

Welcome to Community Presbyterian Church!

DECEMBER 24, 2021

CHRISTMAS EVE

5:30 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

Welcome to this Sacred Time and Holy Place of Worship

Quote for Meditation: *“But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”*
- Titus 3:4-7

GREETING and PASSING OF THE PEACE

Lay Assistant

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Chris Scrivens

PRELUDES:

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

arr. C, Moglebust

Bell Choir

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

arr. Heather D. Zurcher

Piano, Wind Synthesizer

“I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day”

arr. K. Chesney

Bell Choir

“Christmastide”

arr. Gail Pollock

Organ, Piano, Wind Synthesizer

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Lighting the Advent Candles and the Christ Candle:

5:30

The Conlan Family

8:00

Elder Dick Wynja and

Rev. Chris and Michelle Scrivens

Advent Candle Lighting Response: “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” (refrain)

Choir

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lay Assistant

One: Great God,
as you came at night when all was still,
so enter our lives this night,

*All: Illumine our paths with the light of Christ’s presence,
that we may clearly see the way before us,
the truth to speak,
and the life to live for him,
our Lord Jesus Christ
Who deserves all glory and honor and praise,
Amen.*

OPENING HYMN:

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Choir

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!

Refrain: 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!

Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exaltation; sing all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

Refrain

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

Refrain

CALL TO CONFESSION

Lay Assistant

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lay Assistant

Holy God, we call to you and name you as eternal, ever-present, and boundless in love. Yet there are times, O God, when we fail to recognize you in the dailyness of our lives. Sometimes shame clenches tightly around our hearts, and we hide our true feelings. Sometimes fear makes us small, and we miss the chance to speak from our strength. Sometimes doubt invades our hopefulness, and we degrade our own wisdom. On this quiet Christmas Eve, remind us again of your holy presence hovering near us and in us. Free us from shame and self-doubt. Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly, to act courageously, and to speak from our wisdom.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Lay Assistant

***SUNG RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS: “In The Bleak Midwinter” 4th verse**

Choir

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

WELCOMING THE SCRIPTURES: “T’was in the Moon of Wntertime/O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Duet

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

The Promise of a Savior: Isaiah 9:2; 6-7

Lay Assistant

The Birth Announcement: Luke 1:26-35, 38

Rev. Chris Scrivens

The Arrival in Bethlehem: Luke 2:1, 3-7

Lay Assistant

The Announcement to the Shepherds: Luke 2:8-16

Rev. Chris Scrivens

INTERLUDE: "We Three Kings" *arr. Chip Davis*
Piano, Wind Synthesizer

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:
The Wise Men: Matthew 2:1-12 *Lay Assistant*
The Light Has Come: John 1:1-14 *Rev. Chris Scrivens*

HYMN: "Jesus, the Light of the World" *Choir*
We'll walk in the light, beautiful light.
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.
O, shine all around us by day and night. Jesus, the light of the world.

CHRISTMAS REFLECTION *Rev. Chris Scrivens*

INTERLUDE: "What Child Is This" *arr. C. A. Scholin*
Choir

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

CALL FOR THE OFFERING *Lay Assistant*
(In-person worshippers are welcome to leave offerings in the plate by the door on your way out.)

***HYMN OF DEDICATION:** "What Child Is This" 3rd verses *Choir*

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** *Lay Assistant*

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER *Rev. Chris Scrivens*
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; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

Congregational Candle Lighting ~ After the Pastor lights his candle, the people are invited to light theirs. Candles may remain lighted till they are collected outside following the service.**

As the light of Christ passes through the congregation:

"O Holy Night" ~ Vicki Kopacka, Andy Smith

"Silent Night" ~ Mary Elizabeth Rawley, Guitar and Matt Petrozelli

***HYMN:** "Joy to the World" (printed) *Piano and Organ*

***BENEDICTION** *Rev. Chris Scrivens*

CLOSING HYMN:

“JOY TO THE WORLD!”

1. *Joy to the World! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare
Him room'
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

2. *Joy to the World! the Savior reigns:
Let us our songs employ'
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

3. *No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.*

4. *He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.*

**If you are able , please stand.*



***Please return candles to ushers or put in boxes provided.*



Participating in this evening's Worship and Fellowship are . . .

Minister:	Rev. Chris Scrivens
Lay Assistant: 5:30	Deacon Lisa S. Burns
8:00	Deacon Michelle Scrivens
Director of Family Ministries:	Elder Emily West
Ushers 5:30:	Norman and Nancy Thaiss
8:00:	Mike and Sarah Jane Noll

Thank you to our Vocal Choir, Bell Ringers and our Instrumentalists

Musicians

<i>Piano:</i>	<i>Mary Elizabeth Rawley</i>
<i>Organ:</i>	<i>Vicki Kopacka</i>
<i>Wind Synthesizer:</i>	<i>Andy Smith</i>
<i>Trumpet:</i>	<i>Matt McConnell</i>
<i>The Vocal Choir</i>	
<i>The Handbell Choir</i>	
<i>Cantor & Director of Music:</i>	<i>Matt Petrozelli</i>

Welcome to all this Christmas Eve.

We extend a special welcome to our visitors and to those who are Home for the Christmas Holidays. May God bless you through the New Year.



E-Giving at Community Presbyterian Church, Chester, NJ

If you would like to donate to the mission Community Presbyterian Church, just scan the QR code to the left and it will take you to our donations page, managed by the PCUSA.

*Community Presbyterian Church
Chester, New Jersey 07930
The Rev. Christopher W. Scrivens, Pastor*

Office Telephone: (908) -5091 e-mail address: office@cpcchester.org
www.cpcchester.org

Poinsettias

Poinsettias were given by:

Mimi and Heather Carman in memory of Rick Carman, Pam Carman, and Mimi's parents and Mrs. Albert Mason, and Rick's parents, the Mr. and Mrs. James Carman

Art and Sue D'Angelo in memory of Mary Stacey

The Duryea family in honor of loved ones.

Patricia Fricke and Suzanne Hoffman in honor of our parents, Russel and Marie Duryea

Marilyn Croot Guerin in loving memory of her parents, Raymond and Edna Croot

Bob and Helen Jones in loving memory of Al and Mabel Kossow

Al and Vicki Kopacka in memory of Eleanor Kopacka Loia; and in memory of Dorothy Taylor

Susan Marks in memory of her husband, Thomas Marks

Cynthia, Matt, Jessica and Brian McConnell in loving memory of Martha McConnell

Mike and Sarah Jane Noll in memory of Janet and Charlie Noll and The Plimpton Family

Tom and Jeanne Perry in memory of loved ones

The John Pfaff Family in loving memory of Wade and Opal Johnson and John and Ruth Pfaff

Andy and Martha Smith in memory of Martha McConnell

Mark and Joan Stephens in memory of Hap, Ann and David Bean; and in memory of Betty and Ed Stephens

The Thaiss and Morris Families in memory of Family and Friends

Judy Treutlein in memory of George Treutlein and Al, Charlotte, Caleb and Jimmy O'Brien

Aubree and Mikaylah West in honor of our papa, our number one warrior and hero



Poinsettias may be picked up following the 8:00 p.m. Service on Christmas Eve.