

**December 24, 2023**  
**Christmas Eve**  
**7:00 PM Service of Lessons and Carols**

PRELUDE

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE      Goff and Muentener Family

RESPONSE      *Light One Candle*  
*Light one candle for Christ,*  
*One bright candle for Christ,*  
*He brings love to ev'ry heart,*  
*He comes, He comes!      (Repeat)*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: There is good news of great joy for all!

**People: Our Savior is born: the Messiah, the Lord.**

Leader: Glory to God in the highest,

**People: And peace to all people on earth.**

\*HYMN #133 (Verses 1-3)      *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

FIRST LESSON      Luke 1:26-38      p. 1012-1013

HYMN #119      *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

SECOND LESSON      Luke 2:1-7      p. 1014

ANTHEM      *Joseph Came Walking to Bethlehem*

THIRD LESSON      Luke 2:8-14      p. 1014

HYMN #113      *Angels We Have Heard on High*

FOURTH LESSON      Luke 2:15-20      p. 1014-1015

ANTHEM      *Where Is He?*

FIFTH LESSON      Matthew 2:1-11      p. 956

ANTHEM      *The March of the Kings*

SIXTH LESSON      John 1:1-5      p. 1049

HYMN #110      *Love Has Come*

CHILDREN'S TIME

"Happy Birthday to Jesus"

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

Pastor Stephen Choi

OFFERING AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*Mary, Did You Know?*

\*DOXOLOGY      *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*  
*Praise Him all creatures here below;*  
*Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;*  
*Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN #121 (Verses 1 & 4)      *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

COMMUNION PRAYER

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Empower us by your Holy Spirit to be Christ's presence in the world and to shine his light. Give us courage to speak his truth, to seek his justice, and to love with his love. Amen.**

SERVICE OF CANDLE LIGHTING

*(All of our candles will be lit from the Christ candle in the Advent wreath. The ushers will light the candle of the first worshiper in the pew, who will then pass it on. Please hold the lighted candle upright, tipping only the unlighted one.)*

\*HYMN

*Silent Night, Holy 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.**

**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!"**

**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.**

\*CHRISTMAS PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as  
we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but  
deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*HYMN #134

*Joy to the World*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

\*Please stand if able

### **Stewartsville Presbyterian Church**

**The Ministers: All the Members**

The Rev. Stephen Park Choi, Pastor

The Rev. Jack E. Roan, Pastor Emeritus

Brian Ballentine, Music Director

Denise DeMasi, Choir Director

Laura Choi, Christian Education Director

Renée Herb, Office Manager

Mary Lou Gary, Treasurer

Sarah Sampson, Treasurer-Elect

This evening, we will be sharing in the reading of familiar Scripture lessons, the singing of Christmas carols and anthems, and partaking in Holy Communion and candle lighting.

Our hope is that like the Christmas story itself, each time we read it and sing it, each time we hear it, each time we tell it ... we will do so with new eyes, new ears, new hearts and voices, ready to receive and to share the message of Jesus Christ now and forever. Amen.



**Special Music.** In addition to our choir, thank you to everyone who offered their gifts and talents this evening in the form of song: Giavanna Cantagallo-Rohm, Giulianna Cantagallo-Rohm, Denise DeMasi, and Bruce Wolfinger.

**Poinsettias.** The Poinsettias in the sanctuary have once again been purchased from the Hunterdon Developmental Center in Clinton. As part of its mission to provide its residents, who are disabled, the opportunity to live full and satisfying lives, the center has a greenhouse program where residents grow the beautiful plants you see here tonight.

**Pajama Sunday.** On Sunday, Dec. 31, please feel free to wear pajamas or casual clothing to our 10:30 a.m. worship service. We will also have a hymn sing during the service.

**No Sunday School.** There will be no Sunday School on Dec. 31. Sunday School, for ages 3 to adult, will resume on Sunday, Jan. 7, 2024 at 9:20 a.m.

**2024 Offering Envelopes.** The 2024 Offering Envelopes are in the back of the sanctuary. If you would like envelopes but do not see your name, please notify the church office, and we will be happy to give you a box.

**Worship Schedule.** Please join us each Sunday morning for worship at 10:30 a.m. We celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month.

This evening, we will be sharing in the reading of familiar Scripture lessons, the singing of Christmas carols and anthems, and partaking in Holy Communion and candle lighting.

Our hope is that like the Christmas story itself, each time we read it and sing it, each time we hear it, each time we tell it ... we will do so with new eyes, new ears, new hearts and voices, ready to receive and to share the message of Jesus Christ now and forever. Amen.



**Special Music.** In addition to our choir, thank you to everyone who offered their gifts and talents this evening in the form of song: Giavanna Cantagallo-Rohm, Giulianna Cantagallo-Rohm, Denise DeMasi, and Bruce Wolfinger.

**Poinsettias.** The Poinsettias in the sanctuary have once again been purchased from the Hunterdon Developmental Center in Clinton. As part of its mission to provide its residents, who are disabled, the opportunity to live full and satisfying lives, the center has a greenhouse program where residents grow the beautiful plants you see here tonight.

**Pajama Sunday.** On Sunday, Dec. 31, please feel free to wear pajamas or casual clothing to our 10:30 a.m. worship service. We will also have a hymn sing during the service.

**No Sunday School.** There will be no Sunday School on Dec. 31. Sunday School, for ages 3 to adult, will resume on Sunday, Jan. 7, 2024 at 9:20 a.m.

**2024 Offering Envelopes.** The 2024 Offering Envelopes are in the back of the sanctuary. If you would like envelopes but do not see your name, please notify the church office, and we will be happy to give you a box.

**Worship Schedule.** Please join us each Sunday morning for worship at 10:30 a.m. We celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month.