

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

December 24, 2022

Christmas Eve

7:00 PM

\*Please stand if you are comfortable standing.

LITURGIST: Bob Callecod

**PRELUDE**

*English Carol Medley*

**WELCOME**

**JOIN IN THE WAITING~ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

Leaders: Come all who have been waiting.

**People: We have been awaiting these 4 weeks.**

Leaders: We await the one who comes to bring us peace, hope, joy, and love in God's promises fulfilled.

**People: We come waiting for the One who is born in a lowly place only to be raised in highest majesty.**

Leaders: Come now; and wait.

**People: We wait, for the coming of Messiah.**

**HYMN #113**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

Gloria

**PASSING the PEACE**

**\*HYMN #119**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Mendelssohn

**CALL TO CONFESSION (One)**

A voice is crying out in the wilderness: Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)**

**Almighty God, you who shaped out of nothing all that is, forgive us for returning empty-handed. You who called forth light, forgive our preference for the dark! You who sent John to be a voice crying, forgive our unwillingness to say anything at all! Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**CHORAL KYRIE RESPONSE**

*Come, Come Emmanuel*

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**DECLARATION OF PARDON (responsively)**

One: As we hear the ancient prophecies of the coming of the Messiah, we long for the day when death will be swallowed up and every tear will be wiped away. As we wait expectantly for Christ's promised return, we live in the assurance of God's gracious forgiveness. Believe the Good News of the Gospel.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN #134**

*Joy to the World (vs 1)*

Antioch

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth received her king;  
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven a nature sing.*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Isaiah 9:2-7

**ANTHEM**

*O Holy Night*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 2:1-20

**SERMON**

*"Endless Peace: A Treasured Thought"*

**HYMN #132**

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

In Dulci Jubilo

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**Invitation to the Table**

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Leader: The Lord be with you

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

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

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

**Sanctus**

**Hymn #552**

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

Land of Rest

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*

**Prayer**

**Words of Institution**

**Prayer**

**Distribution of the Elements**

**Communion**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and Lord's Prayer ("debts")**

**OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS**

**Offertory**

Brendon Phelps, Cello

**\*Doxology (Unison) Hymn #606**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise God, all creatures here below;*

*Praise God above, ye heavenly host;*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*HYMN #122**

*Silent Night, Holy Night!*

Stille Nacht

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Meditation on Silent Night*

## 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](http://www.mlp.org) [www.mlp.org](http://www.mlp.org)

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Araya Musselman, Nursery Worker	

We would like to thank **Brendon Phelps** for being our guest cellist this evening.

# First Presbyterian Church

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



## Christmas Eve Service December 24, 2022

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### ***Angels We Have Heard on High***

1. Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!
2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!
3. Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing; come adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

### ***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!"
2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate deity, please in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. 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!"

### ***Good Christian Friends Rejoice***

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
2. 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!
3. 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!

### ***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.
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! 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
4. 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.



### ***2022 Poinsettias***

Bob and Joan Callecod – In honor of our family.

Sue Clark – In memory of Robert K. Clark and David Hannuh.

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

Nettie Rose & Wally Fraker – In memory of our parents: Don & Virginia Fraker and Peck & Marti Rose and in memory of Nettie's sister, Julie Rose Thomas.

Nancy Hess – In memory of my parents, Jim & Clarabelle Garn.

Joyce Kepke – In memory of Al Kepke.

Betty Long – In memory of Elmer Long.

Dick and Judy Martin – In honor of our grandchildren: Ellie, Nate, Kate & Mason.

Jim Novotny – In memory of Wendy Novotny.

Ellyn Stout – In memory of Mary Louise Wright and Marjorie Stout Horne.