

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SHARON PA  
"FAMILY AND FRIENDS" CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE  
December 24, 2009 – 7 PM

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

THE PRELUDE "What Child Is This" arr. Gilbert M. Martin  
Organ/Piano Duet  
"Il Est Ne" (He Is Born) French Carol, arr. T. Shepard  
Carillon Choir

THE WELCOME and GREETING

CHORAL INTROIT "Gaudete" Robert Batastini

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 9:2,6

LEADER: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

**ALL: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

\*CAROL #41 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" *Adeste Fideles*

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERING

The Offertory "Christmas Lullaby" John Rutter  
Sanctuary Choir

\*Carol #56 v. 6 "The First Nowell" *The First Nowell*

\*Prayer of Dedication and The Lord's Prayer

THE SHARING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-7 (p. 53)  
SOLO "Angels We Have Heard on High" *Gloria*  
Alexis Pyle

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-14 (p. 53)  
CAROL #53 "What Child Is This" *Greensleeves*

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:15-20 (p. 53)  
CAROL #31 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" *Mendelssohn*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH:  
HOPE/LOVE/JOY/PEACE/CHRIST  
\*CAROL #40 "Joy to the World!" *Antioch*

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-11 (p. 1)  
ANTHEM "Carol of the Children" John Rutter  
Sanctuary Choir

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES  
(The sanctuary lights will dim as the candles are lit. When all candles are lit, please stand and sing "Silent Night.")

\*CAROL OF CHRISTMAS HOPE #60 "Silent Night" *Stille Nacht*  
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 Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy 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.

\*GOD'S BLESSING ON GOD'S PEOPLE

\*POSTLUDE

“In Dulci Jubilo”  
Organ/Piano Duet

arr. Gilbert M. Martin

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING – This year’s special benevolent offering will be equally divided between the FPC Deacons’ Fund and the FPC Pastor’s Crisis Fund. Due to the recession and unemployment in our community these funds have been currently depleted in the help given to FPC members and families.

SPECIAL THANKS to our caregivers in the nursery this evening, Brenda Hall, Norma Pugh and Ken Hall.

THANK YOU to Maggie Reel and the Carillon and Sanctuary Choirs for the lovely music this evening.

SPECIAL THANKS to all the people helping with the 7 PM Christmas Eve service as ushers, greeters, sound, and lighting.

PLEASE DEPOSIT YOUR CANDLES in the boxes by the exits from the sanctuary as you leave.

SPECIAL THANKS to those participating in the Nativity Pageant this evening:

Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus: Katie Holsopple, David Corbett, Dustin Corbett

Shepherds: Olivia Ruth, Jamie Mausser, Hayley Rose

Gabriel: Chelsea Rose

Angels: Kaela Joyner, Miranda Woge, Briana Grattan

Magi: Aaron, Michalee, Abby and Andrew Christy

THE HOLY NIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE worship service will be at 11 PM. This quiet, reflective service features communion, a Christmas meditation, carols and candles. You are invited back to share in this special service.

May your Christmas be filled with joy, hope and wonder, as we rejoice in Emmanuel, “God with us,” now and forever.

Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Glenn Hink, and the FPC Staff



Hope, Love, Christ, Joy, Peace

December 24, 2009 – 7:00 PM

First Presbyterian Church

600 East State Street

Sharon PA 16146

724-981-2211

[www.1stpcs.org](http://www.1stpcs.org)