three Kings of Orient Are” (verse 1 only)

Ninth Lesson John 1: 1-14

The Word of God becomes flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth.

Carol 60 “Silent Night, Holy Night”

Offering

*Doxology 592

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below;
praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost Amen.**

Prayers of The People and Thanksgiving

The Lord’s Prayer

All: 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.

Charge and Blessing

Elder Linda Macari

Postlude “The Parade of the Tin Soldiers” by Leon Jessel

Please remain seated for the special postlude music performed by Xiaoru Wen.