

Christmas Eve

6:00 PM, December 24, 2017

First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro

Greeting

Prelude

Introit of the Candle

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Duane Blough, Soloist

Miles Kirsch, Acolyte

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Miles Kirsch & Amy Kirsch

**The Bidding Prayer*

The Rev. Alex Stevens, Pastor

Loving and Living God, touch our hearts tonight so that we delight in hearing again the message of the angels. Take our hearts and minds to Bethlehem so that we can see more of what has come to pass with the arrival of this babe, lying in a manger.

As we read and hear these Words from you and songs that celebrate the birth of Christ may we fully realize the glorious redemption brought to us by This Holy Child, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

**Bidding Carol, #82*

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

The Children Worship Christ

Jan Brazier

First Lesson: Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7.

Cheri Moore

Musical Presentation

O, Holy Night

Randall Kirsch, Soloist

Second Lesson: The promised Ruler comes from Bethlehem.

Micah 5:2-5a

Cheri Moore

**Second Lesson Carol #121*

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Third Lesson: There was no room at the inn!

Luke 2:1-7

Steve Atchley

Musical Presentation

"Away in a Manger"

Ryan Hamilton, Soloist

Children's Choral Group

Fourth Lesson: The angels announce Christ's birth

Luke 2:8-14

Steve Atchley

**Fourth Lesson Carol #119*

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Fifth Lesson: Mary Ponders the meaning of her baby's birth:

Luke 2:15-19

Tom Tait

Musical Presentation

Mary, Did You Know?

Karen Hamilton, Soloist

Sixth Lesson: The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Matthew 2:1-12

Tom Tait

**Sixth Lesson Carol #151*

We Three Kings of Orient Are

Seventh Lesson: John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation.

John 1:1-14

Chuck Thorp

**Seventh Lesson Carol, #134*

Joy to the World"

**Prayer of Adoration (congregational)*

Glory to You, Almighty God, for You sent Your only-begotten Son, that we might have new life.

Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ, for You became flesh and dwelt among us that we might become Your people.

Glory to You, Holy Spirit, for You direct and rule our lives.

Glory to You, Almighty God, and to Your Son, Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

**Lighting of the Candles*

**Closing Carol*

“Silent 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. (repeat)

**Benediction*

Postlude

In Gratitude:

- To Karen Hamilton for providing musical leadership for this event.
- To the many people who have made this program possible, those named in the bulletin, as well as the many unnamed people behind the scenes.
- To God the Father for the gift of Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son.
- To Jesus Christ for the gift of His life, death and resurrection.
- To the Holy Spirit for the gift of Life in God’s abiding presence.



Let the Light Shine in the Darkness