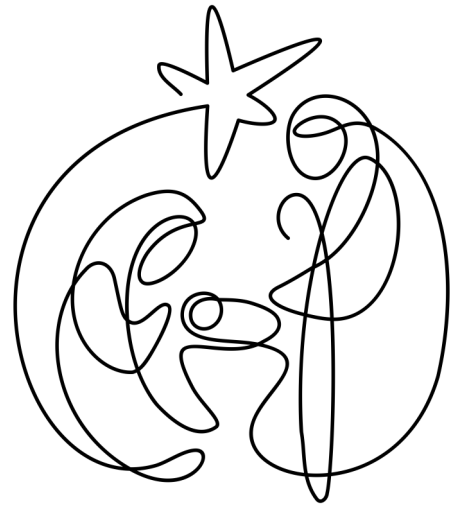


# *Service of Stories and Carols 2024*

**First Presbyterian Church**  
Libertyville, Illinois

[www.FirstPresLibertyville.org](http://www.FirstPresLibertyville.org)



## **Order of Worship**

December 24, 2024 - Christmas Eve

Family Worship

4:00 PM

*The prelude is our invitation to breathe deeply,  
to center our time on worship of God, and  
to ready ourselves to hear the good news.*

### **PRELUDE**

First Pres Chamber Orchestra; Gloria Song—director

### **WELCOME**

Rev. Nicole Chapman-Farley

### ◇ **ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

The Summers Family

Leader: Today is Christmas Eve and we celebrate the advent of our Savior!

**People: Today hope and love and joy and peace have come again!**

Leader: The time is now for Christ to come near again in the extraordinary incarnation of God with us.

**People: With gratitude we welcome the one who knows what it is to be human, and leads us to living more and more closely into God's design for us.**

Leader: Today we light the candles of hope, of love, of joy, of peace, and the Christ candle, for Christ is the light of the whole world, a light that shines for us and through us.

**People: A Savior is born for us today!**

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### ◇ **CAROL #133**

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELIS

**1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;**

**O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!**

**Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!**

**Refrain: O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

**3 Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;**

**sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!**

**Glory to God, all glory in the highest! (Refrain)**

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given; Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing! *(Refrain)*

ANTHEM

*Mary's Lullaby* arr. Patti Drennan  
Trinity Choir; Kitty Snyder—director, Rose Snyder—piano

TELLING THE STORY OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

Children are invited to come to the front of the chancel steps to hear and see the story read.

*SEEK AND FIND THE FIRST CHRISTMAS*

written by Sarah Parker, illustrated by André Parker  
published by The Good Book Company

NEWS FOR MARY

CAROL #121

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ST. LOUIS

1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.

4 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!

A LONG JOURNEY  
BUSY BETHLEHEM

CAROL #119

*Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*

MENDELSSOHN

1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,  
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.

4 Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

JESUS IS BORN  
THE SHEPHERDS

**CAROL #134**

*Joy to the World*

ANTIOCH

**1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.**

THE WISE MEN  
AN ANGRY KING  
GIFTS FOR JESUS

**OFFERING OURSELVES**

**INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP** Alex Barnes, M.Div.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: We give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** *Adoration of the Christ Child* arr. Camp Kirkland  
First Pres Chamber Orchestra

**CHRISTMAS PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** Rev. Amy Heinrich

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**A CHRISTMAS STORY** *The Little Drummer Boy\** Rev. Dr. Brian Paulson

**SHARING THE LIGHT**

When the Candle Bearer lifts the light, please raise your candle.

During the benediction, the minister will guide in extinguishing the candles.

**1 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.**

**2 Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia:  
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!”**

**3 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.**

**CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD** Gracie Villarreal  
Isaiah 11:6 “...and a little child shall lead them”

**CHARGE AND BLESSING** Rev. Nicole Chapman-Farley

**POSTLUDE** *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* arr. Barry Gott  
First Pres Chamber Orchestra

◇ *Stand in body or in spirit, as you are comfortable.*

**Department Head of Music and Organist:** Gloria Song

**First Pres Chamber Orchestra**

<b>Violin:</b> Jasmine Horton	<b>Cello:</b> Charlie Holland, Max Holland
<b>Double Bass:</b> Micah Brame, Owen Gohr	<b>Oboe:</b> Lauren Koehler
<b>Flute:</b> Judy Brame, Claire Cummings, Kirsten Townander, Leslie Koehler	<b>Trumpet:</b> Adam Gohr, Dennis Sullivan
<b>Alto Saxophone:</b> Dan Brame, Aiden Cummings	<b>Euphonium:</b> Annabelle Gohr, Kendra Gohr
<b>Horn:</b> Jonah Brame, Michael Wagner	<b>Tuba:</b> Jocelyn Brame
<b>Trombone:</b> Arwen Townander	<b>Percussion:</b> Gary Holland, Ed Koehler, *Harry Plohr
<b>Organ:</b> Rose Snyder	<b>Piano:</b> Kitty Snyder

The offering we invite in each worship service is grounded in the belief that Christian life is an offering of one’s self to God. As those who have been claimed and set free by Christ’s grace, we respond with gratitude, offering him our lives, our spiritual gifts, and our material goods. [*Book of Order*, W-3.0411]

**Giving:** Today’s general offering will be exclusively dedicated to our church mission efforts. You may also give by texting Firstpreslib to 73256 or going online to [www.firstpreslibertyville.org](http://www.firstpreslibertyville.org).

**The Christmas Joy Offering** has been a Presbyterian tradition for almost 70 years. Fifty percent goes to the Board of Pensions Financial Assistance Programs. Fifty percent is given to help with operating costs of eight racial/ethnic minority schools and colleges. Christmas Joy Offering envelopes are available for this special gift. Any undesignated offerings will be used for ongoing ministries and missions of FPC Libertyville.

**Year-End Giving:** If you contemplate year-end financial gifts, please remember First Pres, as your gifts help us sustain our ministries and resource our efforts to be God’s hands and feet. If you have not yet done so, please prayerfully consider pledging a commitment to First Pres for the coming year.