

**Christmas Eve
December 24, 2020
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, REGINA**

OUR MISSION: Christ calls us to be faithful disciples who strive to be joyful in our worship, tender in our life together, and daring in our outreach.

We acknowledge we worship on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional homeland of the Cree, Ojibwe, Saulteaux, Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, and the Métis Nation.

Minister: The Rev. Amanda Currie

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: Graeme Mitchell
"The people that walked in darkness" Handel

Call to Worship

Because Christ has been born in the world,
people who walked in darkness now live in great light.
Because Christ has been born in the world,
the power to oppress and kill will not stand.
Because Christ has been born in the world,
we respond in wonder:
**with the angels, we sing glory to God;
with the shepherds, we share the good news;
with Mary, we ponder the words of this night
and the Word that has come into the world:
Emmanuel – God is with us.**

Prayer of Approach

Hymn: Hark! the herald angels sing #139

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Children's Time

Hymn: Candle Canon

**Hope, hope, hope, hope,
the gospel in a word is hope.**

**Hope that give us courage to serve you,
hope, hope, hope.**

**Peace, peace, peace, peace,
the gospel in a word is peace.
Peace that passes all understanding,
peace, peace, peace.**

**Joy, joy, joy, joy,
the gospel in a word is joy.
Joy expressed in prayer and praising,
joy, joy, joy.**

**Love, love, love, love,
the gospel in a word is love.
Love made flesh in Jesus our Saviour,
love, love, love.**

**Hope, peace, joy, love,
Advent gifts from God above.
Wait with patience, live with courage,
Jesus will come.**

Prayer for Illumination

Isaiah 9:2-7

Jo Szostak

Psalms 96

Sung Response: **Joy to the world! The Lord is come.**

R O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, bless God's name;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

Declare the Lord's glory among the nations,
the Lord's marvelous works among all the peoples.
Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
to be revered above all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.
Honour and majesty are in God's presence,
strength and beauty are in God's sanctuary. R

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name;
bring an offering, and come into the courts
of the Lord.**

R

Worship the Lord in holy splendour;
tremble before the Lord, all the earth.
Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!
**The world is firmly established;
it shall never be moved.
The Lord will judge the peoples with equity."**

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
**let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and everything in it.**

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
before the Lord; who is coming,
who is coming to judge the earth.
**The Lord will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with truth.**

R

Titus 2:11-14 Marianne Woods
Luke 2:1-20 Sheila Wilson

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Ministry of Music: Marianne Woods
"When a child is born" Zacar and Fred Jay

Christmas Message *In a Manger*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Lighting the Candle of Christ Bill Sgrazzutti &
Litany from PWS&D (see pg. 4) Graeme Mitchell

Hymn: Silent night #154

Christmas Prayers & the Lord's Prayer

**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,
the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

We Present our Gifts to God

Offertory Cade Eastwood

Doxology (#830) and Prayer of Dedication:
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Hymn: On Christmas night all Christians sing #162

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen (#780): **Amen, amen, amen.**

Aaronic Blessing (#619):
**The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you
and give you his peace.**

Postlude

HYMNS for December 24th

#139 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 th' 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 a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail th' incarnate deity!
Pleased on earth with us 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 we no more may die,
born to raise the lost of earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King.**

#154 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 "Hallelujah,
Christ the Saviour is born! Christ the Saviour 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 thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

#162 On Christmas night all Christians sing

**On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring,
on Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring,
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful King's birth.**

**Then why should we on earth be so sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
then why should we on earth be so sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free
all for to gain our liberty?**

**When sin departs before his grace,
then life and health come in its place;
when sin departs before his grace,
then life and health come in its place.
Heaven and earth with joy may sing,
all for to see the newborn King.**

**All out of darkness we have light
which made the angels sing this night;
all out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night;
"Glory to God," we sing again
now and forevermore, amen.**

The Christ Candle



Written by the Rev. Kristine O'Brien
(Director of Crieff Hills)

- L: Behold, I bring you good news of great joy;
for to you is born in the city of David
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord!
- P: Jesus has arrived in grace and mystery,
renewing faded hopes
and announcing peace to a weary world.
- L: Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom God favours!
- P: Jesus comes among us in power and glory,
inspiring joy and calling us to lives that are full of God's love.
- L: Jesus, the light of the world, is born.
- P: Let Christ's light shine
in the darkest corners of our lives.
Let Christ's light shine
in the darkest corners of our world.
God is with us.
(The candle is lit)
- L: Let us pray:
- P: God of grace and glory,
as we celebrate this Christmas,
transform our hearts and our lives
so that your Good News
is not an old story
but a fresh truth lived out every day
through the power of Jesus Christ.
Amen.



Christ is Born!

Our church, through
Presbyterian World Service & Development,
is faithfully responding to God's call to help those in need.

Inspired by God's promise of abundant life, our church responds to the call to walk with and serve those in need. With compassion, justice and love, through PWS&D, we are working to assist the most vulnerable and marginalized.

We are responding to poverty, injustice, oppression and disasters around the world. Together we walk hand-in-hand with the hungry and sick, those confronted by prejudice, the persecuted and those affected by conflict and violence.

We are helping to restore human dignity, ease the pain of want, promote self-help and encourage community cooperation to benefit all.

As we celebrate Christ's birth, let us be reminded to stand in solidarity with those facing adversity. Without your support and your voice, this vital work would not be possible!

This Christmas, please support PWS&D.

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