

Christmas Eve
December 24, 2024 5:30 pm



Order of Worship

**Christmas Eve
December 24, 2024**

5:30 p.m.

Prelude

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

arr. Jim Lucas

Carol No. 140

Once in Royal David's City

solo verse 1, choir verse 2, choir and congregation verses 3&4

Lighting of the Advent candles and the Christ candle

The world says, "All is lost." God says, "All is loved."

The darkness says, "The light is dying." The light says, "The fire is catching."

We pray for the holy hope of God.

Come now, O Child of Mary. Come now, O Prince of Hope.

A voice cries out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord."

Every valley shall be filled. Every heart shall be made whole,
for peace is stronger than turmoil, and love is louder than hate.

We pray for the holy peace of God.

Come now, O Child of Mary. Come now, O Prince of Peace.

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice."

The world says, "Worry," and we say, "Rejoice."

The news says, "Fear," and we say, "Rejoice."

We pray for hope, peace, and joy.

Come now, O child of Mary. Come now, O Prince of Joy.

Isaiah spoke to a people called chosen, to a tribe called Israel, with a light of hope.

Gabriel came to a town called Nazareth, to a girl called Mary, with a light of joy.

Mary went to a place called Bethlehem, to a stable called a nursery,
with a light of love. We rejoice with Mary, for Love has flesh.

Come now, O Child of Mary. Come now, O Prince of Love.

"Good news of great joy," the angel said, "for to you a savior is born."

"Peace on earth," the choir sang, "for God reigns in the highest."

"Follow me," the star beckoned, "For Hope was born in Bethlehem."

As we light the Christ candle, we watch for the Christmas story around us.

Emmanuel has come and is coming. Come, all ye faithful, and worship God.

*Carol No. 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

Call to Confession and Unison prayer

The holy child of Bethlehem came to cast out sin and to bring to us the gift of salvation.
Let us open our hearts to receive what God seeks to give.

**Holy God, you have come among us in Jesus Christ,
hallowing our humanity and embodying love.**

**We confess that we have turned from the path Jesus has marked,
failing to claim all you intend for us,
withholding love from our neighbors and ourselves.**

Forgive us. Be born anew in us, that our lives might reflect Christ's radiant light.

(Time of silent prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Peace on earth, mercy mild. God and sinners reconciled.

This is good news!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia! Glory to God in the highest!

*Passing of the Peace

*Carol No. 147

The First Nowell (verses 1-4)

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-7

Carol No. 115

Away in a Manger

Children's Christmas Story

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:8-20

*Carol No. 113

Angels We Have Heard on High

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Christmas Eve Offering

To Thee My Heart I Offer

German hymn, 1653

Chancel Choir Music by Elaine Hagenberg, 2020

Scripture Reading

John 1:1-14

**Please stand as you are able in body or in spirit.*

Solo

O Holy Night
Faith Graves, soloist

Adolphe Adam

The Celebration of Communion

Invitation

Words of Institution

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing of Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

*The Medley of Carols and Lighting of Candles

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

*It came upon a midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, To touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King";
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.*

*Still through the cloven skies they come, With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains, They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds, The blessed angels sing.*

O Little Town of Bethlehem

*O little Town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

*How silently, how silently, The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.*

Silent Night! Holy Night!

*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.*

*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."*

*Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.*

*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.*

Benediction

Postlude

A Joyous Christmas
Will Benton, Organist

arr. John Leavitt

**Please stand as you are able in body or in spirit.*

Merry Christmas!

END OF THE YEAR GIVING



We are grateful for any year end gifts you are able to make to Park Lake Presbyterian Church. Many people make special year end gifts as a part of their financial plans.

- If you would like to make an end of the year contribution, please place it in the offering plate by **Sunday, December 29, 2024.**
- Or mail to **Park Lake Presbyterian Church, 309 E. Colonial Dr., Orlando, 32801 and postmarked by Tuesday, January 31, 2024.**
- Or in person, must be received in the church office between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm on Tuesday, January 31, 2024.
- You may also donate through **Tuesday, January 31, 2024** via "Online Giving" on our website, plpc.org.



Holiday Office Hours

- Open:** Monday, December 23, 9am - 2pm
Tuesday December 24, 9am -12noon - Christmas Eve
Monday, December 30, 9am-2pm
Tuesday, December 31, 9am -12noon - New Years Eve
Thursday, January 2, 9am - 2pm
- Closed:** Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day
Thursday, December 26
Wednesday, January 1 - New Year's Day

Offertory To Thee My Heart I Offer

Words: Anonymous German hymn, 1653

Music by Elaine Hagenberg, 2020

To thee my heart I offer, O Christ Child sweet and dear;

Upon thy love relying, be thou ever near.

O take my heart and give me thine, and may it be forever mine,

O Jesus, holy, undefiled, my savior meek and mild.

What brought thee to the manger, O Christ Child sweet and dear?

Thy love for me, a stranger, be thou ever near.

O Lord, how great thy perfect love, that reaches from the heavens above,

Thy love for us, by sin defiled, that made thee, God, a child.

Let me be thine forever, O Christ Child sweet and dear;

Uphold me with thy mercy, be thou ever near.

Thy hand bestows thy gifts to me and all I have, I offer thee!

My heart and soul, and all I own, let these be thine alone.

Special Thanks

Choir Director - Robb Ross

Organist- Will Benton

String Quartet

Allison Emmert—violin

Debbie Dansby - violin

Lisa Loucks - viola

Jennifer Haber - Cello

Church Staff

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Rev. Dr. Dan DeBevoise

Parish Associate Rev. Dr. Linda Wright Simmons

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