

5. Luke 2:8-20 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. **Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.** But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” **And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”** When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” **So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.** When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. **But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.** The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Anthem *Angels and Shepherds - Choir*

The Service of Giving

+Song *Angels We Have Heard on High #23*

The Service of Holy Communion (see insert)

6. John 1: 1-5, 10-14, 16-18 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. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. 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.** But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. **And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth...** From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. **No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.**

+Song *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing #31*
+Charge and Benediction
+Postlude



MISSION

WORSHIP



THE BODY OF CHRIST
 THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF
 ADVENT / CHRISTMAS EVE



Community of Faith Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2017

+Stand as you are able

Leader reads plain type, Congregation reads bold

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit

Lighting of the Advent candle

L: We light these candles as a symbol of the joy to be found in God's kingdom on earth.

P: For the Lord elevates the lowly, releases the captives, and brings sight to the blind. We rejoice in God's mercy and justice, faithful to all generations. (three candles are lit.)

Let us pray: **God, our light and salvation, you bring hope and peace to the lowly and oppressed. Let us see the world through your eyes that we may love the widow and orphan, that we may work for justice, that our lives may bear witness to the good news of the kingdom at hand. We pray this in the name of Christ, who taught us to pray together: 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.**

Lessons and Carols

1. Isaiah 9:2-7 The people who walked

in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. **You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.** For 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. **His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.** He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

Song *Watchman Tell Us of the Night* #20

2. Isaiah 52:7-10 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,

together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Song *Go Tell it On the Mountain* #29

The Peace

L: Let us pause or a chance to share the peace with one another: The Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

Let us greet one another with the sign of the peace.

3. Luke 1:26-38 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How

can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Song *Mary Did you Know?* Kim Suer

4. Luke 2:1-7 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Song *O Little Town of Bethlehem* #43

Meditation