



* **Tonight** we celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. All are welcome at the table. The bread is gluten free.



* **Christmas Day worship on Sunday, December 25 at 10:00 am** will be casual dress, come-as-you-are. We will sing Christmas carols, hear the Christmas story from God's Word, and celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

* **The church office** will be closed Monday, December 26, 2021 – Monday, January 2.

* **Wayne Casteen, Church Treasurer**, will make the final 2022 deposit on Friday, December 30. If you would like for your final contributions to be credited to 2022 for tax purposes, please submit them before December 30. Thank you for your faithful generosity!

* **We will celebrate** the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during worship on Sunday, January 1. All are welcome at the table.



JOY
NOEL
ANGEL
JESUS
PEACE HOPE
WISEMEN
CHRISTMAS
BELIEVE FAITH
PRINCE OF PEACE
THANK YOU



*"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all."
Titus 2:11*



*"Once in our world a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world."
C.S. Lewis (1898-1963), British writer and Anglican lay theologian*

WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

December 24, 2022

7:00 O'clock P.M.

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

"To the World, Joy!" *arranged by Joel Raney*
Attie Carlton Handbell Choir

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare Him room.*

Children's Sermon

Lighting the Christ Candle

Christmas Call to Worship

Elder Curt Simpson

All: In the beginning was the Word. And the Word came and dwelt among us. And the Word was the light of all peoples.

Leader: We light our candles, knowing that the One who is the source and promise of all light is the One whose birth we celebrate.

All: We are here to seek a little light by which we can see, by which we can live, by which we can love.

Leader: We light our candles in gratitude for the love and light that shine through the babe born in Bethlehem who became the Redeemer of us all.

All: We join the chorus of those whose carols have echoed through the years: "O come to us, abide in us, our Lord, Emmanuel."

Leader: Glory to God in the highest

All: and peace to God's people on earth. Alleluia!

*Hymn #133

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELES

*Unison Prayer of Confession

When we allow darkness to overcome the light, forgive us, Lord. When we reduce Christmas to plastic and tinsel, have mercy on us, Father. When hardness of heart keeps us from seeing and hearing and touching the needs of others, let your grace consume us, O God. When the wars around us are of no concern, forgive us, Lord, and move us to compassion for those who suffer. When our caring is not extended to action, move us to seek justice for our brothers and sisters. We come to confess our sinfulness before you and before each other. Remove all barriers that divide us, and let there be no obstacle to our love for you and for one another. Amen.

"She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."
Matthew 1:21



*Responsive Assurance of Pardon
Leader: People of God, through the coming of Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate, the Lord has comforted and redeemed us! Recall the words of the angels: Good news...Great joy...All people...
All: In Christ we receive the salvation of our God. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Glory to God in the highest!

*Gloria Patri
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination
God of light, you have revealed your very self to us in your Son Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lived among us, full of grace and truth. Open your Word to us once again, that in the words of your holy scripture we might know your presence and follow in your light always. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7 Elder Curt Simpson

Special Music "Silent Night" arranged by Molly Ijames

Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:1-20

Sermon "What Christmas is All About" Dr. Philip K. Gladden

Special Music "O Holy Night" Adolphe Adam
Marisol Snell, soprano



"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children."
Galatians 4:4-5

"Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love Divine; Love was born at Christmas; Star and angels gave the sign."
Christina Rossetti (1830 - 1894), British writer

"Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king."
Hymn #134, "Joy to the World," in Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*The Affirmation of Faith "The Heidelberg Catechism" (1563)
Q29 Why is the Son of God called "Jesus," meaning "savior"?
A29 Because he saves us from our sins, and because salvation should not be sought and cannot be found in anyone else.

Q31 Why is he called "Christ," meaning "anointed"?
A31 Because he has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our chief prophet and teacher who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our deliverance; our only high priest who has delivered us by the one sacrifice of his body, and who continually pleads our cause with the Father; and our eternal king who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who guards us and keeps us in the freedom he has won for us.

*Hymn of Preparation #137 "He Came Down" HE CAME DOWN

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
The Invitation to the Table
The Words of Institution
The Great Thanksgiving with the Lord's Prayer

Communion Music "Away in a Manger" arranged by Lani Smith
"The First Noel"

The Eating of the Bread and the Drinking of the Cup
A Christmas Prayer

Lighting the Candles

*Hymn #122 "Silent Night, Holy Night!" STILLE NACHT

*Benediction

*Postlude

*All who are able may stand. +Page number in Pew Bible



"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"
2 Corinthians 9:15

