



Christmas Eve
Candlelight
Worship Service

December 24, 2022



ORDER OF WORSHIP

CENTERING PRAYER

Living God, on this holy night we gather—to stand with shepherds, amazed at your glory;
to sing with angels, rejoicing in your work; to wait with Joseph, trusting in your promise;
to sit with Mary, cradling your love. May the good news of this night inspire us to tell the world of our great joy: for to us is born a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord. Glory and praise to you forever! Amen.

PRELUDE

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

Roger C. Wilson

CHRISTMAS WELCOME

ADVENT WREATH LITURGY

As we light the Christ candle, we watch for the Christmas story around us.
“Good news of great joy,” the angel said,
“for to you a savior is born.”
The choir sang,
“for God reigns in the highest.”
the star beckoned,
“follow me,”
“for hope was born in Bethlehem.”
Emmanuel has come and is coming.
Come, all ye faithful, and worship God.

† CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Hymnal #133

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jesus, you are God’s holy child, born of Mary:
Lord have mercy.
Jesus, in you all the fullness of God is pleased to dwell.
Christ have mercy.
Jesus, you are the Word made flesh, full of grace and truth.
Lord have mercy. (Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

† GLORIA PATRI

Hymnal #581

† CAROL

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hymnal #121

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-20

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

“Finding Christ”

Rev. Dr. Dave Burgess

† CAROL

Hark The Herald Angels Sing

Hymnal #119

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

John 1:1-5

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.

OFFERTORY/CHRISTMAS

Advent Cry

Joseph Martin

JOY OFFERING

Chancel Choir

† THE DOXOLOGY

Hymnal #609

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Prayer After Communion

CANDLE LIGHTING

As the lights are dimmed, the minister will take light from the Christ candle and pass it to the ushers who will carry the light from pew to pew. Please share the light with those around you by tipping the unlit candle toward the lit candle.

† CAROL

Silent Night

Hymnal #122

(Please extinguish your candles as you exit the sanctuary.)

† CHARGE, BLESSING, AND CARRYING YOUR LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

The First Nowell

English Carol

† *You are invited to stand, as you are able.*



**WELCOME TO CHRISTMAS EVE
FAMILY SERVICE AT
ST MARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!**

May this worship experience deepen your faith and bless your family as we celebrate the miraculous gift of God's light and presence among us.

We invite you to join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am, or on Saturday evenings at 5:00 pm.

Wherever you may be on your faith journey, there is a place for you to participate here. Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE AT ST. MARK

St. Mark will be closed the following days to observe the Christmas, and New Year holidays:

-Monday and Tuesday, December 26 and 27

-Saturday, December 31, no Saturday evening worship service

-Monday, January 2

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.

God has blessed the Church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This offering addresses the support needed by some of our leaders, including supporting leadership-development for communities of color, and providing support for Presbyterian church workers in their time of need. Let's continue St. Mark's tradition of strongly supporting the Christmas Joy Offering. Use the envelope in your packet or simply designate the Joy Offering in the memo line on your check made out to St. Mark.

GIVING FOR 2022

All financial gifts need to be delivered to the church office or postmarked by **December 31** to be credited to your 2022 giving statement for IRS purposes.



POINSETTIAS

The beautiful Poinsettias in our Sanctuary were donated by the following families in celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Joyce Blackwell

Donna & Ray Bosenbecker

Monica, Frank & Megan Buckley

Glen & Joan Corlett

Mark & Stacey Caplinger

Nancy Dunn

Pat Eisenberg

Ron & Shirley Goff

Glenn Knopf

Bertha Larez

Ann Leonard

Pat Marshall

Mike & Marilyn McMillen

Kay Merz

Robyn Mikes

Donna Kniep

Rick, Mary Beth & Gaspode Powell

Phyl Preuss

Gary & Judy Richardson

Ashley Stanley

Valery & Norm Steiner

Nancy & David Sutch

Mark & Carol Weber

Cathy & Don York

Pastor: Rev. Dr. J. David Burgess
Associate Pastor: Rev. MP Panco
Dir. of Children's Ministry: Latisha Gilliland
Dir. of Claymont Preschool: Susan Talley



ST. MARK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PC(USA) · BALLWIN, MO

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Dir. of Music: Ethan Forte
Saturday Musician: Mark Reynoso
Sunday Accompanist: Jee-Hye Lee
Special Music: Chancel Choir
Advent Liturgist: The Melter Family