

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(Please come forward via the center aisle, accept the bread from the server, dip it in the chalice of juice, and partake of it. Then, please return to your pew via the side aisle.)

PRAYER

*HYMN No. 136.....African American Spiritual

Go, Tell It On the Mountain (Stanza 3)

***Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!***

***Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.***

***Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!***

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE.....Raney

Joy to the World

**Those who are able, please stand.*

Welcome!

We hope in this service you will encounter the living Christ and experience the warmth of this caring family of faith. Those who are seeking a church to call home are invited to consider becoming a part of our family here at Covenant. **Merry Christmas!**

(Hymns and streaming used by permission One License A-715880)

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2001 N. COALTER STREET, STAUNTON, VA 24401

MAILING ADDRESS: PO BOX 2948, STAUNTON, VA 24402

CHURCH OFFICE - 540-885-2138

WWW.COVENANTPRESSTAUNTON.ORG

Family Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2024 | 4:00PM



Family Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2024

4:00 PM

PRELUDE.....Guaraldi
Christmas Time Is Here

WELCOME

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT — Hymn No. 113, stanza 3
***Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!***

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE – The Gaffney Family

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: This is the night.

**People: We join Mary and Joseph on their way to Bethlehem,
full of hope.**

Leader: This is the night.

**People: We join the shepherds on their way to Bethlehem,
stunned by wonder.**

Leader: This is the night.

**People: We join the magi on their way to Bethlehem,
journeying in joyful anticipation.**

Leader: This is the night.

People: Christ is born in Bethlehem!

*HYMN No. 133 (stanzas 1 & 3).....ADESTE FIDELES
O Come, All Ye Faithful

*PRAYER

**Holy God, we come to adore you. You came to us one starry
night in Bethlehem to live with us, grow with us, and show us
your love. With hopeful hearts and eyes open wide with wonder,
we come to adore you! As we remember the birthday of
Jesus and gather at his manger bed, touch our hearts and
bless us for our journey with you. Make our hearts open for
peace, for mercy, for the sake of all that is holy. We come to
adore you, Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE — Hymn No. 132, stanza 1
***Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING.....Pg. 780 of the Old Testament, *Pew Bible*
Isaiah 9:2-3a, 6-7

☞ A CHILDREN'S NATIVITY ☞

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

Hymn No. 121, Stanza 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.***

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

Hymn No. 140, Stanza 1

***Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ, her little child.***

AWAY IN A MANGER

Hymn No. 115, Stanzas 1 and 2

***Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright 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 side until morning is nigh.***

THE FIRST NOWELL

Hymn No. 147, Stanza 1

***The first Nowell 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.***

Refrain:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE

Hymn No. 151, Stanza 1

***We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!***

SILENT NIGHT

Hymn No. 122, Stanzas 1 and 4

***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! Wondrous star, lend the light;
with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.***