Celebration of Worship

December 24, 2011

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

We enter to worship; we depart to serve

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude *"A Christmas Celebration"* arr. Don Phillips
Amanda Teachnor, Organist

Welcome & Announcements
(*Please sign and pass the friendship pads at this time.*)

Invocation Rev. Lynn Simpson

Call to Worship *from Isaiah 9 & John 1*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Those who dwell in the land of deep darkness, on them the light has shined.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

We have beheld Christ's glory. Glory as of the only Son of the Father. In Him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

♦ Lighting of the Advent Candle
Marcia & Allen Bates and Bob Baker

SONGS OF LONGING

First Lesson: Psalm 13:1-3
"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"
Doug Ruffner, Soloist

Second Lesson: Isaiah 7:14b
Hymn 9 *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"* vv. 1, 2

SONGS OF EXPECTATION

Third Lesson: Matthew 2:1-6
Hymn 66 *"We Three Kings"* v. 1

Fourth Lesson: Luke 2:1-7
Hymn 53 *"What Child Is This?"* vv. 1, 3

Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:8-14
Hymn 38 *"It Came Upon A Midnight Clear"*

SONGS OF WONDER

Sixth Lesson: Luke 2:15-20
Hymn 44 *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"* vv. 1, 3, 4

Hymn 22 *"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"* vv. 1, 2, 3

Hymn 23 *"Angels We Have Heard on High"* vv. 1, 3

Hymn 56 *"The First Nowell"* vv. 1, 6

SONGS OF JOY

Seventh Lesson: Philippians 2:5-11
Hymn 31 *"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"*

Hymn 40 *"Joy to the World!"*

Hymn 464 *"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading (page 862) John 1:1-14

Christmas Meditation *"The Light of the World"*
Rev. Lynn Simpson

WE RECEIVE GOD'S GRACE

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
(The Presbyterian Church has an Open Table, meaning that all who are baptized and trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are welcome to join us in this holy meal.)

Special Music *"O Holy Night"*
Amber Teachnor, Soloist

Invitation to the Table
Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer
Words of Institution
Breaking of the Bread
Prayer of Dedication

WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

Candlelight Service

The Christ Candle is an ancient symbol of Christ, the light of the world. Candles will be lit from the Christ candle and then shared with all of us.

Candles will be lit from the center aisle and you are asked to light the candle next to you. Parents will most likely need to assist their children.

♦ Closing Hymn *"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 afar,
heavenly host 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!

♦ Benediction

Postlude *"Mary, Did You Know?"*
arr. Anthony Burger

♦ Indicates appropriate place for congregation to stand

No Offering will be received during tonight's worship service.
However, for those wishing to leave a gift,
there will be offering plates available in the narthex following the service. All gifts will go to the Deacons' Fund for providing emergency assistance for people in need in Sand Springs.
Merry Christmas!

First Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve 2011