

APOLLO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

December 24, 2023
Christmas Eve ~ 7:30 P.M.
ORDER OF WORSHIP

The tradition of the Lessons & Carols service goes back to 19th century England. This special service proclaims the Word not through a sermon but through 'lessons,' or scripture readings, and accompanying carols. Tonight's service honors the structure of this traditional service while incorporating different scripture readings and carols to tell the Christmas story.

Prelude "Angels We Have Heard on High" arr. L. Larson

Declaration of Good News

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Atkinson Family: Geoff, Pastor Niki and Lyanna

One: In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again?
Where do we start?

**All: Let us begin with hope. Let us begin with peace.
Let us begin with joy. Let us begin with love.**

One: Yes, let us begin with love, for surely love knows your name. Today, in addition to the candles of hope, peace joy, and love, we light the Christ Candle. For surely God is in this place. Surely the Spirit is near. Surely love knows our name.

**All: May we rest in that good news. Unto us a child is born. A light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it. Glory to God in the highest heaven!
Amen.**

Sign of Peace

***Carol #121 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"**

Lessons and Carols

The First Lesson **Genesis 1:26–2:4**

Carol #88 **"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" v. 1-4**

The Second Lesson **Isaiah 9:2, 6–7**

Carol #140 **"Once in Royal David's City" v. 1, 2, 4**

The Third Lesson **Luke 1:26–35**

Carol #119 **"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"**

The Fourth Lesson **Luke 2:1–20**

Carol #147 **"The First Nowell" v. 1-2**

The Fifth Lesson **Psalms 98**

Carol #134 **"Joy to the World"**

Prayers of the People

Offering

Offertory "Who Is This Tiny Child?" J. Costelli

The Sharing of the Light **John 1**

***Hymn #122** **"Silent Night"**

***Charge & Benediction**

Peace and Joy, good will to everyone on earth!
Noel! Noel! Noel!

***Postlude** **"A Christmas Medley"** arr. C. Phillips

PLEASE GET A NAME TAG FROM THE VESTIBULE.

**It will help our visitors know who we are and
we will also know our visitors by name.**

Wrapping our community in God's love, one person at a time.

We believe that we are all ministers supported by:

Rev. Niki Atkinson – Office Hours Wed. & Fri. 9:30-4:00

The Office will be closed from December 24th through January 3rd.

Please call for appointments.

E-mail pastor@aupc.comcastbiz.net

Amy Shupe, Organist; Joel Varga, Assistant Organist

Zach Bush, Trumpeter Sam Mullooly, Trombonist

Linda Truffa, Office Administrator

Dan Tomlinson, Custodian

Church Address: 401 First Street, Apollo, Pennsylvania 15613

Church Phone: 724-478-4807 Fax: 724-478-2708

Website: www.apollopresby.org E-mail office@aupc.comcastbiz.net

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday – 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM

ACOLYTE TONIGHT: MARIANA SHURINA



