

Christmas Eve • Camp Hill Presbyterian Church • December 24, 2023 • 7 p.m.

# Welcome, and Merry Christmas!

Childcare is available from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Room 3 of the Kuhn Education Wing. We also invite children to use our activity area in the sanctuary.

Assistive listening devices are available at the sound booth (rear of sanctuary).

Greeting you today are Bill & Sue Rothman and Dave & Judy Thompson.
In the audio/video booth are Bud Swartz and Monica Zazworsky.
Directing the CHPC Brass Choir is Dave Getz.
Directing the Chancel Choir and playing organ is Diane Rutzler.
Leading the service are Pastor Nancy Conklin and Pastor Stuart Seelman.

Our Christmas Eve offering is being given to Christian Churches United's Susquehanna Harbor Safe Haven Overnight Shelter.

The liturgy is from Sanctified Art's "From Generation to Generation." ©A Sanctified Art LLC

### Gathering From Out of the Darkness

Prelude

Carols of the Advent and Christmas Seasons
The CHPC Brass Choir

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Candles

L: More than 100 people, from the ages of 2 to 80 years old, were asked to fill in the blank for the statement, "My story is...." From the voices of different generations, hear their answers —

Teenager: Amazing! Child: Just beginning.

Adult: A wee bit messy, with lots of love.

Older adult: Privileged. Teenager: Hopeful. Child: Full of silliness. Adult: Still unfolding.

Older adult: Long, but good.

Teenager: My story is not just mine; it's tied to yours.

Tonight, we tell the story that we tell every year — the story of Christ's birth, the story of love made flesh. It's a story that weaves through every generation. It's a story that picks up the bits and pieces of our narrative and braids us together, because from generation to generation, our story belongs to God.

P: In that promise, we find our Hope, our Peace, our Joy, and our Love. (The Advent candles are lit.)

All singing: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

\*Call to Worship

L: On this holiest of nights,

P: We come, joining the shepherds who are stunned by wonder.

L: On this most silent night,

P: We come, our hopes and dreams joining those of Mary and Joseph.

L: On this night of carols and candlelight,

P: We come, our glad songs joining with the choirs of angels over us.

L: Come, let us worship the newborn king!

\*Carol 133 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Gracious God, as you came at night when all was still, so enter our lives this night. Illumine our paths with the light of Christ's presence, that we may clearly see the way before us, the truth to speak, and the life to live for him, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### The Promise of a Savior

First Reading (OT, p.638) Isaiah 9:2-7

\*Carol 121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Second Reading (NT, p.58)

Luke 2:1-7

Anthem In the First Light B. Kauflin

The Chancel Choir

Asterisk indicates those who are able should stand. Bold indicates congregation's participation.

<sup>\*</sup>Prayer of Approach

Third Reading (NT, p.58)

Luke 2:8-20

\*Carol 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Meditation

"From Generation to Generation: We Tell This Story"

The Rev. Nancy Conklin

### Responding to God's Gift to Us

Fourth Reading (NT, p.2)

Matthew 2:1-12

\*Carol 140

Once in Royal David's City

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

A Shepherd's Lullaby
The Chancel Choir

Mary Donnelly

Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, we pray. Amen.

\*Doxology

What Child Is This

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, 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!

Christmas Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.

### Proclamation of the Light

Fifth Reading (NT, p.91)

John 1:1-5,14

(The Christ Candle is lit, followed by the congregation's candles. Please, only the unlit candle is to be tipped when lighting.)

Silent 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.

> Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; With the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King: Christ the Savior is born: Christ the Savior is born.

\*Benediction

"It Is Not Over" It is not over, this birthing. There are always newer skies Into which God can throw stars. When we begin to think That we can predict the Advent of God, That we can box the Christ In a stable in Bethlehem. That's just the time That God will be born In a place we can't imagine and won't believe. Those who wait for God Watch with their hearts and not their eyes, Listening, always listening For angel words.

by Ann Weems

(Please extinguish your candles, and all sing.)

\*Carol 134

Joy to the World!

### **Christmas Dedications for 2023**

### Advent Decorations Fund

#### In Memory of:

- Charles Appleby Sr., Thelma Dunkle, Annamae Maugans, and Robert Maugans by Charlie & Sue Appleby
  - My parents, Albert & Lois Campbell by Cathryn Ann Kalata

# **Christmas Joy Offering**

### In Memory of:

- Loved ones by Linda Zimmerman
- Loved ones by Ann & Roger Hummel
- Laura Robinson by John Robinson, Nathan Robinson, and Nicole Laing
  - Mr. Spencer G. Hall Jr. and Jordan F. Hall by the Hall family
    - Ms. Roberta R. Bowman by Clay & Josie Hall
    - Mrs. Florence E. Quigley by the Battisfore family
      - Mr. & Mrs. Spencer G. Hall by the Hall family
    - Mr. & Mrs. Edward A. Battisfore by the Battisfore family
      - Loved ones by the Coffman family
      - Parents by Judy & Dave Thompson
      - Jim & Lucille Helsel by Jim & Carol Helsel
        - N. Gail Weinrich by Jim & Carol Helsel
  - Barbara A. & V. Norman Deane by N. Diane & John E. Rutzler III
  - Melanie G. & John E. Rutzler Jr. by N. Diane & John E. Rutzler III
    - Loved ones by Sandy Bogden
  - Ming & Henry Raab by the Lenda and Hockenbraugh families
- Jack & Margaret Flint and Shelly & Lydia Erwine by Dan & Nancy Flint and family

#### In Honor of:

- My family by Bobbie Kitzmiller
- All my grandchildren by Linda Kelley
- Alec & Allie Ebeling and Nate Ebeling, Ellie and Ian Goodwin, and Lidija and August Abolins by Andrea Ebeling, mom and aunt

### To the Glory of God:

By Pam Thompson

## **Christmas Dedications for 2023**

### **Poinsettias**

### In Memory of:

- Loved ones by Ann & Roger Hummel
- Dr. & Mrs. Frederic E. Sanford, Ms. Mary Jane Sanford, and Mr. & Mrs. Thomas A. Beckley by the Beckley children
- Mary Jane & Don Edwards, Cindy Barton, and Don Edwards Jr. by the McBride family
  - Abe & Anna Wells by Barbara Jane Gooden
    - Caroline Rick by the Clark family
- Bob Harner by the Ohnstad family, Kyle, Betsy, Willa, and Grace
  - Ann & Don Markley by Bill Markley
  - Laura & John Zazworsky by John & Monica Zazworsky
    - Our parents by Linus & Sharon Fenicle
      - Loved ones by Sandy Bogden
- Husband, Bob, and daughter, Cindy René, by wife and mother, Joann Fissel
  - Ed & Winnie Black and Paul & Mary Fissel by daughter and daughter-in-law, Joann Fissel
    - Mr. & Mrs. Victor J. Ault by John Ault, son
    - Jim & Ruth Crouse by Steve & Linda Crouse and kids
    - John E. (Jay) Rutzler IV by N. Diane & John E. Rutzler III
      - The Rev. Jim & Lila Miller by their grateful family

#### In Honor of:

- The CHPC Staff by David Binkley & Don Potter
- My parents and loved ones by Barbara Jane Gooden
  - Dorothy & Charles Pascoe by the Clark family
- Our children, Jeff & Beth Zucker, Greg Rothman, and Garrett & Jola Rothman by Bill & Sue Rothman
  - Grandchildren Charlotte and Alex Ault by John Ault and Susan Ault



Tonight's Offering

Tonight's special offering goes to Susquehanna Harbor Safe Haven, a residential facility offering support and stable housing to men who were chronically homeless. To pay digitally, follow this QR code link and include amount in "Special Offering." Then, write "Christmas Eve" in the "Notes" on the following page.



#### Statement of Welcome & Inclusion

As followers of Jesus, we affirm the dignity and worth of every person as created in the image of God. We are committed to creating an inclusive space of belonging and safety. Therefore, this community of faith welcomes into full participation, membership, and leadership persons of diverse age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, level of education, class, and income.

Rooted in the Reformed tradition, we affirm that "God alone is Lord of the conscience," allowing for a breadth of diverse theological and biblical interpretations. We covenant to accept, respect, and love one another as we apply our faith in the circumstances of our lives and in the matters of our world.

Camp Hill Presbyterian Church
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Pastor/Head of Staff — The Rev. Nancy A. Conklin
Associate Pastor — The Rev. Stuart L. Seelman
Visitation Pastor — The Rev. Donald E. Potter
Office Manager — Andrea A. Ebeling
Preschool Director — Dana B. Tarnoci
Custodians — Kem Bonner, Frank Smith
Organist/Choirmaster Emeritus — David H. Binkley II

#### Pastoral Contact Information:

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