

# EVENING WORSHIP

December 24, 2024

Half past Five O' Clock

## Christmas Eve

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

TIME OF MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

+WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*Noel Fanfares*

Charles Callahan

INTROIT

"Cradle in Bethlehem"  
Ed Thomas, baritone

Alfred Brian and Larry Stock

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Burbank Family

Reader: We have been waiting for weeks.

**People: We rejoice because the day has arrived!**

Reader: Because God has invited us in,

**People: we have extended invitations to others.**

Reader: Because God set forth the plan for our salvation,

**People: we have extended grace to those around us.**

Reader: Because God has prepared for this moment,

**People: we are prepared to share the good news.**

Reader: Because God welcomed us,

**People: we have sought to welcome God's children.**

Reader: Now we celebrate the birth of Christ!

**People: For there is good news of great joy for all people - Christ is born! Alleluia!**

UNISON PRAYER

**God, creator of all things, we know Jesus was in the beginning with You.**

**We have waited in darkness, but now a light shines, and the darkness will not overcome it.**

**We will testify to this light. A child of many names has been born for us:**

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

**We will not be afraid, but rejoice in Your eternal presence, Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.**

+\*HYMN 133

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELES

### PROCLAIMING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9:2-7, pew Bible p. 624

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 2:1-20, pew Bible p. 933

SERMON

"The Moment of Hope"

Lori Archer Raible

HYMN 158 (seated)

"Born in the Night, Mary's Child"

MARY'S CHILD

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL TO OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Jesus! What a Wonderful Child"

arr. Rollo Dilworth

# THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

HYMN 145 (seated)

"What Child Is This"

GREENSLEEVES

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*(The sacrament will be shared by the method of intinction. As directed by the ushers, proceed down the center aisle, take a piece of bread, then a cup. After communing, return to your pew by the side aisle. If preferred, please raise your hand and the Elders will serve the elements in your pew. All bread is gluten free.)*

COMMUNION ANTHEM

"This Christmastide (Jessye's Carol)"

## SPREADING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Isaiah 9:2, 6

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**People: A light shone upon those who lived in a land of deep darkness.**

Leader: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us:

**People: Authority rests upon His shoulders and He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Leader: When the time was ripe, God appeared in the mainstream of humankind. He came, not with the lightning bolt nor with the clamor of kingship, nor in the midst of much applause.

**People: He came, still and small, into the poverty of the world, perceived only in the hearts of believers.**

Leader: We are those who celebrate His coming in time.

**People: We are the shepherds who adore Him in awe. We are the travelers from afar who bear gifts to Him. We celebrate the mystery which we know in our hearts.**

**All: Gather and empower us, O God, as a community of peace and anticipation. Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

HYMN 122 (seated)

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

STILLE NACHT

\*HYMN 134

"Joy to the World"

ANTIOCH

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*Joy to the World*

arr. Anna Laura Page

\*Those who are able please stand.

+Ushers may seat late worshipers

## SELWYN AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WARMLY WELCOMES ALL WHO VISIT

Selwyn Avenue is glad you are with us this morning. We welcome all visitors, celebrating God's creativity in human diversity. We'd like to stay in touch with you! Please take a moment to fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate. Please ask an usher if you need help locating the nursery, restrooms, changing tables, or large print hymnals.

Membership is by one of three paths: 1) profession of faith in Jesus Christ (for those who have never been part of a Christian church); 2) re-affirmation of faith (for those who formerly were part of a congregation but have not been involved in recent times - for example, you were baptized and/or confirmed but moved and never engaged with a new congregation); or 3) transfer of membership from another congregation (your membership is with another church). New members and prospective members are invited to participate in Orientation Classes, which are scheduled several times a year, and are a wonderful way to meet others and learn about our church and all the opportunities here. We always stand ready to be in communication with you about your particular situation. The contact information for all staff members is in the bulletin each week.

**WORSHIP BAGS FOR 4 YRS. - 5TH GRADE** Age-appropriate activities for readers and non-readers to encourage their participation in following along in worship are available in the narthex. Please return the bag to the basket after worship.

<b>SAPC STAFF INFORMATION</b>		
<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>E-mail address</b>
Pastor	Lori Archer Raible	lorir@selwynpres.org
Associate Pastor for CEF/Congregational Life	Margo Fraga	margor@selwynpres.org
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Parish Associate	Lisa McLennan	lisamclennan5@gmail.com
Director of Children's and Family Ministries	Nancy Nutter	nancyn@selwynpres.org
Director of Music	Fred Spano	fps7363@gmail.com
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Director of Child Development Center	Beth Sharpe	bsharpe@selwynprescdc.com
Resident Pastor at QHPC	Allyson Anderson	allyson.qhpc@gmail.com
<b>SAPC SESSION</b>		
<b>Class of 2025</b>	<b>Class of 2026</b>	<b>Class of 2027</b>
Grant Armistead, Jodie Bolewitz, Libby Guinan, Christy Horne, Hannah King, Susan Lemmon, Tracie Northan, Ed Thomas, Bobby Yurkutat; Youth Elder-Maisie Macholz	Lori Burbank, Tate Hackman, Todd Muldrew, Adam Piacentino, Denise Pineno, Evan Sauda, Elizabeth Stearns, Caroline Thompson, Tina Weinberg	Michelle Bentley, Lee Bobbitt, Jeremy Caskey, Mike DeAmicis, Zach Houston, Catherine Miller, Sally Moore, Becky Muth, Karey Tom