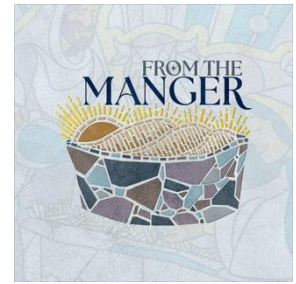


The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
December 24, 2024
Christmas Eve



Gathering As a People of God

Welcome

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prelude

Two French Noels:
Puer nobis nascitur
Mais on san es allé Nau
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Jean-Francois Dandrieu

Lighting the Christ Candle

Becca Boldrey, Nina Roy, Gail Lytle Lira & Jill Schaberg

One: From the manger, hope, peace, joy, and love are growing—growing to be God with us. His name is Jesus—the Bread of Life.

All: We light the candle of hope. Hope is believing things can get better with compassion and imagination. Next, we light the candle of peace. Peace is what happens when everyone treats each other, themselves, and the world kindly.

One: Then, we light the candle of joy. Joy is when you feel so thankful you could burst with excitement and gratitude. And we light the candle of love. Love is the care and connection binding us together with each other and God.

All: Joy to the world! Jesus has been born! Tonight we light the Christ candle, because the Bread of Life has been born today in Bethlehem, a city called House of Bread. So all creation can be fed, he will be God with us.

Introit

Once in Royal David's City
PCO Handbell Choir
Irene Shutt, Director

arr: Douglas Wagner

*** Call to Worship**

Candy Boldrey, Liturgist

One: Siblings of faith, come together and dream of a world where every belly is fed and every heart is full.

All: From a manger to a mountainside to the plains and the lakes, the Christ child will show us how to feed one another.

One: Come together and adore the newborn Prince of Peace who will show us how to share what we have so no one is hungry.

All: Let us worship the One who will feed his friends and his neighbors, even those who will betray and reject him.

One: In the darkness of this holy night, let us remember the One who broke bread for us.

All: In the light of this holy night, let us remember the ones who cry out with hunger. Come, let us worship together.

* Hymn #133

O Come, All Ye Faithful vs. 1-4
[Adeste Fideles]

Prayer of Adoration

Rebecca Mattern

* Act of Praise #583

Gloria, Gloria
[Gloria]
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

Jacques Berthier

The Word

Children's Message: Journey to the Manger

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prayer of Illumination #88, vs 1

sung

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

Old Testament Scripture

Micah 5:2-5

Rebecca Mattern

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God

New Testament Scripture

Luke 2: 1-7

Candy Boldrey, Liturgist

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Special Music

He Is Born

arr. by Linda R. Lamb

Handbell Choir Quintet

Kathi & Dave Cook, Linda & Lou Cravotta, and Sarah Mayhew

New Testament Scripture

Luke 2: 8-20

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

From the Manger: Hungering for Good News

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Anthem

PCO Christmas Eve Choir

Responding to the Word

Offering

Rebecca Mattern

Invitation

The Christmas Eve offering supports the Board of Deacon's Fund for congregation and community members in need.

Offertory

The Holy Boy

John Ireland

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn # 145

What Child is This, vs. 1-3
[Greensleeves]

Holy Communion

Invitation

Pastor Lisa Schrott

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rebecca Mattern

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give both thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer

in unison

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Communion of the People

Communion will be served by intinction. Please take a piece of bread and dip it into the cup of juice. The bread is gluten, soy, nut and dairy free so all may partake together.

Communion Prayer

Rebecca Mattern

Sent Out as a People of God

* **The Light of Christ**

John 1:1-5, 10-12, 14

Rebecca Mattern

One: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

All: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

One: He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

All: But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God.

One: And the Word became flesh and lived among us,

All: and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a Father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Sharing the Light

The ushers will bring the light from the Christ Candle to those seated near the aisle in each pew, who will then pass the flame to the end of each row. After we have sung all four verses of *Silent Night*, worshipers may extinguish their candles.

***Hymn #122**

Silent Night, vs. 1-4

[Stille Nacht]

1 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.

2 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!"

3 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.

4 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.

*** Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: May Christ, the Bread of Life, born this day to love and serve the world,
accompany you as you go.

May the love of our Creator,

who calls us to care for the hungry and oppressed, surround you.

And may the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, who empowers us to imagine a realm
where all needs are met, strengthen you, now and always.

**All: We go in hope, peace, joy, and love to feed the hungry, comfort the afflicted,
and share the good news of Christ's birth.**

Postlude

Joy to the World

arr: Kristina Langlois

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

** Please rise in body or spirit*

Next Sunday December 29, 2024

Seminarian Jonathan Townley preaching.

Education Hour: There will be no classes for children, youth or adults.

Christmas Day Dinner tomorrow, December 25 at the Church at 2:00 p.m.

The art and the adapted liturgy for the Advent *From the Manger* series are from Illustrated Ministry. © 2024 Illustrated Ministry, LLC. illustratedministry.com

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