



Christmas Eve Service

Newberg First Presbyterian Church
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**Newberg First Presbyterian Church
Christmas Eve Service**

December 24, 2023

7:00 p.m.

PRELUDE “Away in a Manger/The First Noel/Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We warmly welcome you to worship today! We are a Christ centered Church of Grace, Hope, and Love committed to mission in Newberg and throughout the world. May we all be refreshed as we worship the Living God.

A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Kat McNeal

With quietness, O God,
our hearts stand near the simple stall where the Child is to be born.
For a moment,
the noise of the world is still and the joy of heaven is easily heard.
Be with our worship tonight as the Great Mystery of the birth unfolds.
Let us sense again the reality of the great promise.

“O Holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us ...today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.” Amen

*Hymn No. 145 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

THE INVITATION TO WORSHIP GOD

Emma McNeal

L: In this silent night,

C: **We ponder your mystery with Mary and Joseph**

L: On this holy night,

C: **We come with the shepherds to worship.**

L: On this night of joy for the world,

C: **We sing praises with choirs of angels.**

L: In the darkness of this night,

ALL: **We celebrate the Light of the World.**

I. The Promise of One to Come

WE COMPLETE THE CIRCLE OF LIGHT

Jeff McNeal

The Old Testament Prophecy of Immanuel
The Prophet Isaiah, Chapter 7, verse 14

The Old Testament Prophecy of Anticipation
The Prophet Isaiah, Chapter 11, verses 1-3

The Old Testament Prophecy of Fulfillment
The Prophet Isaiah, Chapter 9, verses 2, 6-7

WE LIGHT THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Thurston family

*Hymn No. 134 "Emmanuel"

THE NEW TESTAMENT BIRTH NARRATIVE

Ella McNeal

Luke 1: 26-38

*Hymn No. 141 (vs. 1, 2) "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

II. The Fulfillment: Emmanuel - God with us

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Luke 2: 8-14

Liam McNeal

***Hymn No. 132 (vs. 1, 2, 3)** “Angels We Have Heard On High”

THE STORY OF THE FULFILLMENT FROM THE EVANGELIST

Luke 2: 15-21

Reverend Chris Murphy

***Hymn No. 137 (vs. 1, 3)** “What Child Is This?”

MEDITATION: Prayer for Peace and Love

Reverend Chris Murphy

Musical Offering “O Holy Night”

David & Esther Chris

A POEM

Karen Murphy

“Blessed Are You Who Bear the Light”
by Jan Richardson

Blessed are you who bear the light
in unbearable times,
who testify to its endurance,
amid the unendurable,
who bear witness to its persistence
when everything seems in shadow and grief.

Blessed are you in whom the light lives,
in whom the brightness blazes-
your heart a chapel
an altar where in the deepest night
can be seen the fire that
shines forth in you in unaccountable faith
in stubborn hope
in love that illumines every broken thing it finds.

III. We Extend the Light of Christ into our World

You received a candle as you entered. Prior to singing "Silent Night" we will turn on our candles together.

During the third verse of Silent Night, we hold our candles high so that our light may be seen from afar. We fulfill the meaning of our worship as we carry Christ's light into the world.

***Hymn No. 147 "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.**

**Silent Night! Holy Night!
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly
hosts sing "Alleluia"
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.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***Hymn No. 125 "Joy to the World!"**

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"



Joy to the World!