

SHALLOWFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*A Service of
Lessons
& Carols*



CHRISTMAS EVE 2018
7:00 PM, SANCTUARY

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2018

7:00 p.m.

PRELUDE

*Voluntary on "In dulci jubilo"
While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*

—J. Mansfield
arr. O. Griffin

CALL TO WORSHIP

‡ PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

We have waited together in this season of Advent for a birth that would shake the foundations of the earth and bring hope.

We have walked alongside our ancestors to Bethlehem, to a place that would bring peace on earth.

We have dreamed of the moment when all gathered 'round the manger as joy broke into the world.

We have celebrated the faithfulness of God and the miracle of life, bringing unconditional love to all.

Let us rejoice together in the birth of Jesus Christ who brings this hope, peace, joy, and love. For unto us a child is born and an Everlasting Light shines among us.

‡ HYMN No. 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

CHRISTMAS INVOCATION

ANTHEM

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
Chapel Choir

—D. Allen

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-3

ANTHEM

Night of Silence
Chapel Choir

arr. J. Ferguson

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 9:6-7

ANTHEM

O Little Town of Bethlehem
Chancel Choir

arr. D. Forrest

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-4, 6

‡ HYMN No. 140

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

FOURTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

ANTHEM

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Chancel Choir

arr. D. Forrest

MEDITATION

John M. Semmes

‡ indicates all who are able may stand. Responses in **bold print** are read aloud.

CALL FOR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Stars Are for Those Who Lift Their Eyes* –P. Delmonte
Chapel Choir Women

ANTHEM *Away in a Manger* arr. M. Wilberg
Combined Choirs

PRESENTATION OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Colin Wikle, Chapel Choir President

HYMN *Silent Night* STILLE NACHT
stanzas 1 & 4
see back cover

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Lully, Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child* –K. Uppercue



Our worship leaders this evening are senior members of the Chapel Choir and Program Staff Members John Semmes, Interim Senior Pastor; Catherine Foster, Associate Pastor for Mission and Discipleship; Bradley Kibler, Director of Youth and Program Ministries; and Laura Jernigan, Parish Associate for Congregational Care.

The poem read during the lighting of the Advent wreath is “Before the Paling of the Stars,” by Christina Rossetti (from *Lyra Messianica*, 1865).

Tonight’s offering is the Christmas Joy Offering, one of four Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Because Advent and Christmas are a time for celebrating the arrival of “the true light” (John 1:9), the PCUSA provides this opportunity for congregations to support those in need of help and hope. Undesignated gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering will be distributed equally to support education at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges and to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, which supports pastors, missionaries, and church workers in special need.

**On this holiest of nights,
the staff at Shallowford Presbyterian Church
wishes you a joyful Christmas season
and a year full of the light and love of our Savior.**

Silent 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!
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.**

