

**Lakewood Presbyterian Church**  
**Candlelight Christmas Eve Family Service**

December 24, 2022

5:00 pm

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**Prelude**

*Come All Ye Faithful*

**Welcome and Worship Instructions**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

The Laughridge Family

Tonight, we light the Christ candle.

**We give thanks for the light of Christ, shining in the lives of all God's people.**

With the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah, we watch and wait for the coming of Christ who will bring light and peace to all the world.

**With John the Baptist, we cry out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord!"**

With Mary, the mother of Jesus, we rejoice, for the Mighty One has done great things for us. How holy is God's name!

**With Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, we tell the story of Jesus, the child of Bethlehem, who came to save us, and is coming again in glory.**

With the choirs of angels, we sing:

**"Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people on earth!"**

(Lighting of the Christ Candle)

Come, people of God:

**Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

**\*Unison Prayer of Christmas Commitment & the Lord's Prayer**

Gracious God, we celebrate your goodness to us as we join in the triumph and joy of Christmas. As your love has been revealed in all of its fullness, we pray that love may abound in our hearts today and always. Grant that the spirit of the Christ-Child may dominate our lives in every way. We pray together the prayer that he taught us, Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

**The Gift of Song**

Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)

Kat Bossuot

**\*Litany & Affirmation of Christmas Eve**

Carl Marucci

The joy of discovery ... that moment when hope and expectation were gloriously met by the illumination of one bright star.

**We cannot imagine what words were spoken by visitors or if first impressions left them somewhat confused.**

Messiah, Savior, a King ... born in the barest of palaces.

**Yet they saw and fell down on their knees in adoration.**

They saw Jesus and knew whom they had met.

**As we meet around the crib, candles and advent wreath, draw us into that stable in our imagination.**

In the quiet moments of worship this Christmas Eve, that brief oasis from the bustle of the world, bring alive to us ...

**The smell of the hay, the sound of the animals, the cry of a baby.**

Draw us close to our Savior, Messiah and King as we bring not Gold, Myrrh or Frankincense,

**But the gift of our lives; The only real offering we can bring.**

**The Gift of Song**

Aidan & Brennan Mitchell

**The Christmas Story in Word & Song**

The Annunciation - Brittany Mills		Luke 1:26-38
	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	
Our Savior is Born - Aidan Mitchell		Luke 2:1-7
	<i>Away in a Manger</i>	
The Shepherds & Angels Rejoice - Kat Bossuot		Luke 2:8-20
	<i>Go, Tell It On The Mountain</i>	
The Wise Men Visit - Zach Mills		Matthew 2:1-6

***The Christmas Eve Offering***

<b>Offertory</b>	<i>Adore Him</i>	Laura Young
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**A "Star Studded" Christmas**

Brian Mitchell, Meg Sheffield, & children of the congregation

<b>The Closing Carol &amp; Candle Lighting</b>	<i>Silent Night</i>	Hymn #122
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***Blessing and Benediction***

**\*Benediction**

<b>*Postlude</b>	<i>Carol of the Bells</i>	M. Leontovic/arr. for Organ by C.J. Marucci
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**\*Indicates Congregation Standing**

<b>Duty Elders for December:</b>	Michael Sullivan Stan Pilinski Tom Vermilya
<b>Special Music:</b>	Brennan Mitchell, Guitar
<b>Senior Pastor:</b>	Rev. Joy Laughridge
<b>Director of Youth &amp; Christian Education:</b>	Brian Mitchell
<b>Director of Music &amp; Organist:</b>	Carl Marucci
<b>Parish Associate:</b>	Rev. Vickie Bossuot
<b>The Poinsettias</b> in the Chancel are given in memory and in honor of loved ones from the Lakewood Presbyterian Church congregation.	

