

Christmas Eve Worship Service



December 24, 2023 / 5:30 p.m. Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church

GATHERING ...

Ringing of the Bell and Lighting of the Candles

Acolytes: Elle and Helena Akers

Prelude Welcome Home: It's Christmas! arr. J. SCOTT

Call to Worship Toby Fletcher

Leader: Tonight, old dreams die and new dreams come to life. The

Promise is fulfilled!

People: Glory to God in the highest!

Leader: Tonight, our hope gives ways to joy and our prayer becomes

proclamation.

People: On earth, peace, goodwill to all!

ALL: COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL. LET US JOIN THE

ANGELS' SONG!

*Hymn 133 O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELIS

Christmas Eve Prayer (unison)

Sarah Volk

O Holy God, we hear the story of shepherds and magi, of maiden and carpenter, of prophets and angels and tonight we, too, come to Bethlehem for a blessing. You are born in our hearts because you have chosen our human bodies for your birth. We are filled with Hope. We are filled with Peace. We are filled with Joy. And we are filled with Love, because all that is meek and lowly and humble in us and in creation becomes holy this night. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, goodwill to all. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

HEARING ...

The Light from Mark's House

Reading the Word: Mark 1:9-11 Speaking of this Home Lighting of the First Candle

The Light from Matthew's House

Reading the Word: Matthew 1:22-23 Speaking of this Home Lighting of the Second Candle

Trio There's Still My Joy

Annie Weible, Katie Weible, James Bates

The Light from Luke's House

Reading the Word: Luke 2:6-7 Speaking of this Home Lighting of the Third Candle

The Light from John's House

Reading the Word: John 1:14

Speaking of this Home

Lighting of the Fourth Candle

*Hymn 136 Go, Tell it On the Mountain

GOT TELL IT

arr. R. EMERSON

OFFERING HOPE ...

Invitation for Offering

Jackie Meade

Offertory What Child is This?

James Bates, Trumpet

arr. C DAVIS

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Holy God, it is the joy we find in the birth of the Christ child that allows us to welcome others into our homes. May this offering be a means to share that welcome and our good news with others as it is used by this church to meet the needs of our community. We dedicate this offering in the name of Jesus Christ, Immanuel. Amen.

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation and Words of Institution

Music: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel VENI EMMANUEL

Celebration by Intinction

Elders: Madison and Regina Bates, Annie and Joel Weible

The Light of Christ

Reading the Word: John 1:1-5 Speaking of Our Home Lighting of the Christ Candle

SPREADING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

As our Closing Hymn begins, the Ushers will come up the aisle lighting candles. Please turn to the person next to you, keep your lit candle straight, and allow them to light their candle until everyone's light shines!

*Hymn 122

Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT

SENDING ...

*Charge and Benediction

Extinguishing the Candles

Ringing of the Bell

Postlude

Let Earth Receive Her King!

arr. R. ELLIOTT

Ushers for this Service: Colton Meade and Ryan Volk

LESSONS AND CAROLS CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

TONIGHT AT 11:00 PM

Bulletin cover artwork by: **Kevin Burns**

taken from Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes, By Cynthia M. Campbell

Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve Service 2023





Mark's Christmas House

Matthew's Christmas House





Luke's Christmas House

John's Christmas House

The Home of God is Among Us Rev. 21:3

The Angels and the Shepherds remind us that we belong together – the Divine and the Human. In the birth of Jesus we are shown exactly what a "Welcome Home" can look like.

> Welcome home, Everyone! May your Christmas Day be every day.

^{*} Please stand in body or spirit