

# *The Worship of God*

## *CHRISTMAS EVE*

December 24, 2016

Six O'Clock P.M.

PRELUDE: Méditation on *Ave Maria* adaptée 1<sup>er</sup> Preludes de J.S. Bach Charles Gounod/arr. Jacques Larocque  
Celebrated Air J.S. Bach  
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel arr. Marshall McDonald and Steven Sharp Nelson  
Christopher Ellis, violin; Amy Shortt, piano

INTROIT: "Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella" French Traditional Carol/arr. Richard Walters  
Bring a torch, Jeannette, Isabella! Bring a torch, to the cradle run! It is Jesus, good folk of the village, Christ is born and Mary's calling; Ah! ah! beautiful is the Mother! Ah! ah! beautiful is her Son! It is wrong when the Child is sleeping, it is wrong to talk so loud. Silence, all, as you gather around, lest your noise should waken Jesus: Hush! Hush! See how fast He slumbers! Hush! Hush! see how fast He sleeps! Softly to the little stable, softly for a moment come! Look and see how charming is Jesus, how He is soft, His cheeks are rosy! Hush! hush! see how the Child is sleeping; Hush! Hush! see how He smiles in dreams!  
Sue Cataline, soloist

\* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 148: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ADESTE FIDELES  
(*The congregation rises as the organist begins the hymn.*)

\* THE CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Wright  
Minister: To you this night is born a child of Mary, chosen mother mild;  
**People: This little Child, of lowly birth, shall be the joy of all the earth.**  
Minister: Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, make thee a bed, soft, undefiled,  
**People: Within my heart, that it may be a quiet chamber kept for thee.**  
Minister: My heart for very joy doth leap, my lips no more can silence keep,  
**People: I too must sing, with joyful tongue, that sweetest ancient cradle-song:**  
Minister: Glory to God in highest Heaven, who unto us his Son hath given!  
**People: While angels sing, with pious mirth, a glad New Year to all the earth.**  
*Martin Luther, 1531; trans. Catherine Winkworth*

\* THE GLORIA PATRI MENDELSSOHN  
**Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.  
Mighty kings bow down before him, Hail the long awaited birth.  
Shepherds worship and adore him, King of heaven and Lord of earth.  
With the angels let us sing, "Glory to the newborn King."**

\* THE INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Edwards  
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND CHRIST CANDLE Cassie, Jeff, and Cora Dodson  
CAROL 128: "One Candle Is Lit" CRADLE SONG  
*Please remain seated during the singing of this carol and the lighting of the candles on the Advent Wreath.*

### THE READING OF THE SCRIPTURE

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7

THE EPISTLE LESSON: Titus 2:11-14

### THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

\* CAROL 144: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" ST. LOUIS  
\* OFFERTORY PRAYER Jim Martin

*Tonight's offering will be shared with People of Faith - Filling in the Gaps (POF-FIGS), which provides emergency rent and utility assistance to keep local families in their homes.*

\* ORGAN OFFERTORY: A Christmas Pastorale Charles Callahan

\* THE DOXOLOGY GREENSLEEVES

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

DUET: "Silent Night" Franz Gruber  
Elizabeth and Maggie Paszek, soloists

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2:1-20 Bo Browder

THE HOMILY "Completely Forever: Changed by the Coming of Christ" Dr. Wright

### THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

SOLO: "I Wonder as I Wander" Appalachian Carol  
I wonder as I wander out under the sky, how Jesus the Savior did come for to die. For poor on'ry people like you and like I. I wonder as I wander out under the sky. When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall, with wise men and farmers and shepherds and all. But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, and the promise of ages it then did recall. If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing, a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing, or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing, he surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.  
Sue Cataline, soloist

### THE PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND SUPPLICATION:

Minister: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Minister: Let us confess our sins to God. (*silent confession*)

Minister: Lord Jesus, you came as a baby—humble, poor and defenseless. You are born into this world wherever you are received. Therefore help us welcome you so that we might be filled with new life.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Minister: Let us pray for peace, for the generosity of heart we know at Christmas to extend beyond this time to all times and to all peoples.

**People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Minister: Let us pray for the church, for the unity of Christians and a spirit of cooperation among members of all congregations, for those called to leadership within the church, and for those who do not have a place to worship where they feel welcome.

**People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Minister: Let us remember the poor and pray for the success of all efforts to alleviate suffering, for all who are seeking justice in public policy, and for all who share their blessings with others.

**People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Minister: Let us pray for those who are sick, for those suffering a life-threatening illness, and for those in chronic pain. Let us remember those who feel isolated from the community, the homebound, those in nursing homes, and all who are dying with no one to care for them.

**People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Minister: Let us ask God for what we need for Christmas: if we are lonely, if we long for past Christmases when we were children or when our children were little, if the people with whom we spend Christmas are difficult, if we are anxious or without enough money or enough time.

**People: Hear our prayer, O Lord.**

Minister: Good and gracious God, your Word becomes flesh in our midst. Listen to those needs we cannot express and help us to know your presence in this holy season; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

## THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

*You are invited to come forward to receive communion. Forming two lines, use the center aisle as you approach the altar and the side aisles as you return to your seat. If you prefer to remain seated, a Deacon will serve you. This evening we will take the bread and the cup by intinction, dipping the bread into the common cup. You will take a piece of bread from the plate offered by a Deacon and dip it into the chalice offered by one of the ministers. You may then place the bread in your mouth. Appropriate responses upon receiving the bread or the cup are “Thanks be to God.” or “Amen.”*

INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION: Gesu Bambino Pietro Yon  
Ave Maria Giulio Caccini/arr. Patrick M. Lieberger

*As you wait to receive communion, offer a prayer for family and friends. Pray for people with special needs, for all who sorrow or are lonely, for everyone who is hungry and homeless, and for each one who needs assurance of God’s love. After you have celebrated communion, offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the joys of this Christmas season, for the generous spirit of neighbors, for the love of family and friends, for this church and all it means to your life and this community, and for God’s gift of himself to us all.*

## UNISON PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

**O God, having celebrated this moment with you and with each other, and with hearts made warm and wills made strong through bread and cup, enable us to reflect the love of Christ in our hearts. Help us to celebrate his birth in gratitude, in unselfish love and cheerful service, that it may be a blessing to us and an offering of thanksgiving to you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

- \* CAROL 143: “Joy to the World” ANTIOCH
- \* THE BLESSING
- \* POSTLUDE: The Holy Boy (A Carol of the Nativity) John Ireland
- \* Congregation stands

*The white poinsettias on the chancel are given to the glory of God  
and in memory of Webster Henry and in honor of Nancy Henry by the Henry Family.*

*We are grateful for the Memorial Poinsettias that adorn the sanctuary,  
remembrances of those persons who have filled our lives with love and joy.*

## THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Jody C. Wright <i>Senior Minister</i>	Elizabeth Edwards <i>Associate Minister</i>	Amy Shortt <i>Minister of Music</i>
Bo Browder <i>Lay Reader</i>	Mark Pichowicz <i>Organist</i>	Chris Ellis <i>Violinist</i>
Will Robillard <i>Acolyte</i>	Reynolds Cobb <i>Torch Bearer</i>	Carson Browder <i>Crucifer</i>
Sue Cataline, Elizabeth and Maggie Paszek <i>Soloists</i>		

We welcome our guest musicians who lead us in worship on this night. Chris Ellis is a native of Farmville, N. C., and began studying violin at age ten. He is a graduate of East Carolina University and Florida State University. Chris has played with numerous orchestras in the Southeast. He and his family live in Greenville, N.C., and he teaches in Rocky Mount and Goldsboro.

*Support for guest musicians who lead in worship at Lakeside is provided by the Jack Laughery Music Fund, established by his family and friends to honor his life and love of music.*

The artwork on the cover is “Adoration of the Shepherds” by Gerrit van Honthorst, 1622.

# Christmas Eve Communion



*Lakeside Baptist Church  
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