

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

December 24, 2011

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

<i>“Angels Ever Bright and Fair”</i>	Dr. Jennifer Marshall, organ Melodye Sparks, piano
<i>“Christmas Medley”</i>	James Freeman, guitar
<i>“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”</i>	Angel Holland, soloist
<i>“O Holy Night”</i> <i>“Ave Maria”</i>	Melissa Freeman, flute
<i>“Angels We Have Heard on High”</i> <i>“Go Tell It on the Mountain”</i>	Anne Smith, soloist
<i>“Greensleeves”</i>	Melodye Sparks, recorder
<i>“We Three Kings”</i>	Marcos Hillhouse, soloist
<i>“Instrumental Carol Medley”</i>	Ann Freeman, hammered dulcimer



We are so happy to have you here with us on this special night. I have written these Christmas Eve reflections knowing that some of you live right here in town and will wake up in your own home tomorrow morning. But some of you may be far from home, a long way from your own living room. Whether you will wake up in your home or in the home of a friend or loved one, I hope you feel "at home" tonight in this sanctuary. We can be thankful that Jesus always leads us home.

Thank you to our incredible music staff and soloists for singing us to Bethlehem tonight. May we all have a blessed Christmas.

Barb Edema

GREETING

PRELUDE

“Pastoral Symphony”

J.S. Bach/arr. Odom

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.
The grace of God has come to save us.

**People: For our sakes,
God sent the child of Bethlehem.
For our salvation Jesus came to live among us.**

Pastor: Let all people sing for joy and give thanks.
Tell the world what God has done in our midst.

**People: God has called and chosen us to hear good news.
God’s marvelous works are new every morning.**

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest.
Peace in earth to all who please God.

**People: We seek to honor God
in this time of worship.
We want to see for ourselves
what God has done.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 38**

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

***INVOCATION**

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

Bob & Estelle Armistead

Hymn

“Lighting the Flame of Hope” (Choir)

Lighting the flame of joy today,
eagerly we watch and pray.
Savior, Redeemer, come to earth!
We await Your humble birth.

Candle Lighting

Prayer

Hymn

“Lighting the Flame of Hope” (Congregation & Choir)

Lighting the flame of joy today,
eagerly we watch and pray.
Savior, Redeemer, come to earth!
We await Your humble birth.

Hymn

“Lighting the Flame of Hope” (Choir)

As the Advent candle burns,
for Your arrival, our hearts yearn.
Lift us from the dark of night,
shine on us with Holy light.

SONG OF PREPARATION	<i>“Welcome to Our World”</i>	Chris Rice
LESSON ONE	The Fall of Paradise	Genesis 3:1-15
REFLECTION		
CAROL # 309	<i>“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”</i>	vs. 1-2
LESSON TWO	Christ’s Birth and the Kingdom are Foretold	Isaiah 9:2-7
REFLECTION		
CAROL # 48	<i>“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”</i>	
LESSON THREE	The Prophet Micah Prophesies the Glory of Bethlehem	Micah 5:1-5a
REFLECTION		
CAROL # 44	<i>“O Little Town of Bethlehem”</i>	vs.1-3
LESSON FOUR	Angel Gabriel Visits the Virgin Mary	Luke 1:26-33, 38
REFLECTION		
CAROL # 2	<i>“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”</i>	
LESSON FIVE	Mary’s Song of Praise	Luke 1:46-56
REFLECTION		
CAROL # 25	<i>“Away in a Manger”</i>	
*LESSON SIX	The Birth of Jesus Christ	Luke 2:1-7
REFLECTION		
SOLO	<i>“O Holy Night”</i>	Adams
LESSON SEVEN	The Angels Bring Good News of Great Joy	Luke 2:8-14
*CAROL # 31	<i>“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”</i>	
LESSON EIGHT	The Shepherds Go to the Manger	Luke 2:15-20
REFLECTION		
CAROL # 56	<i>“The First Nowell”</i>	vs. 1-3
LESSON NINE	The Wise Men are Led by the Star to Jesus	Matthew 2:1-12
REFLECTION		
CAROL # 56	<i>“The First Nowell”</i>	vs. 4-6

LITANY OF LIGHT

Pastor: Walk no more in gloom and shadows.
The light of Christ will shine within and among us.

People: **We will look to that light on life's journey.**
The One called Wonderful
Counselor walks with us.

Pastor: Lift one another's burdens
and sing together for joy.
The grace of God has appeared to save us.

People: **We will center our lives on Jesus Christ.**
God calls us to faithfulness and good deeds.

Pastor: Carry the peace of Christ into the world.
Glorify and praise God in all you do.

People: **We will tell of what we have seen and heard.**
The good news of great joy is for all people.

REFLECTION

DUET

"Christmas Lullaby"
("I Will Lead You Home")

Amy Grant

*LESSON 10

St. John Unfolds
the Glory of the Incarnation

John 1:1-5, 10-14

*CANDLE LIGHTING

*CLOSING HYMN

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

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.

***BENEDICTION**

***EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES**

***POSTLUDE**

Variations on "IL EST NE"

Ashdown

***For those who are able, please stand.**

Special Notes:

- **Parents:** Please assist young children in lighting their candles.
- Thanks to all of you who helped to decorate and beautify our sanctuary during this season by contributing the poinsettias. Because Christmas falls on Sunday this year, we hope that you will wait until after the Christmas Day service tomorrow to take your poinsettia(s) home.

PARTICIPATING IN TONIGHT'S SERVICE:

<i>Leading Worship:</i>	Rev. Dr. Barbara Edema
<i>Music Director:</i>	Melodye Sparks
<i>Accompanist:</i>	Dr. Jennifer Marshall
<i>Readers:</i>	Rev. Earle Barron Rev. Bill Hyers Gary Sparks
<i>Soloist:</i>	Dr. Zachary Marshall
<i>Duet:</i>	Gary and Melodye Sparks
<i>Instrumentalist :</i>	Melissa Freeman, Flute

We appreciate all of our musicians tonight,
both in the Pre-Service music and during worship.

Covenant Presbyterian Church
603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604
Phone: (423) 282-5324, Fax: (423) 282-5346
office@covenantpresjc.org
www.covenantpresjc.org