

# LATE NIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Opequon Presbyterian Church, Winchester, Virginia

December 24, 2018

11:00 pm

†Please stand if able.

All read bold print.

## GATHER

PRELUDE ..... *Midwinter Prelude*

GATHERING SONG ..... *Christmas Offering*

PS150

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT AND CHRIST CANDLES

.....Mike & Vicki Crites

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lift up your voices and sing.

**For this is a holy night.**

Let the young and old stay up late.

**Light many candles and hold them high.**

Listen for the flutter of angel wings.

**Open your hearts to the lost and poor.**

Wipe away every tear

**Open your eyes to the starry sky.**

Ready your heart for the Son of God, the Child born for us, born for you

**Coming on this most holy night.**

†CAROL NO. 41 ..... *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

†CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

Loving God, with joyful hearts we thank you for the miracle of Christmas. We thank you for coming to us in the living flesh of a child. We praise you for our heritage of Christmas devotion as generations have gathered in this very place as witnesses to the incarnation. Let us once again worship with thanksgiving at the manger; yet, let us remember Jesus not only as a baby but as a crucified Messiah who suffered with us, died for us, and because of us and, by your power, rose to a new and deathless life. For Christ, above all, do we offer you praise this Christmas Eve. Amen.

†PASSING OF THE PEACE (Please share this prayer with those next to you)

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## ENGAGE

ANTHEM ..... *Mary, Did You Know?*  
PS150

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7 ..... Pew Bible p. 638

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Luke 2:1-20 ..... Pew Bible p. 58

†CAROL NO. 44 ..... *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

SERMON ..... "Is Our Room Ready?"  
Pastor David R. Witt

## RESPOND

CAROL NO. 56 ..... *The First Nowell*

OFFERING OF GIFTS

OFFERTORY

†CAROL NO. 23 ..... *Angels We Have Heard on High*

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION MUSIC ..... *Eventide Contemplations*

## GO FORTH

### SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

During the song, the ushers will come forward, light their candles, and proceed down the aisles, lighting the candle of the first person in each pew. You are asked to pass the light on to the person on your right or left. *Please only tilt the unlit candles.*

†CAROL ..... *Silent Night! Holy Night!*  
CCLI #1622560

**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.

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

†POSTLUDE

### COME AND WORSHIP, COME AND WORSHIP, WORSHIP CHRIST THE NEWBORN KING!

We joyously welcome you to worship tonight as we together celebrate the birth of Jesus. We feel greatly blessed that you are here! Like the shepherds, “let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” (Luke 2:15). Merry Christmas to you and your family!

### COMMUNION TODAY IS BY INTINCTION

We will come forward to the communion table to receive the sacrament by intinction. Each side should move to the center aisle as directed by the ushers. Gluten-free bread and gluten free grape juice (blue cup) are available; please see an usher for assistance. Please tear off a piece of bread and then dip it in the cup of grape juice, eating immediately. Return to your seat by the side aisle. Elders serving are: Bill Bender, Susanna Shade, Graham Taylor and Becky Proctor.

### PARTICIPANTS IN TONIGHT’S SERVICE

David Witt----- Pastor  
Garrett Jones ----- Pianist  
PS 150, Sarah Shade, Director----- Music  
Bill Bender, Paula & Mac McNichols ----- Greeters/Ushers

**Christmastide Sunday—December 30<sup>th</sup> —8:30 & 11:00 am**  
Annual Service of Lessons & Carols  
Special Music, Habitat for Humanity Paint Can Offering

**Epiphany Sunday—January 6<sup>th</sup>—8:30 & 11:00 am**  
Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12  
Sermon: “Opening Our Treasure Chests”  
Communion, CCAP