



Christmas Eve and Holy Communion Service

December 24, 2022

deNay Kirkpatrick, PC USA - CRE

Christmas Eve Service

*Please stand, as you are able

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome to Worship Jennifer Smith

PreludeVariations on "Christmas Eve"Peter KnudsenNorwegian Carolarr. James Denton

*Call to Worship Jennifer Smith

One: If you are like Joseph, and you are seeking truth,

All: There is room here for you.

One: If you are like Mary, and you are seeking rest,

All: There is a seat here for you.

One: If you are like the wise men, and you are looking for a sign,

All: These candles are here for you.

One: If you are like the angels, and you cannot help but sing,

All: There is a melody here for you.

One: Come in. You are in God's house. Love was born tonight, and there is love here for you.

All: Let us worship the God of Love.

*Carol 128 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly W ZLOBIE LEZY

* Invocation deNay Kirkpatrick

I Will Light Candles This Christmas

by Howard Thurman

I will light candles this Christmas,
Candles of joy despite all the sadness,
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,
Candles of courage for fears ever present,
Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love to inspire all my living,
Candles that will burn all year long. Amen.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Linda Inzer and Nancy Trull

A Moment with the Children deNay Kirkpatrick

CONFESSING TO GOD

Call to Confession deNay Kirkpatrick

Prayer of Confession

God of kings and shepherds,

God of teenage mothers and step-parents,

God of angel choruses and starlight-

We confess to waiting.

We have waited to extend grace.

We have waited to say, "I love you."

We have waited to apologize.

We have waited to be just,

Choosing comfort and convenience over the needs of our neighbors.

We have waited—

Waited for someone else to make a move,

Waited for a sign,

Waited until it was our issue.

You ask us to be the body of Christ, but in many ways, we have waited.

Forgive us.

Change us.

Remind us of your love for this world, which can't wait.

In your name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

* 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 of Illumination Jennifer Smith

First Scripture Reading Isaiah 9: 2-7

Solo Sleep, Holy Child John W. Peterson

Julie Helmers, soloist

Sleep, holy Child for thou art safe in heaven's keeping, angels hover near and they are here to guard thy sleeping. Shadows of the night will in the morning light be gone, sleep, holy Child, so meek and mild, sleep on.

At thy crib we find faith and hope have shined, beaming, their light is beaming, gleaming to all man-kind. Sleep holy Child, tonight with thee our hopes all rest, matchless is thy worth, for in thy birth, the earth is blest. Sleep, holy Child, thy coming brings a brighter dawn, Lord of life and love, from heav'n above our fears are gone. O holy Child, so meek and mild sleep on.

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-14

Shepherds and Angels deNay Kirkpatrick Sermon

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

* Affirmation of Faith

We believe in one God.

the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven.

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary

and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Worship of God with Tithes and Offerings

Offering Designated for the Presbyterian Home for Children

Offertory Still, Still, Still Austrian Carol

Still, still, still...'tis the eve of our Savior's birth.

* The 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 deNay Kirkpatrick

Christmas Communion

Invitation

Words of Institution

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Sharing of the Sacraments (Intinction)

Prayer after Communion

Sending Out of God's People

* Carol 122	Silent Night	STLLE NACHT
* Charge and Blessing		deNay Kirkpatrick

* Postlude Gesu Bambino Pietro Yon

The poinsettias in the sanctuary were donated by...

Brenda Betts, in memory of Michael Betts, Paul Betts, Erwin Betts, Esther (Jose's mother)

Cindy Brackenbury, in memory of Ed Swartz, Sr., Diane Mack

Jean & Jerry Camp, in memory of Jody, Cora H. Bryant

Haley Crew, in memory of Ima Jean Spaulding, Dean Griffies

Joan Creighton, in memory of loved ones

Margaret & George Fritsma, in memory of John David Giddens, Roger Lee Fritsma

Jan Greenberg, in memory of Merna & Lloyd Raine

Traci Goodwin, in memory of Dorothy Manning & in honor of Mary Hammett

Julie & Eric Helmers, in memory of Mary Durbin, Hank & Alice Helmers

Rosemary Holcomb, in memory of John Holcomb & in honor of Eleanor Garner

Liz Hughins, in memory of Ardis & Mary McCants, Barney & Mary Jo Hughins

Margaret Linville, in memory of Lanelle Lester

Serena Jenkins, in memory of Herman Jenkins, Dennis Reid

Christy & Randy Little, in memory of Vicky Foote, Pat & Jerry Owens

Steve Mannich, in memory of Ann & Joe Mannich

Lynda McLean, in memory of Daisy Ford

Carol Megginson, in memory of Jenkins Hill

Karen O'Brien, in memory of Mike O'Brien, Cheryl Petrey

David Perry, in memory of Doris Perry, Bill Perry

Janet & Chip Prevatt, in honor of our children & grandchildren

Scholl Family, in memory of Martha Tanner, Janice Scholl, Margie & Jerry Bennett

Virginia Yarbrough, in memory of John David Giddens

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