



# Eastminster Presbyterian Church

**Christmas Eve Virtual Worship Service  
December 24, 2020**



# CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2020

7:00 p.m.

## GATHERING

**Prelude**     *All' Offertorio*

### **Welcome**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

*And also with you.*

### **Threshold Moment & Lighting of Candles**

**Choir Anthem**     "I Believe"     Mark A. Miller

### **Opening Prayer**

**Hymn #134**     Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -  
her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness  
and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
and heaven and na - ture sing,  
and  
sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.  
heaven and na - ture sing,

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination *adapted from the poem "Christmas Comes" by Ann Weems*

### Carols and Scripture

Reading: Luke 2:1-5 Dr. Fred Graham

#### Carol #121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y and, gath - ered all a - bove,  
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by.  
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;  
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.  
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
O come to us; a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

The image shows a musical score for the carol 'O Little Town of Bethlehem'. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The music is in 4/4 time and the key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines. The first system contains the first four lines of the carol. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the next four lines. The fourth system contains the final four lines of the carol, ending with a double bar line.

**Reading:** Luke 2:6-7 Abby Nixon

**Carol** Away in a Manger Handbell Quartet

**Reading:** Luke 2:8-14 Rev. Tim Kiser

**Carol #119** Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king.  
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the vir-gin's womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car - nate de - i - ty,  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

**Reading:** Luke 2:15-18 Emmanuel Yewah

**Carol #145** What Child Is This?

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.

Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.  
Raise, raise the song on high. The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

**Reading:** Luke 2:19-20 Frank Moss

**Sermon**

“We Believe, Even Now”

Rev. Kristin Stroble

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### Communion

*(Please have bread and juice ready ahead of time.)*

### Hymn #122 *Silent Night*

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright  
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;  
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light  
4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and  
glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -  
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing  
with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"  
grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.  
King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

### Charge & Benediction

### Postlude *What Child Is This?*

#### Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Kristin Stroble

Director of Christian Education: Neil Myer

Pianist/Organist: Tamar Mikeladze

Choir Director: Jadrian Tarver

Eastminster Choir

Handbell Choir

Video Producer/ Handbell Director: Heather Myer

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