

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 24, 2021

Christmas Eve

7:00 PM

PRELUDE

English Carol Melody

M. Hayes

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***EXCHANGE of CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**

INTROIT

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Chris & Susan Dunn & family

Leader: For anyone who has walked in darkness, a new light has dawned!

People: **O come, let us adore him!**

Leader: For anyone who has ever felt forgotten, a new light has dawned!

People: **O come, let us adore him!**

Leader: For anyone whose patience has been put to the test, a new light has dawned!

People: **O come, let us adore him!**

Leader: For anyone in search of the way, the truth, and the life, a new day has dawned!

People: **O come, let us adore him!**

Advent Candle Lighting

(after the candle is lit the congregation will sing the song below)

Lift up your eyes and see the light sur - round you;
 with ra - dant hope, il - lu - mi - nate the night.
 Lift up your voice and sing, let earth and heav - en ring,
 lift up your eyes and see the ev - er - last - ing light.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**(responsively)

Liturgist: Bob Callecod

Leader: Those who walked in darkness have seen a great light, and their joy has been increased.

People: **The yoke of our burden is broken; the rod of our oppressor shattered.**

Leader: For to us a child has been born, to us a son is given; and all authority rests upon his shoulders.

People: **His name will be called, "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."**

Leader: He will establish his kingdom among us, and uphold it with justice and righteousness.

People: **At his coming, the world will be filled with rejoicing, and the faithful shall witness it together.**

Leader: O come, let us adore him and sing in exultation, for our Savior Jesus Christ is born!

ALL: **We shall sing praise and glorify God for Jesus Christ is born and lives in our hearts!**

***CHRISTMAS CAROL #121 O Little Town of Bethlehem ((vs.1 & 2) St. Louis**

***PRAYER OF ADORATION (Unison)**

Coming Son of God, blowing Spirit of God, hovering Father and Mother God, once again you come to us in newness, stirring up beauty and life and love beyond our calculations or control. May we be dazzled by the mystery of your abundant generosity. May we rest in the promise, and may we share the promise with a weary world. Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Hymnal Page 134

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 heaven and nature sing.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

SPECIAL MUSIC

Go Tell It On the Mountain

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-20

SERMON

Be Dazzled

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)**

(From: A Declaration of Faith)

Jesus, the long-expected Savior, came into the world as a child, descended from David, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, a virgin. He lived as a Jew among Jews. He announced to His people the coming of God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth. We affirm that Jesus was born of a woman as is every child, yet born of God's power as was no other child. The coming of Jesus was itself the coming of God's promised rule. Through His birth, life, death, and resurrection, He brings about the relationship between God and humanity that God always intended.

***CHRISTMAS CAROL #119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (vs. 1 & 3) Mendelssohn**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER *(we say "debts")*

OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

Offertory *When Christmas Morn is Dawning* Trad. German Folk Song

*Doxology (Unison)

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Prayer of Dedication

LIGHTING THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

O Holy Night

Diane McEwen-Martin, soprano

CHRISTMAS CAROL #122

Silent Night (vs 1 & 3)

Stille Hacht

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Hallelujah Chorus

Handel

This is a MORE LIGHT Presbyterian Church!

A "More Light" Presbyterian church welcomes lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons to full participation in the life, ministry, and witness of the congregation. We work to expand the inclusiveness of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

. There are no closed doors here.

Christ Welcomes All Here!

First Presbyterian Church <http://www.bgpresb.org/>

More Light Presbyterians

www.mlp.org

www.mlp.org



STAFF MEMBERS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Rev. David M. Montgomery, Interim Pastor [revdmm@gmail.com] | 419/345-2193 |
| Heather McEwen Goldman, Organist [goldman.heather@gmail.com] | 646/326-4058 |
| Aaron Roos, Choir Director [aaronkroos20@gmail.com] | 216/970-6518 |
| Tammy L. Schnitker Office Administrator [firstpresbyterianbg@gmail.com] | 419/352-5176 |
| Gale Swanka, Treasurer [gswanka@bgsu.edu] | |
| Michelle McDonald, Interim Christian Ed Director [Michelle.mcdonald@my.lpts.edu] | 513/919-6821 |
| Brie Bradshaw, Youth Coordinator Volunteer [brieb@bgsu.edu] | 951/207-2758 |
| Fernando Hernandez and Monica Garcia, Sextons | |

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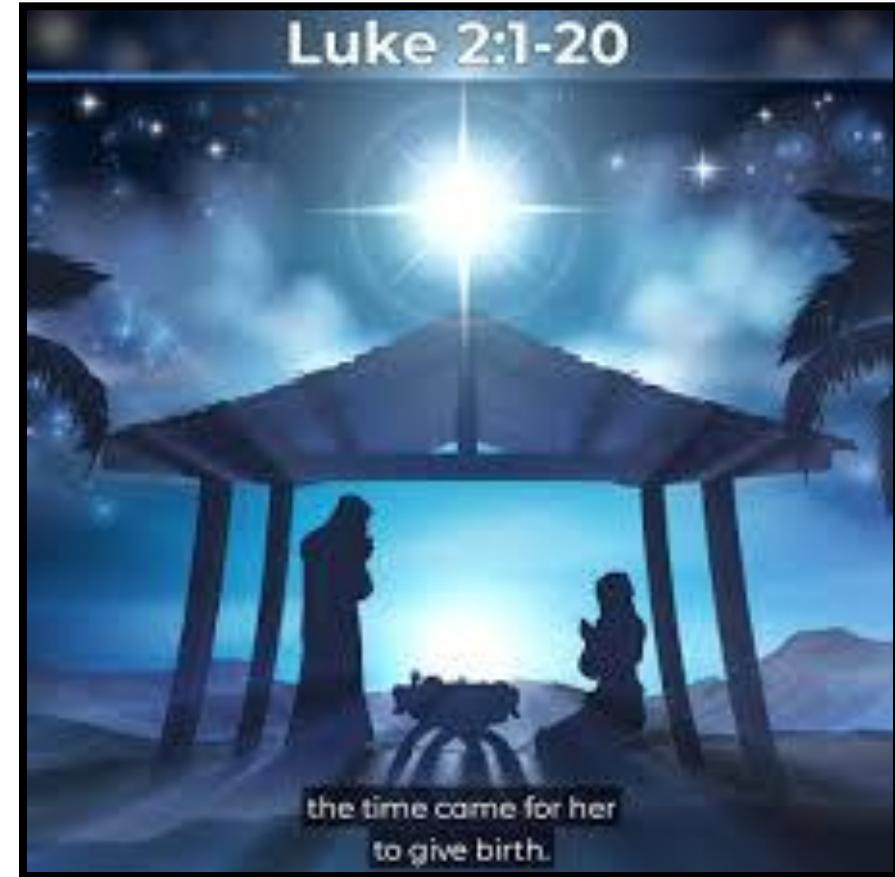


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First Presbyterian Church
A More Light Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
126 S. Church St., Bowling Green, OH 43402



Be Dazzled

December 24, 2021

Phone: 419-352-5176

Email: firstpresbyterianbg@gmail.com

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O Little Town of Bethlehem

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see the lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent strs go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
3. 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.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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 the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"
3. 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!"

Silent Night, Holy Night!

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.
3. 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

***RAISE your candle high!**



Poinsettias for 2021

James & Evelyn Bachman in memory of their parents.

Sharon Barnet in memory of her parents.

Bob & Joan Callecod in honor of their families

Chris & Susan Dunn in memory of Nancy & Bill Ainslie and Jeanne & Donald Dunn.

Wally Fraker & Nettie Rose in memory of Don & Virginia Fraker and Peck & Marti Rose.

Nancy Hess in memory of Jim & Clarabelle Garn, her parents.

Joyce Kepke in memory of Al Kepke

Betty Long in memory of Elmer Long.

Jenny Ludwig in memory of Jerry Ludwig and Mark Ludwig

Jim Novotny in memory of Wendy Novotny.

Glenn Varney & family in memory of Connie Varney

Ellyn Wright Stout & Janet Wright Thomas in memory of Mary Louise Wright and James C. Wright.