

Sixth Presbyterian Church
Saturday, December 24, 2022, 7 pm
Christmas Eve

The Sanctuary is a sacred space. The choral chimes will ring three times to let you know it is time to quiet your hearts, minds, and voices to prepare for worship.

Prelude "Prelude on 'Irby'" David Willcocks

Processional Carol "Once in Royal David's City" arr. David Willcocks

Chelsea Cockburn, soprano

1. Once in Royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

Choir only

2. He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

All voices

3. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle "Torches" John Joubert

Torches, torches, run with torches
All the way to Bethlehem!
Christ is born and now lies sleeping;
Come and sing your song to Him!

Ah, Roro, Roro, my baby,

Ah, Roro, my love, Roro;
Sleep you well, my heart's own darling,
While we sing you our Roro.

Sing my friends, and make you merry,
Joy and mirth and joy again;
Lo, He lives, the King of heaven,
Now and evermore.
Amen.

*Call to Worship

Isaiah 9

Leader: The people who walked in darkness, have seen a great light.

All: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness-on them has light shined.

All: LET US WORSHIP GOD!

*Hymn

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

133

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold Him,
Born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Very God, begotten, not created!
O come, let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all Glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him,

O come let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

*Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Confession

All: Great and glorious God, through Jesus Christ our Savior You have shown us that the blessed age of grace has appeared and the hoped-for time of salvation has come. Yet we cling to the glories of the present age-worldly passions and impious pursuits, self-indulgent, crooked, and ungodly ways. Redeem us from evil and cleanse us from sin, through Christ, who gave himself for us, so that we might be Your people, holy and whole.

Silent Confession

Kyrie "Wait for the Lord" 90
Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria "Angels We Have Heard on High" 113
Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?
Refrain

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Refrain

*Exchange of Peace

Leader: Remembering that some of our church family is watching the livestream, let us first turn to the cameras and say, "Peace be with you!" (*Turn and offer the peace.*) Being mindful of the comfort levels and boundaries of those around us, let us pass the peace of Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination

All: Loving God, by the gift of Your Spirit, teach us, like Mary, to treasure Your words and ponder them in our hearts; through Jesus Christ, Your Word made flesh. AMEN.

Hebrew Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7 (pg. 780)

*Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1-20 (pg. 71)

Sermon

"Unexpected Love"

Rev. Vincent Kolb

*Hymn

"Angels, From the Realms of Glory"

143

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you, who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
*Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light:
Refrain

Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations,
you have seen his natal star:
Refrain

All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One:
Refrain

*Affirmation of Faith

Titus 2:11-14

All: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Anthem

"Gaudete!"

Piae Cantiones, 1582; Jistebnice Cantional, 1420
Dana Canelli, Katrina Ndhlovu, Kathy Heron, soloists

Gaudete! gaudete! Christus est natus
Ex Maria Virgine: gaudete!

Rejoice! rejoice! Christ is born
of the Virgin Mary; rejoice!

1. *Tempus adest gratiae,
Hoc quod optabamus;
Carmina laetiae
Devote reddamus.*

The time of grace
has come for which we have prayed;
let us devoutly sing
songs of joy.

2. *Deus homo factus est,
Natura mirante;
Mundus renovatus est
A Christo renante.*

God is made man,
while nature wonders;
the whole world is renewed
by Christ the King.

3. *Ezechielis porta
Clausapertransitur;
Unde Lux est orta,
Salus invenitur.*

The closed gate of Ezekiel
has been passed through;
from where the Light has risen
salvation is found.

4. *Ergo nostra concio
Psallat jam in lustris;
Benedicat Domino:
Salus Regi nostro.*

Therefore let our assembly
sing praises now at this time of purification;
let it bless the Lord:
greetings to our King.

Pastoral Prayer

All: ...God of mercy, hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

2019 Vatican Update

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
do not let us fall into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.**

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem

"O Holy Night"

Adolphe Adam, arr. John E. West
Chelsea Cockburn, soprano

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
'Till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born.
O night, O holy night, O night divine.

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand:
So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here came the wise men from the Orient land.
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our friend;

He knows our need, He guardeth us from danger;

Behold your King! before the Lowly bend!
Behold your King! before the Lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is Love and His Gospel is Peace.
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
And in His name all oppression shall cease,
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful Chorus raise we;
Let all within us praise His holy name!

Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever!
His power and glory evermore proclaim!
His power and glory evermore proclaim!

*Doxology

607

**All: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures high and low,
Praise God, in Jesus fully known,
Creator, Word and Spirit One. Amen.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: Let us give thanks, for God is good and God's Love is everlasting!

**All: Thanks be to God - whose love creates us!
Thanks be to God - whose mercy redeems us!
Thanks be to God - whose grace leads us into the future!**

Sharing the Light of Christ

As we share the light of Christ with one another, tip only the unlit candle.

Hymn (seated) "Silent Night , Holy Night!"

122

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 a far.
Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."

(Raise candles together)

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face.

Church Information and Announcements

We are an open and affirming community of faith in Jesus Christ. At home in an urban neighborhood of many faiths, we acknowledge that we are not alone on the path to understanding God. In worship, study, and fellowship, we celebrate our Presbyterian roots and find joy in our diversity. We strive for the grace to love one another as we seek a deeper understanding of life in the Spirit, working for justice and serving as stewards of God's wondrous creation.

Sixth Is a More Light Church: A network of people seeking and affirming the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people of faith in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Inclusive Language: Words matter. Jesus Christ, the living Word, reached out to all people to bring them into God's fold. The kingdom of God includes all people; therefore our language should reflect the inclusivity and equality among the people of God. To that end, when possible, we seek to eliminate the inherent bias of the English language toward the masculine gender without altering passages that reflect the historical situation of ancient patriarchal culture, out of which the Bible originated.

Masks: Masks are required in the building while Allegheny County is in a "medium" or "high" CDC community risk designation; N95 or similar masks are preferred while in "high." Masks are welcome while in "low."

Assistive Hearing Devices: Assistive Hearing Devices – compatible only with hearing aids equipped with a T-Coil – are available at the Murray Avenue entrance

Large Print Bulletins: If you would like a large print bulletin, please see an usher for a paper copy or, if you would like to use your personal device, for guidance on how to find a digital copy on our website.

Prayer Cards: If you would like to have a person named and prayed for during the pastoral prayer, please fill out one of the white cards by the bulletins/ushers and give it to Vincent prior to the service.

Recording Notice: This service is being livestreamed and is available online in perpetuity

Seating: While distancing is not required, we do encourage people to leave space as attendance allows and to be mindful of people's continued need for distance

Church Nursery: Nursery care for infants and toddlers is available during the worship service. Our childcare staff are required to be vaccinated.

Sunday School and Extended Session: Sunday school is held upstairs at 10 am for children in preschool through high school. Extended Session for children in preschool through third

grade is held upstairs during worship following the Time for Children. Our teachers and staff are vaccinated.

Adult Sunday School: Bill Guy's class meets Sundays at 9:30 am over Zoom. Contact Bill or the church office to receive the Zoom link and to be added to his email list.

Water of Baptism: Each Sunday we pour water into our baptismal font to reaffirm the covenant that God makes through this community of faith

Candles for Peace, Justice and Personal Prayers: You are welcome to come forward to light a candle anytime during worship when words are not being spoken. Please maintain physical distance while waiting your turn.

Children and Candles: We love having children participate in the service, and we ask that – in order to maintain everyone's safety – you accompany your child while lighting candles.

Coffee Hour: We will be having Coffee Hour after worship on the first Sunday of each month

Today's Service: Surprise!, Surprise! (acolyte and water pourer); Jenny Newman (liturgist); Kirk Howe (livestreaming); Barb Parees, Pamela Twiss, Tom Twiss (ushers)

COOKIES! COOKIES! COOKIES!: We invite you to stop by the Chapel after the service to pick up individual cookie bags.

Christmas Day Worship Service: Tomorrow's worship service will be **streaming only**

Next Week: Rev. Susan Rothenberg preaching

While the Pastor's Away: Pastor Vincent will be away December 26-January 2. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact Rev. Susan Rothenberg (412-585-1219 / smr33@verizon.net).

Love Will Win: Thank you to everyone who has made their Stewardship pledge for 2023! We are currently at 96% of our Campaign Goal of \$358,037. If you have not submitted your pledge, please contact Amy (office@sixthchurch.org) with your pledge amount. – The Stewardship Committee

Meals for Chris and Dante: On behalf of the Deacons, I'd like to thank all of you who generously showed your sympathy and care for Chris and Dante MacDonald after Heather Vallone's recent passing. Several people have asked if they could provide meals to Chris and Dante. Chris has been so grateful for your previous meals, which have made their life a little easier and reminded them how much we care about them. Chris said they'd be glad for more of your delicious offerings.

The Deacons would like to continue to provide a weekly meal for them. So as not to overwhelm their freezer and coordinate our efforts, the Deacons are creating a list of those willing to participate. Please contact Linda Davoli at davoli.editorial@gmail.com (412-243-0656) to claim your week. Chris has said Mondays and Tuesdays are preferred since it's easier for him to be home then.

Upcoming Meetings and Events in (and around) the Church

Sunday, December 25

Worship (11 am, streaming only)

NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

Monday, December 26

NA – Make a Change (7 pm)

Saturday, December 31

AA – Turning Point (5 pm)

NA – Squirrel Hill Group (7:30 pm)

Sunday, January 1

Worship (11 am, in-person and streaming)

NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

Monday, January 2

NA – Make a Change (7 pm)

Tuesday, January 3

Awaken Pittsburgh (9 am, Chapel)

Wednesday, January 4

Bible Study (10:30 am, Zoom)

Pittsburgh Bridges OCD Support Group (7 pm)

Thursday, January 5

Choir rehearsal (7 pm)

Saturday, January 7

InterGroup Dialogue (IGD) (10 am)

AA – Turning Point (5 pm)

NA – Squirrel Hill Group (7:30 pm)

Sunday, January 8

Adult Sunday School (9:30 am, Zoom)

Sunday School (10 am)

Worship (11 am, in-person and streaming)

NA – Men's Meeting (8 pm)

Poinsettia Memorials, Christmas 2022



Ever-faithful God,
You have knit together as one body in Christ
Those who have been your
People in all times and places.

Keep us in communion with your saints,
Following their examples of faith and life,
Until that day when we shall dwell with them
In the joy of your eternal kingdom. Amen.

(from the *Presbyterian Book of Common Worship*)

Scott Bell

in memory of
Dr. and Mrs. Jay Q. Bell

in honor of
Chen Qi Shen

Pamela Bower

in memory of
Jeanne Bunje and Walter Bunje

Linda Davoli

Jim and Grace Kroll; Kirk Miller; Brian Kensley; Lee Velarde; Jim Figert

in memory of

Sadie, Louie, and Jesse DeLucia

in memory of
Grammie and Grampie Bower

Sara and Joe DeLucia

in memory of
Harlow and Charlotte Bower

Carol Emerson

Reuben L. Emerson; Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Sanford; Dr. Kenneth Schuit

in memory of

in honor of
Millie Barnes

Cyril and Jane T. Fox

in memory of
Mrs. Cyril P. Fox; Dr. and Mrs. Rodney J. Taylor

Frank Guyette

in memory of
Alma Koenig

in honor of
Adele Ruperto

Beth Hazlett

in memory of
My Dad, Bob Hazlett; My Franklin Grandparents;
My Hazlett Grandparents; My Great Aunts Esther, Mary and Betty

Charles M. Herrold, Jr.

in memory of
Charles M. Herrold; Caroline M. Herrold; John M. Herrold

Brenda Jordan

in memory of
Roy U. Jordan; Florence E. Jordan

Leslie and Peter Kaplan

in memory of
Bruce and Julie Johnson; Maryna Kaplan

Lynn Kawaratani

in memory of
Mark Kawaratani; Dean Matsubayashi

Myra Kazanjian

in memory of
Maggie Ritchey

Sheila Kier

in memory of
Esther Jane Kier; John Caspar Kier; James Montgomery Kier

Peter Koehler

in memory of
Ursula and Wolfgang Koehler; Dorothee Koehler; Anne Koehler

Sue Koehler

in memory of
Louise and Egbert Peeler

Vincent Kolb and Caitlin Schroering

in memory of
Patricia Lee Gaines; Martha Augustus Schroering; Hortensia Singh; Gloria Rose Kolb;
Charles Paul Gaines; Rev. Jose Gerardo Lugo Alvarez; Susan Lee Shanks

Joan Markert

in memory of
Dorothy and Frank Markert; Sandra Mellen

Linda May

in memory of
Heather Vallone

Jan Myers-Newbury

in memory of
Sam Newbury

Jenny Newman

in memory of
Katie Wolbert; Gianna Miller

in honor of
Sixth Church Sunday School teachers, child care staff, and volunteers

Barbara Parees

in memory of
Jack, Ruth, and Bob Morton; Helen Mae Parees; Sandra Mellen; Sean Parees

Diana and Gardner Patton

in memory of
Diana's brother, Ron Wilkoc; Meta and August Wilkoc; Connie and Miner Patton

Verna Robinson

in memory of
Cydra Vaux; Edwin and Clara Robinson

Dr. Mitchell and Rev. Susan Rothenberg

in memory of
Sheldon and Ruby Rothenberg; Robert and Janet Maxwell

Lori Swensson

in memory of
Richard Gavin Swensson

Pamela and Tom Twiss

in memory of
Ena M. Casey; Herbert T. Casey; J. Albert Twiss; Ruth A. Twiss; Maris Andersons

Peter and Peg Watt-Morse

in memory of
Aldora Watt; David Morse; Anna Grace Watt-Morse

Amy and Malakai Whipple

in memory of
Ann and Andrew Putignano; Maggie Ritchey; Hòà Generazio



CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

And the Word became flesh
and lived among us...

—JOHN 1:14



THE PERFECT GIFT.



50%

*of your gifts
make it possible
for students to learn
and grow in faith at
Presbyterian-related
schools and colleges
equipping communities
of color.*

Samual Polanco credits his experience at the Menaul School as being instrumental in breaking down life's many barriers. That Jesus broke down dividing walls and welcomed everyone is very much a reality on the Menaul campus, especially during mission week. Samual and his classmates spent five days on the U.S.-Mexico border with the goal of building understanding and relationships.

"We teach that faith is to be lived out in the world. Because so many young people today see the church as building walls to isolate and separate, we at Menaul are all about opening doors to the richness of God's creation."

— John Sitler, Teacher, Menaul School

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY...
FOR WHEN WE ALL DO A LITTLE,
IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!



When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our Church — past, present and future.

50%

of your gifts assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs.



Rev. Sunjae Jung was living in Korea with his family when he was called to serve the Athens Korean Presbyterian Church near Atlanta. Shortly after the family arrived, COVID struck, leading to a severe financial impact on both his congregation and his family. The family found itself struggling to make ends meet. They applied for and received an Emergency Grant split evenly between the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and the Northeast Georgia Presbytery.

“I truly believe these programs have met Rev. Jung at a time of real need, and I’m hopeful good momentum is on his horizon so he can continue to lend his gifts towards ministry.”

— Lucas McCool, Assistance Program Operations Manager,
PC(USA) Board of Pensions



CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



The **Christmas Joy Offering** provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need, and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the 21st century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Special Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and they profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

WAYS TO GIVE



Through your
congregation



Donate by
credit card online at
pcusa.org/christmasjoy



Text
CHRISTMASJOY
to 91999
to give or visit pcusa.org/christmasjoy



Session Members

Class of 2023

Larry Chan
Frank Davoli
Beth Hazlett
Pam Howe
Mary Lang

Class of 2024

Joe Ashenden
Lori King
Tom Juring
Greg Winner

Class of 2025

Peter Kaplan
Barb Parees
Marcus Robinson
Peter Watt-Morse

Deacons

Class of 2023

Kyle Esbin
Lynn Kawaratani
Eliot Kennedy
Judy Schryer

Class of 2024

Martha Funderburgh
Patty Halverson
Gwen Harcar

Class of 2025

Linda Davoli
Chuck Herrold
Brenda Jordan

Vincent Kolb, *Pastor*

Jenny Newman, *Director of Children and Youth Ministry*

Douglas-Jayd Burn, *Director of Music*

Amy Whipple, *Office Manager*

Harry Kirk, *Building Administrator*

Myra Kazanjian, *Parish Associate*

John S. McCall, *Pastor Emeritus*