

Offertory Anthem

All This for Us
Chancel Choir

Garry A. Cornell, 1979
Words trans. from German by GAC

All praise to you, eternal Lord, clothed in garb of flesh and blood,
a manger choosing for a throne while worlds on worlds are yours alone.

A little child, you came our guest, all the weary to give rest.
Forlorn and lowly was your birth that we might rise to heaven from earth.

All this for us your love has done! By this our love for you is won!
For this our joyful songs we sing, for this our grateful praise we bring!

God's son to whom the heavens bow, cradled by a virgin now,
we listen for your infant voice while angels in your heaven rejoice.

All this for us your love has done! By this our love for you is won!
For this our joyful songs we sing, for this our grateful praise we bring!

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:8-20,(Pew Bible, NT page 58)

Special Music

O Holy Night
Ali Molnar

Composed by Adolphe Charles Adam

*Medley of Christmas Carols (see insert)

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

***All who are able may stand**



Order of Worship

Christmas Eve
December 24, 2018

5:30 p.m.

Prelude

Raine Allen - violin

String Trio

Michael Simpson - viola

Jennifer Haber - cello

Welcome

Processional of Christ Candle

Scripture Reading

John 1:1-14, (NT page 91)

Rebecca Johnson

Lighting the Candles of Advent

Emily Christman and Rachel Callahan

Call to Worship

With eyes wide open and our ears on edge,
we look for shepherds and listen for the songs of angels.

In the light of winter’s moon, with the Cross lighting the way,
we gather outside the door of a mystery, wondering if we dare go enter.

With folks and friends we love, with strangers we have just met,
we gather, becoming the holy family for this time and in this place.

Prayer of Praise and Adoration

*Hymn of Response No. 22

Angels From the Realms of Glory

Scripture

Isaiah 9:2-7, (OT page 638)

Call to Reconciliation

In our celebrations of love and joy, of laughter and families, we must remember and confess how, intentionally or not, we dampen the spirits of others, speak hurtful words to those we love, turn our backs on those in need. Join me, as we pray together saying,

Unison Prayer of Confession

Manger-dwelling God,
we heard the songs of the angels,
yet we easily tune-out the cries of the needy;
we feel the breath of our children on our faces,
yet remain untouched by your Spirit of peace;
we are surrounded by gifts as precious as those brought by the Wise Ones,
yet have trouble sharing with those who are from other countries, other faiths.

Forgive us, Grace swaddled in mystery.
We believe in Christmas, help us to believe in you even more;
we hunger for happiness, feed us on your peace;
we long for community and acceptance,
surround us with our brothers and sisters
we find in all those, of every age and every place,
who follow and serve alongside our Lord and Savior,
Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate. *(moment of silent confession)*

Assurance of Pardon (Titus 3:4-7)

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit

This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that,
Having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Special Music

The Jesus Gift

Gilbert M. Martin, 1977

Chancel Choir

Alice Fortunato, soloist

Shall I gather emeralds, shall I bring him gold?
Shall I shower diamonds, white-hard, bright-cold?
Shall I spangle jewels like stars above?
Give him laughter, bring peace-filled laughter, offer him warm laughter and love.

Simplest of gifts, gentlest of hearts, kindness he'll use as he leads.
So give him these gifts, hand him your hearts, honor his birth and you'll need
no emeralds nor rubies, silver nor gold, neither bright diamonds, white-hard, bright-cold;
Spangle not rich jewels like stars above.
You'll have laughter, sweet peace-filled laughter, simple warm laughter and love.

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-7, (Pew Bible NT page 58)

Gathering of the Children

*Hymn of Response No. 49

Once in Royal David’s City

A Christmas Prayer for the People

Joy Offering

*The Medley of Carols and Lighting of Candles

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

It came upon a midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, To touch their harps of gold;
“Peace on the earth good will to men, from heaven’s all-gracious King”;
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats O’er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains, They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o’er its Babel sounds, The blessed angels sing.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little Town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently, The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.

Silent Night! Holy Night!

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.

Benediction

Postlude - Will Benton

A Joyous Christmas

arr. Leavit

*All who are able may stand

Merry Christmas!

Monday December 24	Tuesday December 25	Wednesday December 26	Thursday December 27	Friday December 28
Church Office Open 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	Church Office Closed	Church Office Closed	Church Office Open 9:00am-1:00 pm	Church Office Closed
	Child Care Center Closed	Child Care Center Closed	Child Care Center Closed	Child Care Center Closed
5:30 pm Christmas Eve Candles & Carols				
11:00 pm Christmas Eve Candles, Carols & Communion				

Christmas Joy Offering

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

End of the Year Giving

We are grateful for any year end gifts you are able to make to Park Lake Presbyterian Church. Many people make special year end gifts as a part of their financial plans. Gifts must be postmarked by December 31, 2018 or received in the church office by 12:00 noon on December 31, 2018 if you would like to drop off an end of the year contribution.



December Ushers are Shawn Moloney, Mike Bookhardt, Bob Larr, Larry Welker, Eric Wood

*The Medley of Carols and Lighting of Candles

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