

Christmas

CELEBRATION

Christmas Eve Worship Service
6:30 p.m.

GREGORY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

**Christmas Eve, December 24, 2021
6:30 p.m.**

*On behalf of our worshipping community,
welcome to this Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.
We pray that this night will provide a welcome respite,
as well as a chance to receive a new Christ's peace. Welcome!*

Please remember to pick up the poinsettias you ordered after the service.

GATHERING

Prophecy: Jeremiah 33: 14-16 p. 645
Hymn #88, V. 1 & 2 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES (Responsive)

One: The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

All: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

(The First Advent Candle is lit)

One: He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him and without him not one thing came into being.

All: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

(The Second Advent Candle is lit)

One: What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

All: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

(The Third Advent Candle is lit)

One: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

All: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

(The Fourth Advent Candle is lit)

One: And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

All: The Light still shines! Glory! Glory! The Light of the Ages shines on! Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

(The Christ Candle is lit as we continue to sing...)

Hymn #88, V. 3 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

On this night, O God – on this night we confess that we do not want to confess. We do not want to examine our hearts before you and admit to the dark places. We want you to warm us in candlelight, carols, and fellowship. We desire soft light tonight; not the blinding shining of your glory that terrified the shepherds. We cannot stand in that light. God among us, forgive us. Help us hear your angel saying, “Do not be afraid.” Flood our hearts with the light that drives out all our darkneses. Straighten our backs and loose our timid tongues that we might sing, “Glory!” Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, hear the Good News of the Gospel:

ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, healed and made whole!

PROCLAIMING

Prophecy: Isaiah 9:2-7 p. 555
Carol #140, V. 1 & 2 “Once in Royal David’s City”

Lesson: Luke 2: 1-5 p. 832
Carol #121, V. 1 & 4 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Lesson: Luke 2: 6-7 p. 832
Carol #134, V. 1 “Joy to the World!”

Lesson: Luke 2: 8-14 p. 833
Carol #119, V. 1 & 2 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Lesson: Luke 2: 15-20 p. 833

RESPONDING

*Lighting of Individual Candles

Carol

“Silent 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 above, 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.*

*Silent night, holy night, wondrous star lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King; Christ the
Savior is born, Christ the savior is born.*

BENEDICTION

Christmas Poinsettias – 2021



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

Brown, Larry, Lisa, Nadia & Mark (3R) – In memory of Wayne Pruitt; In memory of Jeanette Shady & Robert Shady; In memory of Steve & Frances Shady.

Cashing, Betsy & Doug (2R) – In honor of our friends at Gregory Memorial.

Grace Cibula (2R) – In honor of Sandra Perkins; In honor of Gail Rollings.

Figg, Ruth (1R) – In memory of Kenneth L. Figg, Jr.

Foster, Evelyn (1R) – In memory of Garland R. Foster, Sr.

The Hunter Family (2W) – In honor of The Adult Sunday School Class; In memory of our parents & grandparents.

Larry & Linda Johnson (2R) - In honor of our beautiful grandchildren, Corinne, Jack, Owen & Emily; In memory of our parents.

Mary Lykins (1W) – In honor of David Lykins.

Scott, Rose & Wayne Powers (1R) – In memory of Gladys & Roland Wiseman, Peg Ward & Jimmy Wiseman

Shirley MacNeill (1R) – In memory of Jim MacNeill, Trudy McClenny & Aida Faries.

Smyth Family (2R) – Given to the glory of God.

Janet Swinton (1R) – In memory of parents, Harry & Eunice Peterson.

Barbara Taliaferro (2R) - In memory of husband, Tommie Taliaferro; In memory of son, Tracy Taliaferro.