

*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. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. - Isaiah 9.6-7*

**CHRISTMAS EVE 2017 · 6:00 p.m.**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call To Worship (wall)

Leader: "The Lord be with you!"

**People: "And also with you!"**

Leader: Let us go, in heart and mind, to see what has come to pass. Let us go with the shepherds:

**People: Let us go to find the Savior!**

Leader: Let us go with the wise ones:

**People: Let us go to find God's promise, born for us!**

Leader: Let us go with the poor and humble:

**People: Let us go to find our King, born in a lowly manger.**

Leader: Let us go with all the world, with all the peoples of the nations. Come, let us worship; come, let us adore him:

**People: Christ the Lord!**

\*Carol Medley (wall)

"O Come All Ye Faithful" (Hymn 41)

"Angels We Have Heard on High" (Hymn 23)

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" (Hymn 44 – Verses 1 & 4)

\*Prayer of Confession

O God, in the beginning you spoke, and creation was born, the object of your loving care. In the fullness of time you spoke, and the Word became flesh, Jesus, gift of your love. We wonder at the miracle of creation; we stand in awe before the mystery of the incarnation. Forgive us earthbound creatures, feeble in faith, empty of hope, lacking in love. This year let the miracle and mystery of Christmas happen for us again. We wait upon you with ready hearts, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**\*Words of Assurance**

Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken." People of God, in Jesus Christ you are a holy people, the redeemed of the Lord. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

*The Christ Candle is lit by The Gordon Family*

**Congregation**

**Come to us, Lord Jesus Christ – Promised from long ago, Born in Bethlehem, Ruler of all nations. Come to us Lord, Jesus Christ, Abide in our hearts tonight.**

\*Hymn (wall) "Hark! The Herald Angel Sings" Hymn 31

**Call for Offering**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Scripture** Isaiah 9:2 - 7 NRSV  
Luke 2:1 - 14

Message "The Angels Still Sing" Rev. Bruce Mulder

Christmas Eve Prayer

Candles and Carols "Silent Night" and "Joy To The World"

*Congregation hums Silent Night while candles are being lit.  
Once all candles are lit, please sing lyrics to both songs.  
Songs are included in insert.  
Please tilt unlit candles to lit candle to avoid wax dripping.*



*Please extinguish your candle. Take it home and light it before you open gifts to remind you of God's great gift to you.*

Christmas Blessing

Postlude

## Announcements



PCPH staff members hope your Christmas Day is filled with hugs, happiness, and holy moments. Merry Christmas from Bruce, Yohance, Debi, Malissa, Huiran, Linda, Cathy, Judy, and the office angels (Helen, Lillian, Linda, Jean, Barbara, Charlotte).

Thank you for being part of tonight's Christmas celebration. With a new year, there comes fresh resolve, new commitments, and new beginnings. Worship next year at the Presbyterian Church of Palm Harbor (PCPH) on Sunday mornings at 10:15am. Sunday School and nursery care (ages 3 and under) are offered at the same time.

The church office will reopen on Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 – 2:30. All financial gifts for 2017 to PCPH must be in the church office by 2:30pm on Thursday, December 28<sup>th</sup>. The office is only open next Wednesday and Thursday.