



Chapel in the Pines  
Presbyterian Church  
Chatham County, North Carolina

Christmas Eve, 6:00 p.m.  
December 24, 2017

*Welcome to Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church, where all our members are ministers. We open our doors to all persons to join in worship, fellowship, educational programs, and service. We welcome into membership all who profess faith in Jesus Christ without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, worldly conditions, sexual orientation, ability, or any other human condition. We hope that you feel warmly welcomed here and that you find the presence of the risen Christ in this place as we worship together today.*

**THE GATHERING**

**PRAYER OF ADORATION**

Eternal God, your radiant light shines forth from the heavens to a stable where a tiny baby sleeps wrapped in rags. Such humble love astounds us. In Jesus you have become one with us that we might become one with you. Open our hearts to joyfully receive his love that he may be born in us, and we in him, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**BELL PEAL RINGING OF THE TRINITY**

Jeremy Nabors

**PRELUDE**

*Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming*

arr. Lloyd Larson

**\*OPENING SENTENCES**

Isaiah 9: 6

A child has been born for us,  
**a son given to us;**  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named:  
**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

**\*HYMN #119**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

MENDELSSOHN

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of Love Incarnate, we confess that, with the shepherds, we are terrified of your glory; for in glory's light we see plainly all that is wrong in the world: how oppression still enslaves; how garments of war are still stained with blood; how those seeking refuge still find no place of safety. We also see what is wrong in us: how passionately we pursue the things of this world, but forget to ponder the mystery of faith; how we do not practice the peace you intend in our relationships, community, or even in the church. Forgive us, we pray, and help us not to be afraid. Like the shepherds, we want to follow and find you. In our Savior's name we pray. Amen.**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

the Hoerter Family

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Isaiah 9:2-7

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

pp. 600

LP, pp. 780-781

**GOSPEL READING**

Luke 2:1-14

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

pp. 54-55

LP, p. 71

**MEDITATION**

"The Promise of Peace"

Lynn Stall

**RESPONSE**

*Let There Be Peace on Earth*

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Let there be peace on earth  
and let it begin with me;  
let there be peace on earth,  
the peace that was meant to be.  
With God our Creator,  
children all are we.

Let us walk with each other  
in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me.

Let this be the moment now.

With every step I take  
let this be my solemn vow  
to take each moment and live  
each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth  
and let it begin with me.

OFFERING

*'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime*

(Hymn #142)

RESPONSE

*What Child Is This*

(Hymn #145)

***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!***

## CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, O God,...

we might praise you from our hearts

for your unending greatness as we join in singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and

earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Gracious God, our Lord Jesus Christ, present with us now,...  
...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours,  
almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Our Father, in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**Breaking of the Bread**

**Communion of the People**

As the congregation comes forward to receive the elements of the Lord's Supper, let us sing "What Child Is This?" Hymn #145

**Prayer after Communion**

**A CELEBRATION OF LIGHT**

\*HYMN #122

*Silent Night, Holy Night*  
(See next page)

STILLE NACHT

\*HYMN #134

*Joy to the World*  
(See last page)

ANTIOCH

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Arise, shine for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you,  
and God's glory shall appear over you.

**Nations shall come to your light,  
and rulers to the brightness of your dawn.**

As you blessed us with light at the Son's rising  
**shine on us now with love. Amen.**

\*CLOSING RESPONSE

*Gloria in excelsis Deo;*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo*

(Hymn #113)

POSTLUDE

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

arr. David Willcocks

*(Please extinguish your candles before you leave. Drop used unlit candles in basket as you exit.)*

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT

Hymn #122

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.

### Worship Notes



The Christmas Eve Offering, as designated by the Session, will support the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, which is used to provide assistance to individuals and families in crisis, often in concert with other local helping agencies. Your generous contributions this evening and throughout the year allow us to serve those in need in our community. This year we served 9 families totaling \$893.79.

Our guest preachers for the next few weeks are Hal Truax on December 31, Bill Lawrence on January 7 and Lee Strange on January 14.

Guests, we are glad you found us and we hope you feel welcomed in this time of worship. Please sign the black friendship pad so that we might get to know you. If you have pastoral concerns to share, please let the pastor or one of our members know.

We welcome children and to support them in their development as worshipers, we offer a few special times and spaces during the service. A nursery is provided for children under the age of 4. If you have questions, please contact Paul Isom, Ruling Elder for Christian Education, at [pcisom@gmail.com](mailto:pcisom@gmail.com) or Joelle Brummitt-Yale, Director of Christian Education at [joelleby@yahoo.com](mailto:joelleby@yahoo.com).

Children's activity bags are available in the narthex. We ask you to leave them on the seats after worship or return them to the narthex.

Large print worship bulletins, Bibles and hymnals are available from the ushers. You are invited and encouraged to use these during worship. Handicapped parking is available in front of the church with level access into the sanctuary.



The sanctuary and fellowship hall are equipped with hearing loops, making it possible for anyone with a t-coil-enabled hearing aid to hear worship services and events in the fellowship hall clearly. Hearing Assistance headphones are also available from the ushers. Before you leave the sanctuary or fellowship hall, please turn off the receiver and place in the specially marked receptacle or return to an usher.

We thank Marcia Ladd for preparing the Communion elements and Josh Ladd, Stan Campbell, Beverly Rudolph, Paul Bolig and Susie Smith for their help with serving Communion.

Leading our worship this evening: Lynn Stall, Interim Pastor, [lynnstall@citppc.org](mailto:lynnstall@citppc.org)  
Rob Passow, Pianist  
Jeremy Nabors, Director of Music Ministry

Mission Co-Workers: Karla Koll, Costa Rica

# JOY TO THE WORLD!

Hymn #134

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns:  
Let us our songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

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