

CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 24, 2025
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



CHRIST

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

“Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

– Luke 2:10-11 ESV

cpcgeorgetown.org

prelude

As the music plays, please quietly prepare your heart and mind for worship, lifting your thoughts up from the cares of this world.

lighting of the christ candle

THE LORIMOR FAMILY

The Christ Candle is the fifth Advent Candle, and its color is white, representing purity and light. Christ is the sinless, spotless, pure Savior; and he is the light who has come into a dark world. Those whose Savior is Jesus Christ are washed of their sins and made whiter than snow.

choral introit

A CLASSIC CHRISTMAS

Gloria in excelsis Deo, (Glory to God in the highest)

*From heaven above to earth I come to bring good news to every home.
Glad tidings of great joy I bring, where of I now will say and sing.*

*For unto us a child is born, a son is given.
And the government shall be upon his shoulder;
And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
The mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.*

*And he shall reign forever and ever, hallelujah,
King of Kings and Lord of lords*

Arranged by DOUGLAS E. WAGNER © 2012 by ALFRED MUSIC.
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opening prayer

REV. DEAN WILLIAMS

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains. *

* *Chorus:* Glo-ria in excelsis Deo. Glo-ria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song? *

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *

Words: Traditional French carol; Music: GLORIA, French melody. Public Domain.

first lesson

THE MOORE FAMILY

God's Promise of a Savior

The Reading | Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray;
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father, a blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

“Fear not then,” said the angel, “Let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in him from Satan's power and might.”
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

Words & Music: GOD REST YOU MERRY, English carol. Public Domain.

second lesson

THE BRITIGAN FAMILY

The Promised Messiah from Bethlehem

The Reading | Micah 5:2-5a

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by:
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

Words: Phillips Brooks; Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis Henry Redner. Public Domain.

third lesson

THE CASTRO FAMILY

The Birth of Christ

The Reading | Luke 2:1-7

INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
 Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.
 Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
 Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping: shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
 Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
 Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
 Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

Words: Piotr Skarga, paraphrased by E.M.G. Reed; Music: W ZLOBIE LEZY, Polish melody. Public Domain.

fourth lesson

THE JOFFRION FAMILY

The Shepherds Hear the Good News

The Reading | Luke 2:8-16

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
 From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 “Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven’s all-gracious King.”
 The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

And ye, beneath life’s crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
 Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
 Look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:
 O rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,
 When with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;
 When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
 And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

Words: Edmund H. Sears; Music: CAROL, Richard Storrs Willis. Public Domain.

God Dwelling with His People

The Reading | Matthew 1:18-23

song

O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Words: Latin hymn, trans. by John Mason Neale; Music: VENI EMMANUEL, Thomas Helmore. Public Domain.

Jesus Revealed as King

The Reading | Matthew 2:1-11

song

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall:
With the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
We shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander; Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett. Public Domain.

The Savior Brings New Creation

The Reading | Isaiah 55:10-13

song

JOY TO THE WORLD

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.

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.

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.

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: ANTIOCH, George Frideric Handel, adapted by Lowell Mason. Public Domain.

Christ Exalted and Reigning Glory

The Reading | Philippians 2:9-11

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by; born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn. Public Domain.

message

REV. DR. DANIEL J. MCDOWELL

“God’s Gift to Us”

December 24, 2025

Please rise and sing the final hymn as the candlelight is passed.

**** song**

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! 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 your birth! Jesus, Lord, at your 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!

Words: Joseph Mohr; Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, Public Domain.

ADVENT POINSETTIAS

Gary & Jan Britigan

In memory of Mildred Walden

Bryan, Adrienne, Aidan, & Reagan Herron

In loving memory of Ronnie Herron Sr. (Peepaw), and in honor of Jacquelyn (Granny) who took such loving care of him.

Jacquelyn Herron

In loving memory of Ronnie Herron, cherished husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

Rhoda Hunter

Remembering Pastor S. Phillip Hunter, MD – the wonderful husband and great dad he was all his married life! Celebrating his new life in Heaven!

Jacob, Abbey, Cullen, & Georgia Jennings

In honor of our precious Reid Matthew Jennings, beloved and remembered by our family always.

Eric & Nicole Mardian

In memory of Tamara Mardian and Ray Bedikian.

Russ & Debi Newcombe

In memory of our parents, Robert & Nelda Wise and Roland & Elizabeth Newcombe.

Alex & Isabella Paluch

In loving memory of Baby Alexander Winchell Paluch II.

Matt & Megan Phillip

In honor of Pastor Dean and his family, Pastor Daniel and his family, and the Saye-Schell community group.

John & Natalie Weller

In memory of Sam and Jan Weller.

Katina Wilcox

For my father, David Earl Gibson, who went to be with the Lord Jesus Christ on November 22, 2021.

If you sponsored a poinsettia, they will be available to take home after today's service.

WHERE TO FIND US

sedro crossing

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Christ Presbyterian Church of Georgetown is part of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).