

The Order of Worship

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2015

6:00 p.m.

(Please refrain from applause
tonight until after the Benediction.)

PRELUDE *O Come, Little Children* Diane Bish
 Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella Alice Jordan
 O Hail This Brightest Day of Days J. S. Bach
 Three Kings of Orient Carlos Staszkeski
 Gesu Bambino Pietro A. Yon
 Alice Walker, organ
 Ave Maria Franz Schubert
 Jake McCarthy, violin Alice Walker, organ

OPENING SENTENCES Isaiah 40:1-5

INTROIT *Once in Royal David's City* IRBY
 Gracie Kate Bates, solo

♣CAROL 140 *Once in Royal David's City* IRBY
 (stanzas 2-4)

PRAYER

Prepare the Royal Highway
 Handbell Choir

SCRIPTURE John 1:1-5, 14

REFLECTION *Prophecy and Hope*

♣CAROL 123 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* CAROL

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 40:9-11
 "He Shall Feed His Flock" G. F. Handel
 (from *Messiah*)
 Bill Cobham, trombone Alice Walker, organ

SCRIPTURE Micah 5:2

CAROL 121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* ST. LOUIS
 (congregation seated)

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:26-38

REFLECTION *Peace*
 Away in a Manger
 Children's Choir

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-7

REFLECTION *Love*
 O Holy Night
 Janet Carmichael, solo Alice Walker, organ

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-14

♣CAROL 119 MENDELSSOHN
 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:15-20

REFLECTION *Joy*

♣CAROL 113 GLORIA
 Angels We Have Heard on High

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-3
 Beautiful Star of Bethlehem
 Perri and Dan Walden
 (Those who are able will gather in a circle around
 the sanctuary. Please do not go into the choir loft
 or behind the pulpit.)

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

♣RESPONSE GOD REST YOU MERRY
 Congregation sings refrain:
 O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
 O tidings of comfort and joy.

♣LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE Isaiah 9:6

♣PASSING THE LIGHT
 Gracie Kate Bates, piano solo

♣CAROL (see insert) *Silent Night, Holy Night* STILLE NACHT
 Dan Walden, guitar Jon Paschal, guitar

✦CHARGE Isaiah 60:1-3

Leader: Tonight is the night for which we have been waiting.

People: We have gathered as a people of hope, peace, love and joy.

Leader: The light of the world has come.

People: Joy to the World!

✦CONGREGATIONAL REPSONSE (see insert)

Joy to the World (stanzas 1 and 4) ANTIOCH

Perri Walden, violin Dan Walden, guitar

✦BENEDICTION Isaiah 55:12

✦POSTLUDE *Joy to the World* Diane Bish

Alice Walker, organ

✦Please stand if you are able.

Pastor: William B. Wade, Jr.
Music Director: Alan Bunn
Organist: Alice Walker CAGO, AAGO
Sound Engineer: Ken Walker



"I am bringing
you good news
of great joy
for all the
people."

Luke 2:10, NRSV



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COVINGTON

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