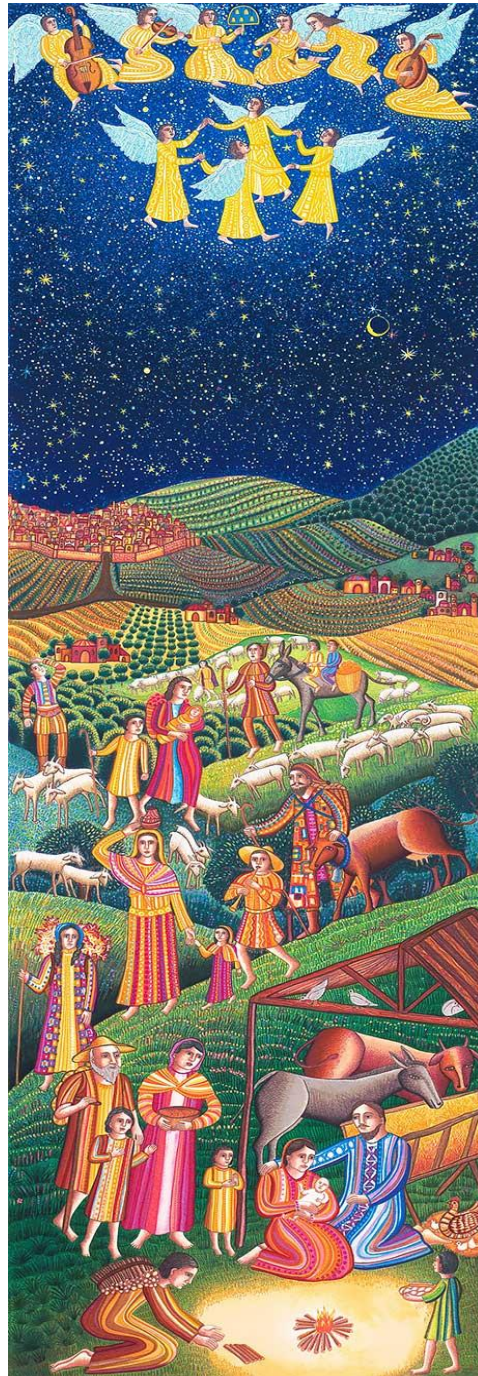




FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
KIRKWOOD
CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

We Gather to Worship God

Chiming of the Hour

Please Sign and Pass the Friendship Registers

Welcome

Bell Prelude *"O Come, Little Children"* arr. Charles Maggs

We Address Ourselves to God

***Call to Worship**

Pastor: Come as we join the story of a baby born in a stable, can you guess who it is?

All: It's Jesus!

Pastor: The angels are singing, the shepherds are hurrying, and the stars are shining bright.

All: Let's follow the star to Bethlehem!

Pastor: Come, let's hear the story and celebrate the birth of Jesus, God's greatest gift!

***Opening Hymn** *"O Come All Ye Faithful"* Hymn No. 133

***Prayer for Christmas Eve**

Holy God, on this sacred night, we come to the manger with hearts full of wonder. Open our ears to the angel's song, our eyes to the guiding star, and our lives to your peace and love. Be with us, Emmanuel, and make this night a holy one in every way. Amen.

***The Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

"The Christmas Pageant"

Christmas Eve Pageant "The Greatest Gift of All"

Vicki Hancock Wright

Joseph and the Donkey

Donkey, donkey, clip clop, do not stop! A census has been ordered, to Bethlehem they go. Joseph and the donkey, with Mary, they travel slow. For soon will come the baby; Mary needs a place to stay. Joseph and the donkey find a stable filled with hay. Donkey, donkey, clip clop, time to stop! Waiting under starry light. Waiting – will this be the night?

There Was No Room

*On that Christmas night so long ago, there was no room. Mary needed shelter from the cold. There was no room. On that night in David's town, there was no bed to be found. Gentle tears were falling on the ground. There was no room. On that Christmas night so long ago, there was no room. Joseph and his wife were far from home. There was no room. No one took the time to share, so they found a stable bare. Mary had her little baby there. There was no room. As we celebrate this Christmas day, will there be room? Will we make a home where Christ can stay? Will there be room? When we love and care each day, when we sing our songs of praise, we will make a home where Christ can stay.
Yes, there is room!*

Rise Up Shepherd and Follow

Rise up, shepherd, and follow the star! There's a star in the east on Christmas morn. Rise up, shepherd, and follow. It will lead to the place where Christ was born. Rise up, shepherd, and follow. Follow the star of Bethlehem. Leave your sheep, leave your lambs, now go find Jesus!

Sleep, Tiny King

Little baby in a manger, lying in a cattle stall. Happy birthday, baby Jesus, Son of God and Lord of all. Miracle of love, sent from God above, you are the greatest gift of all. Sleep, tiny King. Our praise to you we bring. We love and adore you, to you we sing. We worship you, our tiny King.

Come and Sing With the Angels

*While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground, an angel of the Lord came down and glory shone around. Come and sing with the angels. Tell the wonderful news: Christ is born in Bethlehem, born for me and for you! "Fear not!" the angel said to them that starry Christmas night. "Go quickly now and see the One who brings us joy and light!" Come and sing with the angels. Tell the wonderful news: Christ is born in Bethlehem, born for me and for you! Gloria! Gloria!
Christ is born today!*

Glory, Glory in the Highest!

Glory, glory in the highest! Peace on earth, goodwill to all. Glory, glory in the highest! Jesus Christ is born! Celebrate the Savior's birth! Jesus Christ has come to earth! Join us as we gladly sing, welcoming the Newborn King!

We Respond to God's Word

Offertory Sentences

Offertory Bell Anthem **"A Carol Jubilee"** **Sharon Elery Rogers**

***Hymn** **"Joy to the World"** **Hymn No. 134**

We Depart to Serve the Lord

***Benediction**

Closing Anthem **"Hodie: A Christmas Fanfare"** **Jay Althouse**

All Cherub and Chorister alumni are invited to join us in the Chancel for the singing of "Hodie!"

Psallite hodie. Christ is born on this day. Tiny King, angels sing: in excelsis Deo.

Psallite hodie. Sing for joy on this day. From on high in reply: in excelsis Deo.

Psallite hodie. Alleluia!

One service of Scriptures and Carols

Sunday, December 29, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Leader in Worship: Rev'd. Gary Noonan, Senior Pastor
Rev. Linda Maconochie, Interim Associate Pastor

Music Ministry: Bill Stein, Director of Music Ministries; Lori Wehrman, Cherub Director; Bill Wade, Bell Director; Middle School Ringers; Choristers; Cherubs

Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries: Rob Monroe

Ushers: Missy Wulff, Jay Wulff, Art McDonnell **Head Usher:** Robert Schneider

Livestream Host: Gary Hepp

Middle School Ringers: Aiden Auer, Adrienne Butler, Alice Butler, Wyatt Butler, Claire Campbell, Megan Campbell, Dagny Dunaway, Ainsley Gardner, Teddy Lester-Boal, Lily Martin, Sadie McDowell, Henry Meyer, Lily Nepple, Gregor Noonan, Julian Pate, Nora Willis

The Cast

Mary: Eileen Kinslohr **Joseph:** Scheffler Meyer **Angel Gabriel:** Emily Nepple

The Shepherds: Jonathan Gardner, Frannie Griffin, Oscar Griffin, Lucas Mays

The Angels: Sal Dunaway, Mae Kelsey, Evie Kim, Lucy Kinslohr, Olivia Mays, Sydney Mosley, Quinn Snyders, Sloane Snyders, Gabby Young