



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Telephone: (336) 993-7358 • Fax: (336) 993-5526 • www.fpckernersville.org

December 24, 2017 — *Christmas Eve*

Candlelight/Communion Service

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Tincher Family

Leader: Behold, I bring you good news of great joy; for to you is born in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord!

People: *Jesus has arrived in grace and mystery, renewing faded hopes and announcing peace to a weary world.*

Leader: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!

People: *Jesus comes among us in power and glory inspiring fresh Christmas joy and calling us to lives that are full of God's love.*

Leader: Jesus, the light of the world, is born.

People: *Let Christ's light shine in the darkest corners of our lives. Let Christ's light shine in the darkest corners of our world. God is with us.*

(THE LITURGISTS WILL NOW LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLES)

Leader: Let us pray:

People: *God of grace and glory, as we celebrate this Christmas, transform our hearts and our lives so that your Good News is not an old story but a fresh truth lived out every day through the power of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

MUSICAL RESPONSE "Light a Candle for All to See" – Light ~L. Larson
Please sing when directed

(Sing the echo)

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.)*

(All sing)

Emmanuel: God with us, King of kings and Lord of lords!

Come fill our hearts with Your joy and reign forevermore.

***HYMN** "O Come, All ye Faithful" No. 133

*UNISON CHRISTMAS INVOCATION:

Holy Child of Bethlehem, we open wide the doors to our hearts. Let your love ease our fears and calm our worry. Come and fill us with joy that knows no boundaries. May your light brighten every corner of our darkness and fill us with your presence. Holy Child of Bethlehem, encounter us in a very special way. Give us a deeper appreciation and understanding of the splendor of that holy night thousands of years ago. Help us to be in awe of you and the simple wonder of your humble birth. Holy Child of Bethlehem, come to us and be born in us we pray. Amen.

*Those who are able, please stand.

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Lesson Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Carol "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" No. 82

Lesson Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

Carol "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" No. 88

Lesson Luke 1:26-35, 38

Carol "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" No. 129

Lesson Luke 2:1-7

Carol "Away in a Manger" No. 115

Lesson Luke 2:8-16

Carol "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" No. 119

Lesson Matthew 2:1-11

Carol "We Three Kings of Orient Are" No. 151

Lesson John 1:1-14

Carol "Joy to the World" No. 134

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Holy God, we offer our thanksgiving and praise. For you sent your Son, Jesus, to be born of Mary and your Word became flesh. His name is above every name, the Prince of Peace and Savior of all. In him, we have been brought out of darkness and into your marvelous light.

Remembering that Christ came and lived among us, we partake of these common elements of bread and juice. We give thanks that you allowed your body to be broken and your blood to be shed that we might be changed by your saving love in Jesus Christ. As you have raised Christ from the dead and call us to new life, we offer ourselves to you that we might live in joy and in grateful praise. Amen

Partaking of the Sacraments

Closing Communion Prayer

CELEBRATION OF CHRIST AS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

CAROL "Silent Night! Holy Night!" See back of bulletin

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Those who are able, please stand.

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.