



Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.” Luke 2:14 – NIV

# Christmas Eve Celebration

December 24, 2012

6:30 pm

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us full of grace and truth...*

- John 1:14



PRELUDE

Gail Rollings

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*[The congregation is invited to join the choir in the second time this chorus is sung.]*

Words and Music by  
JOEL RANEY

Congregation:

There is won - der in the hope of the birth of a  
King, there is won - der in the sound of the an - gels as they  
sing. O - come, O come, Em - man - u -  
el, and join us here.

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\*Those who are able, please stand

Congregation reads **BOLD** face type

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, thou long expected Jesus.

**All: We, along with those of every age, and along with all those who join us in worship this evening,**

One: Around the world, expect you, O Christ to be present with us. For you have come in your birth in Bethlehem and you are present.

**All: Wherever your church comes together, renew our awareness of your coming, then and now. Amen**

\* HYMN "O HOLY NIGHT" Pg. 187

\* A PRAYER OF PRAISE & ADORATION (In unison)

**We will indeed praise you, O God, and cause your works to be known. Your mercy and grace shall endure forever. As we obey your commandments and abide by your wisdom, we shall proclaim to the nations how you can be trusted. Upheld by the covenant you established, our feet firmly place on an unshakeable foundation, we enter your presence and give you all the glory!**

\*PASSING THE PEACE

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 9:2-7 Pg. 555

CHORAL ANTHEM

NEW TESTAMENT READING Luke 2:1-20 Pg.832-833

\*HYMN "Away In A Manger" Pg. 203

\*WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH (From the Gospel of John, Chapter 1)

**I believe that Jesus is the Word of God, that he was with God at the beginning of Creation and, in fact, was God.**

**I believe that Jesus is the Light of God *that came into a darkened world* so that, through his light, all people might experience the gift of new life.**

**I believe that Jesus is Emmanuel, God who lived with us, as one of us, and that, as we trust our lives to him, we become children of God.**

**In him, we discover divine grace for a fresh start; we find the truth that sets us free from all that holds us back.**

**Until the first Christmas, no one had ever seen God, but, in Jesus, we now know who God is and how much we are loved. Amen.**

## CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (BY INTINCTION)

### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

#### GIVING THANKS TO GOD

Minister: Gracious God, our Creator, we give you thanks....

**All: For the wonder and goodness of Creation, for so bountifully providing for our needs, for staying with us though we turn away from you, and, in your abounding mercy, for seeking to restore us in our brokenness to your wonderful image.**

Minister: Loving Jesus, our Redeemer, we give you thanks...

**All: For your servant's life of preaching, teaching and healing and for your atoning sacrifice on the Cross which has both restored our relationship with our Creator and broken the power of sin to control our lives.**

Minister: Holy Spirit, who sustains us moment by moment, we give you thanks...

**All: For your transforming presence which creates unity from our diversity and makes us one with the living God, we worship in Jesus Christ. Prepare us to be faithful disciples, modeling Jesus' love, humility, obedience, and concern for justice for a world in need.**

Minister: O Lord, as the Body of Christ, bearers of Good News and God's ambassadors of reconciliation, we now lift up to you the thanksgivings and concerns we've shared today and these personal requests for your merciful and powerful intervention [each prays in silence]...and now we pray the prayer which Jesus taught, saying: *Our Father ...*

### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE *The Bread of Life...The Cup of Salvation*

*(We will serve the communion bread and juice tonight at the front of the sanctuary. Please come forward one row at a time. If you are not able to come forward, you will be served where you are sitting. Take a piece of bread from the common loaf and dip it into the cup of juice. Please return to your seat via the outer aisles.)*

### PRAYER OF SENDING

### INVITATION & LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

HYMN OF PRAISE & DEPARTURE "SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT"

PG. 186

# Christmas Poinsettias 2012



The beautiful live poinsettia plants decorating our Sanctuary are given to the glory of God by the following :

**Dennis & Peggy Allen** - In memory of Dennis' mother, father, and brother, Marie & James Allen and Dean Allen.

**Blake & Marguerite Bishop** - In honor of my mother, Gladys Wiseman.

**Rev. Beverly S. Bullock** - To honor all those who have gone before us.

**Grace & Helen Cibula** - In honor of the PNC for its dedicated hard work; and In honor of our youth and their great leaders.

**Sandy & Jim Correll** - In honor of our families; and In memory of Milt Morgan, Jr., Sandy's father, beloved husband of Lois and beloved grandfather.

**Aida Faries** - In memory of Warren Faries; and In memory of Bessie Faries.

**Sheila Fields** - In memory of Aunt Ruby.

**Kevin, Tara, Kevin II & Madison Foster** - In honor of Evelyn Foster, Jean Waymack, Frank & Sarah Solesbee, and Grace & Helen Cibula; and In memory of Garland Foster and Irvin Waymack.

**Jerry & Ruby Hasky** - In memory of Brandon Hasky.

**The Hunter Family** - In memory of Henry & Pearle Livesay; In memory of Robert & Wilma Hunter; and In memory of Cliff & Edith Mayerhoefer.

**Larry & Linda Johnson** - In honor of our grandchildren, Corinne, Jack, Owen and Natalie; and In memory of our parents, Clarence & Ima Johnson and Homer & Mae Elkins.

**Evelyn Lichvar** - In memory of my mother, Agnes Bauer.

**Shirley MacNeill** - In memory of James MacNeill and Trudy McClenny.

**Glenda & Les Mayhew** - In memory of Gladys Vtipl and Dick & Joan Mann.

**Virginia Maloney** - In memory of Elizabeth and Linda Blasco.

**The Mauger Family, Matt, Jessica, Avery & Jase** - In honor of Mary Jane Mauger, Matt's grandmother; and In memory of Jessica's grandparents, Lula Belle & Maurice Zachman and Minnie & William Bailey, and Matt's grandparents, Bob Mauger and Nettie & John Cumpston.

**Jennifer Meurer** - In memory of Robert & Mary Harper; and In Memory of Richard Wille.

**Dianne Overstreet** - In memory of my parents, Olivia & Francis Epps.

**Rose Scott & Wayne Powers** - In memory of Peg Ward & Roland Wiseman & Jimmy Wiseman.

**Ron & Judy Recher** - In honor of our parents, Bill & Alcie Recher and Carl & Alice Aufdermarsh.

**Howard & Cory Scott** - In memory of Cliff Scott.

**Marquita Simpson** - In memory of Jerry Simpson; and In memory of Ruth & John McKillop.

**Janet Swinton** - In memory of Raymond Swinton.

**Gladys Wiseman** - In memory of Roland Wiseman & Jimmy Wiseman.



*Please take your Poinsettias home after the Christmas Eve service.*



**W**e are glad you are in worship with us on this special night and wish you God's joy and peace this holy season!

Church Phone: 804-732-1081 Website: [www.gregorymemorial.org](http://www.gregorymemorial.org)  
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Clerk of Session: David Johnson

Treasurer: Kevin Foster, [kevin.foster@bsvnet.com](mailto:kevin.foster@bsvnet.com), phone 804-732-1096

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*May you, your family, and friends  
have a Blessed Christmas!*