

7:00 pm

December 24, 2019

St. John – Hill U.C.C.

620 Hill Church Road, Boyertown, PA 19512

610-367-8114 · www.stjohnhillucc.org

Christmas Eve 7:00 pm December 24, 2019

(+) *Those who are able please stand* **Bold – congregation responds as able**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Christmas Melodies

Organ & Piano Duets

“Beautiful Star of Bethlehem”

A. Pace & R.F. Boyce

Quartet by Eileen Fisher, Gary Smith, Rick Furches & Elmer Miller

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

+CAROL “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

(Sung Responsively – Lead by the Choir)

Light a candle for all to see,

Light a candle for all to see.

The king shall come for you and me.

The king shall come for you and me.

Light of life: Emmanuel.

Light of life: Emmanuel.

And with us He shall ever dwell.

And with us He shall ever dwell.

Emmanuel: God with us,

King of kings and Lord of lords!

Come fill our hearts with Your light

And reign forever more.

(Narration – read by lay reader)

(Sung Responsively – Lead by the Choir)

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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-14

CAROL

“Away in a Manger”

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

Pastor Chuck Maxfield

“Word Made Flesh”

CALL TO OFFERING

ANTHEM

“A Gift of Love”

J. Raney

+OFFERING RESPONSE

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

“In the Bleak Midwinter” words by C. Rossetti, Music by G. Holst ©1906 CCLI License #11085161

*What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a
shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise
Man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him;
give my heart.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CAROL

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent”

THE LORD'S SUPPER

*We invite you to join us in sharing Holy Communion this Christmas Eve.
You do not need to be a member of this church to come to Christ's Table. All
believers are welcome to receive the bread and cup of the Lord.*

*The outer rings are filled with wine, while the inner rings have grape juice,
and are a lighter color – please eat the bread and drink from the cup as you
receive them.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**How amazing is your love, great God!
You are not distant from us
in some faraway heaven;
You have come close to us in a child born of simple
parents
and cradled in a borrowed bed of straw.
We confess we abuse this created world.
When we stand by while the earth is despoiled
and its destruction threatened,
God, forgive.
When we abuse or neglect our own bodies,
God, forgive.
By your great love, God,
Draw us into new ways of living.
Teach us to cherish and nurture life in this fragile
world,
in the manner of Jesus the Christ,
whose birth we celebrate tonight. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

+RESPONSE

"My Tribute"

Faith & Praise No. 36

"My Tribute" words & music by Andraé Crouch ©1971 Communiqué Music CCLI License #11085161

***To God be the glory, to God be the glory, To God be the
glory for the things He has done. With His blood
He has saved me; with His pow'r He has raised me;
To God be the glory for the things He has done.***

+INVITATION TO COMMUNION

+EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (responsive)

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

For He is good and His mercy endures forever.

Holy God, our Source and Ending, Alpha and Omega,

We give thanks to you! You have called all creation into being, Setting the earth on its foundations. You

have spread out the heavens like a tent, and set a

boundary to the seas, You have filled the world with

your creatures and called all things good. The

heavenly beings are your messengers night and day,

and with them we sing and give glory to you:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabbath;

Heaven and earth are full,

are full of the majesty of thy glory;

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord;

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest

In these latter days, God leaned toward the earth and

spoke to us by a Son, Jesus the Beloved. Born of our

sister Mary and the Holy Spirit, Guarded by our

brother Joseph with fatherly care, Jesus came among us

as a baby, humbly born, cradled beside the beasts and

warmed by their breath, humans as we are, in need of

human love.

Yet kings bowed down before him, bringing gifts and

emperors were troubled by his reign - this Child in

whom all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

This Word of God made flesh and full of grace was sent

to deliver us from our sin, from the power of evil and

the fear of death.

As a servant, Jesus emptied himself of might upon the

cross, And as the risen Anointed One is enthroned at

God's right hand to bring mercy and justice to all the

earth at the end of days.

And so, rejoicing in all God has done for us, we
proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again!

Holy God, as you visited us in the birth of Jesus, visit
us now by the power of your Spirit in these creatures of
bread and wine, making them for us the Body and
Blood of Christ, the banquet of heaven here on earth.

**Blessed God, shed your grace brighter than starlight
on us That we may bear your good tidings to all And
renew the weary world in your name: The name of
Emmanuel - God - With - Us, To whom we give
honor and glory in joy, now and forever. Amen.**

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEIVING THE ELEMENTS

*The congregation sings carols while persons sitting in the sanctuary, on
the organ side, beginning with the choir, come forward to receive Holy
Communion.*

CAROLS

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

“What Child is This?”

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-7

RECEIVING THE ELEMENTS

*The congregation sings carols while persons sitting in the balcony come
forward to receive Holy Communion.*

CAROL

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:8-20

RECEIVING THE ELEMENTS

*The congregation sings carols while persons sitting in the sanctuary, on
the pulpit side, come forward to receive Holy Communion.*

CAROL

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

“The First Noel”

+SONG "This Little Light of Mine"

+THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Caution...tip only unlit candles...hold burning candles straight to avoid dripping wax. When all candles are lit we will sing the carol.

+SOLO "O Holy Night" *Sung by Kristen Bender*

+CAROL "Silent Night"

+BENEDICTION

+CAROL "Joy to the World"

+POSTLUDE "Song of Christmas" R. Hughes



Christmas Eve Carols



ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

Angels, from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth;
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant Light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King.

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King.



AWAY IN A MANGER

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE

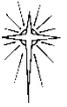
Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
For with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

Kings of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of Light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph;
Cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High.

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM



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.

For Christ is born of Mary; And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth;
And praises sing to God, the King,
And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently, The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive
Him still The dear Christ enters in.

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.

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.



HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful all ye nations mild, 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."

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th' Incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark, the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark, the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH



Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains;
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous songs prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem, and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, our newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

THE FIRST NOEL



The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same Star,
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the Star wherever it went.

This Star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

Then entered in those wise men three,
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in His presence
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

This Little Light Of Mine,
I'm gonna let it shine,
This Little Light Of Mine,
I'm gonna let it shine,
This Little Light Of Mine,
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

When I'm in my church,
I'm gonna let it shine,
When I'm in my church,
I'm gonna let it shine,
When I'm in my church,
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

In my fa-mi-ly,
I'm gonna let it shine,
In my fa-mi-ly,
I'm gonna let it shine,
In my fa-mi-ly,
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

All around the world,
I'm gonna let it shine,
All around the world,
I'm gonna let it shine,
All around the world,
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

SILENT NIGHT, HOLY 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 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.

JOY TO THE WORLD



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.

Joy to the World! the Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, Rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy. Repeat the sounding joy.
Repeat, Repeat the sounding joy.

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.

Poinsettias Have Been Sponsored By:

*Jan & Eileen Fisher in memory of both their parents:
Wilmer & Laura Fisher and Earnest & Amy
Bechtel*

*Lee & Linda Heathman in loving memory of Lloyd &
Evelyn Mathias, Sr.*

*Richard & Mary Jane Kemp in honor of Ali, Kayla,
Hannah, Saide, Olivia, & Josiah*

Ray & Tracy Kochey in memory of our grandparents

*Elmer & Kathy Miller in memory of Harold & Mary
Miller & Harold & Fern Eidle*

*Terry & Mayetta Shane in honor of their
grandchildren*

Tyler & Wendy Shane in memory of loved ones

*Paul & Sally Shirk in memory of Janet Shadle &
Linda Grabert*

*Wagner Family in memory Melvin & Emma
Reichert & Elmer & Florence Miller*

Dennis & Nancy Weller in memory of loved ones

*Matt, Kira, Jacob & Juliana Weller in memory of
loved ones*

