

1702 Iowa Street
Davenport, IA 52803
A Congregation of the
Presbyterian Church
(U.S.A.)

December 24, 2021
Christmas Eve
Candlelight Communion
Worship at 9:00 p.m.

Welcome!

We are an open and affirming congregation, and a proud member of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians (covnetpres.org).



People of all sexual orientations and gender identities are welcome here, along with their families.

We are a
Matthew 25 church



MATTHEW 25

Matthew 25 congregations identify themselves as working toward one or more of three goals: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism and eradicating systemic poverty.

SCRIPTURE FOR MEDITATION

"Do not be afraid; for see – I bring you good news of great joy for all people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

- Luke 2: 10-11



<https://www.emmanueldowntown.org/eec-events/2019/12/22/advent-lessons-amp-music-the-great-o-antiphons>

Preparation for Worship

We invite you to meditate silently on art, music and Scripture.

*Worshippers who are able, please stand. **Bold** indicates congregational response.

The Church Gathers To...

Prelude	IX Noel, Sur Les Flutes	Louis Claude Daquin
Welcome and Announcements		Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala
Introit	Chorale Prelude on 'In ducli jubilo'	Johann Michael Bach

Praise Almighty God

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Reader 1 adapted from Rev. Elissa Bailey, who adapted from *Spill the Beans*

We have lit these Advent Candles to remind us of God's promise to send a Savior.

On this Christmas Eve, we light the Christ Candle. Christ is the True Light who brings light to all people. We are called to carry the light into the world.


Reader 2

Let us pray: O God of Light, you illuminate every corner of the world. Thank you for sending Jesus who, in the power of the Holy Spirit, shows us how to carry your light into our lives. We pray in Hope, Peace, Joy and Love, and in the name of the One who is your Word made flesh.

***Hymn**

The Snow Lay On The Ground

VENITE ADOREMUS



1. The snow lay on the ground, The stars shone bright, When Christ our Lord was
 2. 'Twas Ma - ry, daugh - ter pure Of ho - ly Anne, That brought in - to this
 3. Saint Jo - seph, too, was by To tend the Child; To guard him, and pro -
 4. And thus that man - ger poor Be - came a throne; For He whom Ma - ry

born On Christ - mas night. Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi -
 world The God made man. She laid Him in a stall At Beth - le -
 tect His mo - ther mild; The an - gels hov - ered round, And sung this
 bore Was God the Son. O come, then, let us join The heav - 'nly

num; Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 hem; The ass and ox - en shared The roof with them. Ve -
 song, Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 host, To praise the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly Ghost.

ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num; Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num;

Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Book of Common Worship, PC(USA)

All powerful and unseen God, the coming of your Light into the world has brightened our weary hearts. As we listen for you Word, we praise you name. May we experience your love as we tell the story that all may believe and rejoice. Amen.

O Antiphons and Carols

The O Antiphons are a meditation on some of the names of Jesus that are found in Scripture and tradition. The earliest reference to the O Antiphons was around 500 CE.

O Wisdom, O holy Word of God,
 wonderful is your counsel and great is your wisdom.
O Wisdom, O holy Word of God,
come and show your people the way to salvation.

O Adonai, O Sacred Lord of Israel,
 you judge the poor with justice.
O Adonai, O Sacred Lord of Israel,
come, stretch out your hand to set us free.

O Flower of Jesse's stem, raised up as a sign for all peoples,
from the root of the stump of Jesse,
a shoot has sprung and from his roots a bud has blossomed.

**O Flower of Jesse's stem, raised up as a sign for all peoples to come,
let nothing keep you from coming to our aid.**

O Key of David, all that you open remains open,
all that you close remains closed.

**O Key of David, come, break down the prison walls
and lead your captive people into freedom.**

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice,
your light shines upon the lands of gloom.

**O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice, come,
shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.**

O King of all nations, the keystone which makes all of us one,
the stone rejected by the builder has become the cornerstone.

**O King of all the nations, the keystone which makes us all one,
come and save the creature you fashioned from the dust.**

O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations,
Savior of all people,

**O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations,
come and set us free, Lord our God.**

Hymn #53

What Child is This

GREENSLEEVES



1. What Child is this, who, laid to rest, On Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom
2. Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are feed - ing? Good
3. So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, one and all, to own Him. The



an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.
King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let lov - ing hearts en - throne Him.



This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Ma - ry!

Respond to God's Word

Offering Our Gifts and Lives to God

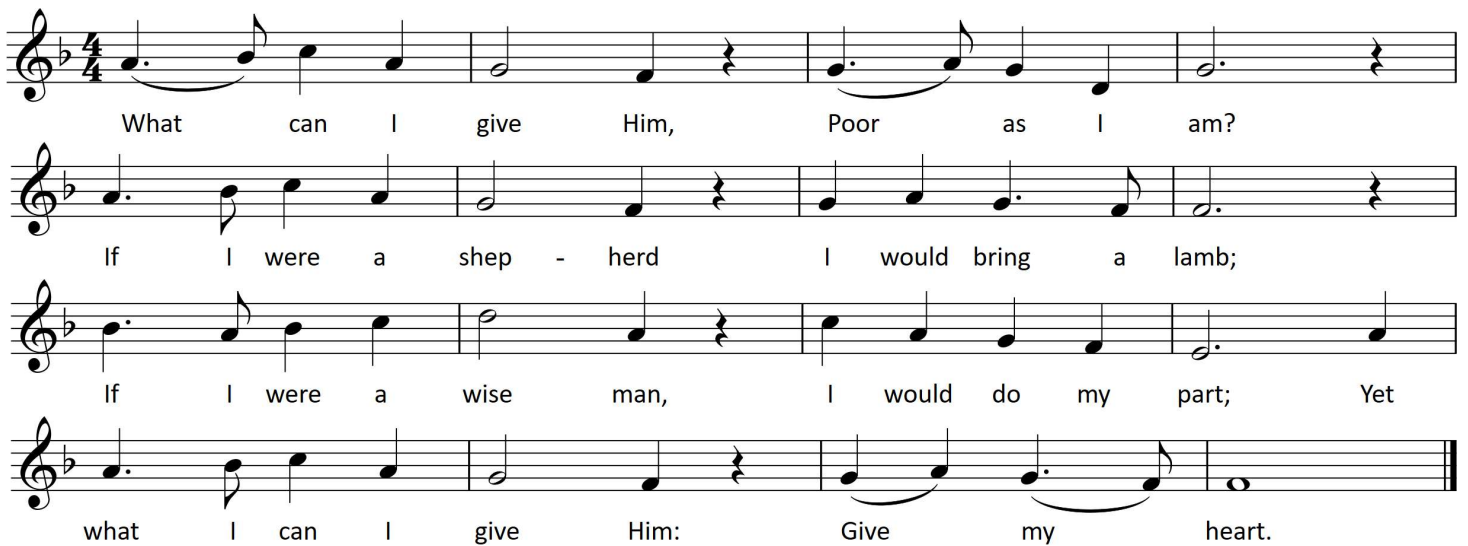
On this night when we use candles to enhance our worship, let us remember those in the world who must use candles in place of electricity. May we honor our sisters and brothers in Christ by sharing generously the gifts God has given us. Amen.

In dulci jubilo, BWV 608

J. S. Bach

To donate, please visit the church website, fpcdavenport.org, and click on "Donate Now," use the link: <https://bit.ly/2V8nEgm>, or mail your check in to the church office.

*Presentation of Our Gifts and Lives to God



What can I give Him, Poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man, I would do my part; Yet

what I can I give Him: Give my heart.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

adapted from Thom Shuman

This is the night our hearts burst open with hope, peace, joy and love.

This is the evening grace pours out of heaven and God makes all things new!

We come, just as we are, to see what has happened:

with the shepherds we seek the One of whom the angels sang;

with the poor in spirit and in flesh,

with those who are humbled by life,

with our friends and family, our neighbors and strangers,

with all the children of God,

we seek the One who will lead us home to God's reign.

We come to seek the Glory of God, born in a stable and placed in a feeding trough,

the Babe of Bethlehem.

Friends in Christ, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

Our Savior Jesus invites all who trust in him to share the feast he has prepared.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

adapted from Belonging to God

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Our Father in heaven, we call on you like little children
who know you care for us and love us.
Draw near and hear our prayers. Hallowed be thy name.
**We pray that your name will be honored in all the world
and everywhere treated as holy.**

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
**We ask that you fulfill your purpose for the whole world.
Make us able and willing to accept your will in all things
and to do our part in bringing about your purpose.**

Give us our daily bread.
**All good things come from you.
Even in our most ordinary needs, you care for us completely.**

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
**We are sorry we have sinned.
We ask you not to hold our sins against us, but to accept us again by your grace.
Because you forgive us, we know you call us to forgive others.**

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
**Protect us, O God, especially when we need you most.
Free us from all desires that would lead us to sin,
and shelter us when the powers of evil threaten us.**

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.
**We praise you, O God, for you have the power to do everything we ask in this prayer.
We give ourselves over to your gracious rule.
We know we can trust you to make all things work together for good, now and forever.**
Amen.

Communion of the People

*We will receive communion using individual communion sets.
Peel open the top layer of the communion set and partake of your wafer.
Then, you peel open the bottom layer to reveal your individual cup.
Our Words of Institution will not call for you to partake of the bread and the cup separately.
After you've eaten the Bread and drunk the Cup,
keep your empty individual communion set with you until you are exiting the sanctuary.
In the narthex you will find trash cans in which to place your empty communion set.*

Anthem

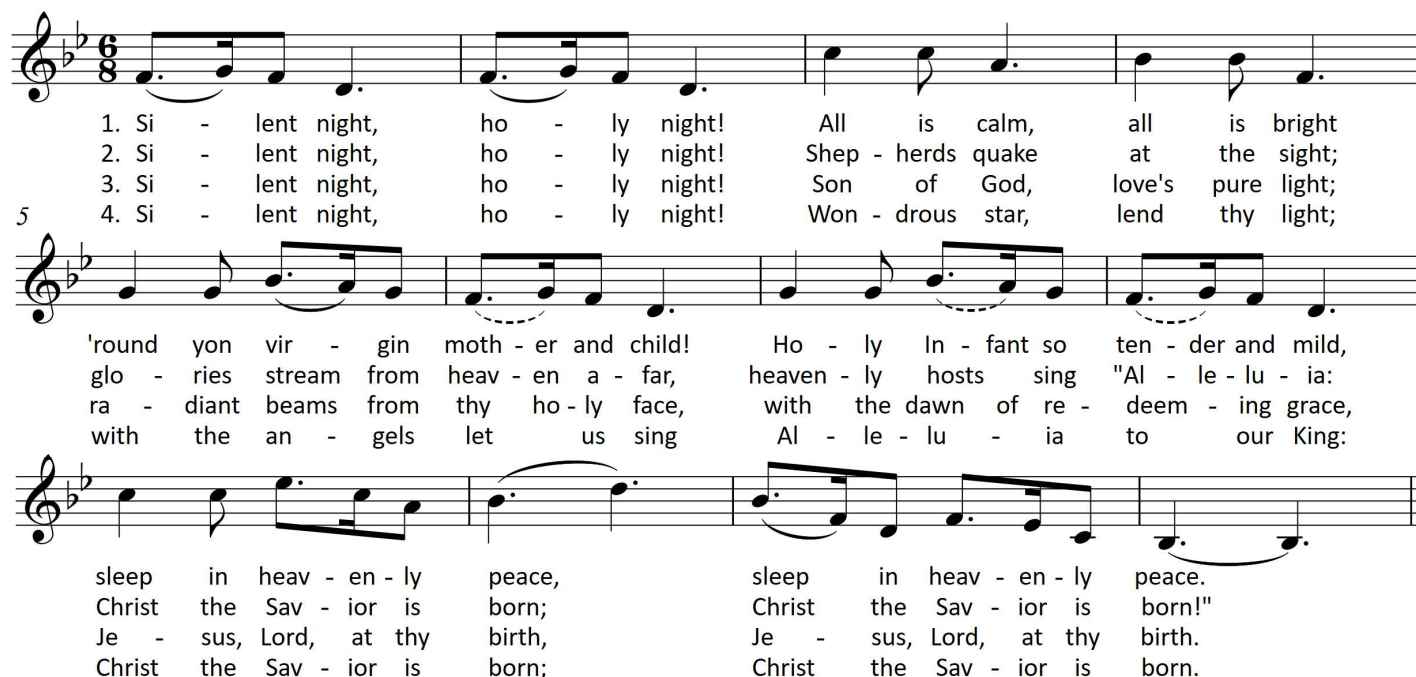
O Holy Night
Tricia Humphries, soprano soloist

Adolph Adam

Prayer Following Communion

Book of Common Worship, PC(USA)

**As we move out into this Holy Night, with shepherds and magi and pilgrim's unknown, empower
us by your Spirit, O God, to be Christ's presence in the world even as Jesus is God-with-us.
Illumine our paths with the light of Christ's presence so we may see clearly the way before us.
Give us courage to speak his truth, to seek his justice, and to love with his love. Keep us faithful
in your service until Christ comes in final victory and we feast with all your saints in the joy of
your eternal realm; Amen.**



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light;
 5 4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild,
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heaven - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu - ia:
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
 with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our King:

sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"
 Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

Charge and Benediction

O Wisdom

show your people the way to salvation.

O Adonai

stretch out your mighty hand to set us free.

O Flower of Jesse's stem

let nothing keep you from coming to our aid.

O Key of David

lead your people into freedom.

O Radiant Dawn

shine this night on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

O King of all the nations

Save humanity, the creature you made from clay.

O Emmanuel – God with us –

you are the One for whom the world is longing.

And this shall be a sign to you and to the whole world:

A young woman will bear a child and she will name him Emmanuel.**All generations will call her blessed, for holy is God's name.**

And may we, too, be blessed.

Until we meet again,

may God hold us in the palm of Glory's hand.

Amen.

Postlude

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

J. S. Bach

Christmas Flowers 2021

The poinsettias that grace the chancel and surround the Nativity figures in the narthex are given in memory or honor of the following loved ones who are held in grateful affection.

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In Loving Memory Of

Cheryl A. McCulloh *given by Family*

William & Hilda Macomber *given by Dennis & Ella Johns*

John Phoenix , Ruth & Harold Pedigo *given by Carol Phoenix*

Alice & Alfred Magnussan and Donald Magnussan *given by Jane A. Magnussan*

Lola J. Paulsen (Mother) & Rachel J. D'Auben (Daughter) *given by Pam Paulsen*

All of our Loved Ones who have gone before us *given by Greg & Sarah Soenksen & Family*

Henry H. & Miriam N. Lamb and Kenneth L. & Dorothy Kinney *given by Rob & Kathy Lamb*

Nic Johnson *given by Scott & Bonnie Johnson*

Our Parents Vera & Dale Jorgenson and Bette & Harold Missman *given by Denny & Marilyn Jorgenson*

K.C. Griesenbeck *given by Tom & Sue Ervin and Claire Eppel*

Ken & Joan McKay *given by their Family*

Wendell & Emily Jacobsmeier , Bob Southerland, and Marie Cox *given by the Jacobsmeier Family*

Bud & Lorrie Darland *given by Theresa & Sean Jacobsmeier & Kids, and Dianna Darland*

Beulah & Forest Fowler, Bruce Darland, Dorthea & Vernell Browne *given by Dianna & the Jacobsmeier Family*

Norman & Ruth Mary Lou and Nels & Rhonda Evans *given by Kim and Sue Evans*

Sam & Rose Grammatico and Lee, Alma and Phyllis Hoehn and Thomas M. Farnsworth *given by JoAnn Farnsworth & Don Hoehn*

Leo & Juanita Oswald, Aloysius Sodawasser *given by Kristine, Erin and Patrick, Ian*

K.C. Eppel – Griesenbeck *given by Choir Friends*

Jean & Binc Bowden *given by Ron & Susie Kardel*

Bill & Helen Chapman *given by Nancy Chapman*

Roberta Barr Darbyshire *given by Hobart Darbyshire, Jean, Julie & Mary*

Howard & Eileen Meadors, Jenni Salisbury *given by Linda Meadors and Heather Salisbury*

Christine Johnson & Kathy Price *given by Brian, Kathlynn, Aidan, and Keian*

Benjamin P. and Marion Steckel and Darrell Orman *given by Jed Steckel and Melanie Steckel*

John "Tim Bawden *given by His Family*

Marlys Turnquist *given by Kirk, Christie, and Irene Huffman*

Nicholas Scott Johnson *given by Irene Huffman, Kirk Christie, and Sue Pawula*

Helen & Amos Folkedahl, , Alice & Ronald Ruiter , Martha & John Ruiter , Helen & Alvin Stueland *given by Karla Ruiter*

Eileen Meadors *given by Linda Meadors, Jenni Salisbury, and Heather Salisbury*

In Honor Of

Our Families *given by Sue & Tom Ervin*

The Chancel Guild wishes to thank all those who through their donations made it possible to beautify the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church this Christmas Season.

When the world was dark and the city was quiet, you came.
You crept in beside us, and no one knew,
only the few who dared to believe that God might do something different.

Will you do the same this Christmas, Lord?
Will you come into the darkness of tonight's world -
not the friendly darkness as when sleep rescues us from tiredness,
but the fearful darkness, in which people have stopped believing:
 that war will end
 or that food will come
 or that a government will change
 or that the Church cares?

Will you come into that darkness and do something different
to save your people from death and despair?
Will you come into the quietness of this town -
not the friendly quietness as when lovers hold hands,
but the fearful silence when:
 the phone has not rung
 the letter has not come,
 the friendly voice no longer speaks,
 the doctor's face says it all?

Will you come into that darkness and do something different
not to distract, but to embrace your people?
Will you come into the dark corners and the quiet places of our lives?
We ask this not because we are guilt-ridden or want to be,
but because the fullness of our lives longs for, depends upon, our being:
 as open and vulnerable as you were to us
 when you came wearing no more than diapers
 and trusting human hands to hold their maker.

Will you come into our lives
if we open them to you and do something different?

When the world was dark and the city was quiet, you came.
You crept in beside us.

Do the same this Christmas, Lord.
Do the same this Christmas.

Amen.

-Cloth for the Cradle, Iona Community