

THE ORDER OF EVENING WORSHIP

December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve—Service of Lights

7:00 p.m.

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S LIGHT

WELCOME

PRELUDE

INTROIT

Masters in This Hall

arr. N. Rawsthorne/J.H. Wolf

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

arr. Georgiann Toole

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(Adapted from John 1:5-13)

Leader: The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it;

People: The true Light, which enlightens everyone, is coming into the world.

Leader: He is in the world, and the world came into being through Him;

People: Yet, the world does not know Him.

Leader: He comes to His own;

People: Yet, His own people do not accept Him.

Leader: But, all who receive Him, He gives power to become children of God.

People: Children, born not of blood, or of the flesh, or of humanity; but born of God.

*CAROL #41

O Come, All Ye Faithful
verses 1 and 2

ADESTE FIDELES

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE CREED OF CHRISTMASTIDE

We believe in Jesus Christ, and in the beauty of the Gospel which began in Bethlehem. We believe in Him Whose cradle was a manger. We believe in Him Who, finding no room in the inn, finds a home in our lives. We believe in Him Whose Spirit, having glorified a little town, now glorifies the world. We believe in Him Who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible. We believe in Him Who, by His love, lifted human weakness up to meet the strength of God. We believe that, by Christ’s love alone, humanity and God, death and life, earth and heaven might be reconciled. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Amen.

HYMN #5

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
verses 1 and 2

PICARDY

OFFERTORY

He is Born, the Divine Christ Child

Lèon Roques

DOXOLOGY #592

THE LIGHT OF HOPE

THE MARKAN LECTION

MARK 13:32-37

ANTHEM

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Trio: Isaac Brooks, Cameron Carpenter, Jordan Durham

arr. Isaac Brooks

THE CANDLE OF HOPE

THE LIGHT OF PEACE

THE JOHANNINE LECTION

JOHN 1:1, 14-18

ANTHEM

Angels' Carol

John Rutter

THE CANDLE OF PEACE

THE LIGHT OF JOY

THE LUKAN LECTION

LUKE 1:30-35

CAROL #44

O Little Town Of Bethlehem
verses 1, 2, 4

ST. LOUIS

CAROL #23

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

THE CANDLE OF JOY

THE LIGHT OF LOVE

THE MATTHEAN LECTION

MATTHEW 1:18-21

ANTHEM

Away in a Manger
Madelyne Brooks and Beth Underwood, soloists

Mark Schweizer

THE CANDLE OF LOVE

WE RECEIVE GOD'S LIGHT

HOMILY

Rev. Curtis Christian

SOLO

O Holy Night
Cameron Carpenter, tenor

Adolphe Adam

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LIGHT

*THE SHARING OF OUR SAVIOR'S LIGHT	(While Candles are Being Lit)
*CAROL (Insert)	<i>Silent Night</i> STILLE NACHT
*CAROL (Insert)	<i>Joy to the World</i> ANTIOCH
*BENEDICTION	
POSTLUDE	<i>Go, Tell It on the Mountain/Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i> Traditional

*Congregation Stands

This evening marks the start of a new season in the Christian calendar. The Church customarily celebrates the nativity of our Lord and Savior on the evening before Christmas Day. This evening is traditionally recognized as Christmas Eve. The liturgical color for this occasion is white. White represents the holiest of days in the life of the Church because it signifies the glory of our Lord and King, Jesus Christ. It is indeed proper and fitting for us to mark this evening with the holy color of white. Thanks be to God for the nativity of His Son and for the redemption of our souls.

*Tonight's Lay Readers ~ Denise and Caroline Crump, Arleita and Rob Dirne,
Tom Long, Sue Reeves*

*Thank you ~ Chancel Choir, Soloists, Joyce Hall Wolf, Thomas Cravens,
Ilana Thacker (violin), and Brenda Burney (flute).*

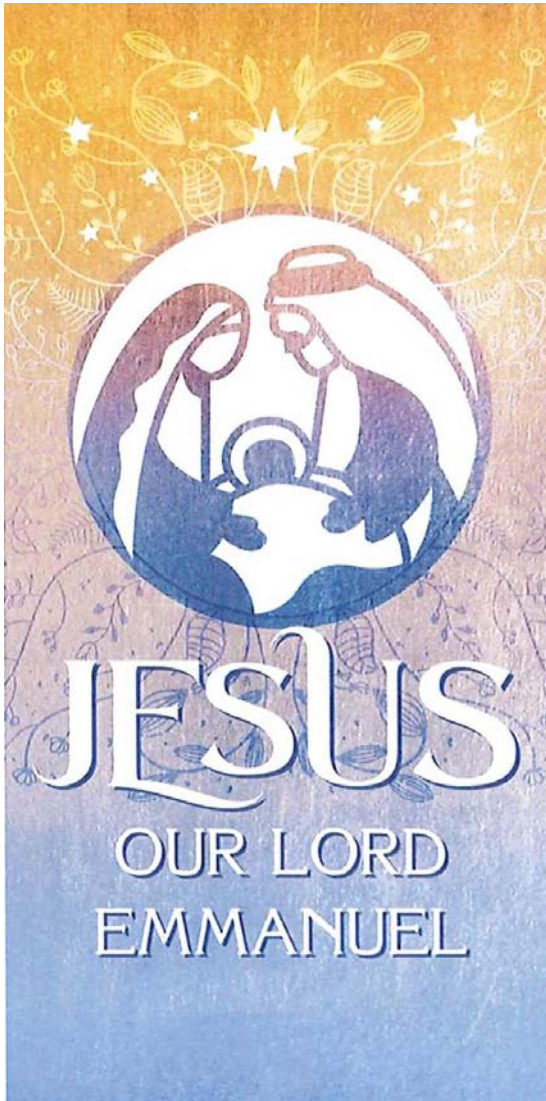
*Thank you to all who helped plan and serve the Marshall/Moretz Dinner this evening.
We're grateful for your caring service to your church and community.*

*A special thanks to everyone who "adopted" names from our Giving Tree.
Thanks for making the season merry and bright for someone else this year!*

*This evening's offering will be received to support First Presbyterian Church's
ongoing ministry to the needy of Madison County. This "Love Fund" is used to help
families and individuals with financial support. Please give generously.*



*Joy to the
World!*



We exist . . .

not for ourselves,

but to love Jesus Christ,

*and to make Christ's
love known.*

“WELCOME!”

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

330 WEST MAIN STREET

RICHMOND, KENTUCKY

Established 1827