

Hymn 134* Joy to the World arr. Stephen Strite
The third verse will be sung by the choir only.
Please watch the Director of Music for singing cues.

Christmas Reflection Rev. Andrew Esqueda
The Light Has Come

Hymn 119* Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Sharing the Light of Christ*
Light your candle from your neighbor's,
lowering the unlit taper into the flame.

Silent Night, Holy Night*
The Chancel Choir will sing the first verse in German,
then all sing:

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!
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.

Blessing and Sending

Postlude Go, Tell It on the Mountain
arr. Richard Elliott

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

In an era where many hunger for authentic connection,
we seek, however imperfectly, to follow Christ
through our relationships with one another and
our wider West Chester community.

In a hurting world, we cling to the hope
that God's plan is not destruction, but love,
and that love comes not only at the end of time
but here and now.

Jesus invites us each to take part in this work.
We are so glad you are here. Merry Christmas.

Audio amplifiers are in a basket at the back of the sanctuary.
The Nursery is open this evening. The service will also be streaming
to a children's play area in
Fellowship Hall (next to the sanctuary).

Assisting in worship today:
Lyndsay Spaziani, Soprano
Lauren Saks, Soprano (Rejoice Greatly!)
The Miner Street Brass
The Chancel Choir
Greeters: Suzy DeGeorge, Phil and Gwyn Heaver, Brenda Smith
Lighting the Christ Candle: Howard, Sandy and Kathryn Lebold

First Presbyterian Church Staff
Rev. Andrew Esqueda, Senior Pastor
Rev. Caroline Cupp, Senior Associate Pastor
Sándor Kádár, Director of Music
Sara Pantazes, Director of Faith Formation
Elizabeth Hess, Director of Engagement
Amanda Erno, Children's Music Director
Ann Ellis, Choir Accompanist
Kiana Rivera, Lead Singer, Contemporary Band
Jennifer Rosenberg, Preschool Director
Greg Ondo, AV Tech
Claire Kramer, Office Administrator
Peter Galloway, Director of Operations
Sara Ford, Facilities Manager

Emails at firstpreswc.com/staff

PREPARING THE WAY

Order of Worship for
Christmas Eve
7 pm | December 24, 2025

Prelude Riu, Riu, Chiu arr. Todd Marchand
Rejoice Greatly! G. F. Handel
Gesu Bambino Pietro Yon

Call to Worship & Lighting of the Christ Candle
We come to prepare the way:
The way for Christ.
The hope of Christ, the peace of Christ, the joy of Christ,
the love of Christ:
The one who enters our world
and makes a home in our hearts.
We cry out together in the wilderness:
The kingdom of heaven has come near.
We come to be part of the true light:
The light of Christ comes into the world,
the light that shines in the darkness.

Hymn 133* O Come, All Ye Faithful
arr. David Cherwien
Please watch the Director of Music for singing cues

Welcome
Prayer of Adoration
O wondrous God, we come tonight with breathless
wonder to welcome the child who will change our lives.
We hear the names "Wonderful Counselor," "Mighty
God," "Prince of Peace," and we stand in awe. We
celebrate your incarnate birth that meets us with your
unconditional love. (con't)

* Please rise in body or spirit

May we never tire of this story of Christ’s birth, and in every season may we proclaim that in Christ, you are Immanuel, God with us. Amen.

Response* Gloria in excelsis Deo!

First Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-7 NT p. 58

Choir Anthem Mary Had a Baby arr. Lloyd Larson

Second Scripture Reading Luke 2:8-20 NT p. 58

Prayers of the People and 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory O Holy Night Adolphe Adam

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication*
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Third Scripture Reading John 1:1-14 NT p. 91

Special Music Angels We Have Heard on High
arr. Ryan Meeboer
After the special music, children may meet Ms. Sara
in the back of the sanctuary for a short children’s program.
They will return to their families after the reflection.

Fourth Scripture Reading Isaiah 9:2-7 OT p. 638

Christmas Poinsettias

Given by Adams, Barbara & George	In Memory of: Our Parents, George & Donna Mae Nutt and Helen & Robert Kerr Harold & Shirley Alderfer Marvin Bentley Margaret G. & Melvin O. Rockefeller, Aura W. & George H. Blankley, Jr. Marjean Brauch Peter Dunbar Deceased Members of the Buckley & Tassone Families Richard & Rae Kauffman Our Parents Patty Court (Aunt), Harold Court (Uncle), Bob Coxé (Uncle), Emma “B” Abernethy Florence Creager Gilbert & Dixie Arbuckle Our first granddaughter: Kaia Alessia Dickey John McColgin Loved Ones Jilda Arzarelli William F. Foxx, M.D. Loved Ones Bruce Gansner Uncle Brian Hambleton, Gene Rader Janet & Ed Hartzell Loved Ones Annetta & P. Edward Jefferis (Mom & Dad), Amanda Jo Jefferis (Daughter) Johnston & Staniloff Family Loved Ones Julia & Ed Larkin, James Keiler, Lynne Keiler Wallace, Alyson Keiler Brant, Janice & Joe Luttrell, Joan & John Peterson, Mark & Lori Peterson, David & Beth Peterson Wright, Pearl & Sam Swayne Shirley Kreitler Richard Trevor Lawman Loved Ones Donald C. Lidle Evelyn & Joseph Poulson, Nicholas & Veronica Bohonek, Our Beloved Dog Ned Julie Mars Parents Richard & Minnie Funk, Brother D. Richard Funk Reverend & Mrs. Earl Tyson Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Huddle and Mr. & Mrs. Thomas MacBride Loved Ones Thomas McCarter Nana & Poppy Doc My Parents: Anna & Alfred Miller Our Parents Anne L. & O.C. Norton Our Parents & Grandparents Gene Rader Marilyn Buckler
Alderfer, Rebecca Bentley, Anna Blankley, Mary Ellen & Rick	
Brauch, Manfred Brown, Sally Buckley, Russ & Lisa	
Claeys, Brian & Julie Congdon–Martin, Doug & Beth Coxe, Gail	
Creager, Mark & Elizabeth D’Ginto, Jill & Domenic and Family Dickey, Ann & David Esqueda Family Evons, Thalia & Don Ferdik, Nancy and Family Foxx, Patricia Galloway, Peter Gansner, Vicki Hambleton Family Hartzell Children & Grandchildren Haughton, Jim & Nancy Jefferis, James	
Johnston, Toni Keiler, Carol	
Kreitler, Paul Lawman & Marcelli Family Lewis, Elle & Family Lidle, Amy & Barbara Listwak, Ken & Erin	
Mars, Rick Mason, Shirley	
MacBride, Velma & Earl MacBride, Earl & Velma	
MacFadden, Karol & Family McCarter, Jacqueline McClure, Doc, Emily & Maggie Miller, Stephen Myhre, Charlie & Kathie Norton, Evelyn Ohms, Nancy & Dan Rader, Gail Ray, Bill & Dorothy	

Given by Richards, Jane Robinson, Mary Ann & Carl Ross, Darlene Scott, Barbara Siegfried, Jackie Single, Liz, Craig, Andrew & Daniel Smith, Bob & Eileen Smith, Brenda Smith, Richard & Susan Snyder, Barb Stevens Family Stone, David & Judy	In Memory of: Ellen M. Tyson Our Son Scott and Parents Faragasso & Rosenthal Families Loved Ones Michael Siegfried and Other Family Members John Ahlfeld and David Single Kyle B. Smith Parents Loved Ones Loved Ones George Thompson Parents: Jack & Kay LaBarre, Gene & Ruth Stone Our Parents and Lana’s Brother, Dennis Fisher Our Parents Donald E. Scott Pat & Mike Townsend Parents Paul & Nancy Ford, James & Patricia Turner Dear Friend Ellen Tyson Our Parents
Given by: Adams, Barbara & George	In Honor of: Our Grandchildren – Chelsey, Michael, Kaitlyn, Gabriel, Courtney, Seth, Lilly, Olivia & Alex Olivia, Ava, Dylan, Connor & Sloan Our Three Grandchildren – Wrenly, Reese & Weston Megan, Isaiah, Desmond & Maddox Esqueda Our Grandchildren – Annie, Cooper & Penny Heaver Brad Jefferis (My Best Friend) Grandchildren: Henry, Sylvie & Alice Audrey & Payton Rader, Baby Sellers Our Children and Grandchildren Our Grandchildren Children & Grandchildren Janet Thompson and Mike, Emily & Amanda Stevens Our Children & Grandchildren: Sarah, Gregg, Karen, Brian, Bennett & Aven Brian, Julie & Ralphie Claeys Our Children & Grandchildren
Bragg, Tom & Suzanne Buckley, Russ & Lisa	
Esqueda, Andrew Heaver, Phil & Gwyn	
Jefferis, James Levy, Stuart & Suzanne Rader, Gail Robinson, Carl & Mary Ann Russell, Dave & Jean Smith, Richard & Susan Stevens, Kristy	
Stone, David & Judy	
Turner Family (Bailey, Bailey & Roxy) Zumbano, George & Gerri	