

ORDER OF WORSHIP

LEASIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 24, 2020 - 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Jesu Bambino - P. A. Yon

WELCOME

A TIME OF CENTERING & STILLNESS

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN

Angels we have heard on high No. 147

OPENING PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SPECIAL MUSIC

O Holy Night - A. Adam, Arr. by F. Ferrari
- Tony Vu, Tenor Solo

WORD

THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS

The Christmas Story for the Cosmos According to John

CAROL

O Come, all ye faithful No. 159

First Monologue: "The lamp speaks"

The Christmas Story According to Luke begins

CAROL

O little town of Bethlehem No. 165

The First Monologue continues: "The lamp speaks again"

PRAYER

The Second Monologue: "The manger speaks"

The Christmas Story According to Luke Continues: The Birth of
Jesus

CAROL

Away in the manger No. 149

The Second Monologue continues: "The manger speaks again"

PRAYER

The Third Monologue: "The staff speaks"

The Christmas Story According to Luke Continues: The Shepherds
and the Angels

CAROL

While shepherds watched their flocks No. 138

The Third Monologue continues: "The staff speaks again"

PRAYER

RESPONSE

OFFERINGS *Pastoral Symphony* from "The Messiah" - G. F. Handel,
Sharon Lee - Violin Solo

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

The Fourth Monologue: "A gift speaks"

The Christmas Story According to Matthew

CAROL

What child is this? No. 161

The Fourth Monologue continues:

"A gift speaks again"

CAROL

Silent Night No. 154

PRAYERS OF THANKS AND REQUEST

SENDING

CAROL

Joy to the World (v.v. 1, 2, 4) No. 153

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Christmas Carol Suite - Arr. by T. Marier

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the beginning was the Word.

All: And the Word was with God and the Word was God.

One: In him was light.

All: And the light was the life of all people.

One: The light shines in the darkness.

All: And the darkness has not overcome it.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: God of grace and truth,
you give the gift of yourself, but we are often caught up in
giving and receiving our own gifts. You offer us new life in
the baby born in Bethlehem, but we cloak that birth in
sentiment and ignore the cost of new life. You shine in the
world, but we dwell on the darkness around us. You came to
us in flesh and blood, but we often fail to see you in the
human lives beside us. Forgive what we have been,
shape who we are, and direct who we shall be,
through Christ our Saviour.
Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light!

**All: Walk in the assurance of God's grace and forgiveness.
Be people of light and forgive one another.**

PRAYERS

**All: O God, shine your light into our lives on this dark night.
Warm our hearts so that we will open our doors to your
love. May ours be the lives that shine light into the dark
corners of your world. May ours be the lives that welcome
you to be born again in our midst this Christmas. Amen.**

**All: O God, may our lives cradle your love this Christmas as
we smile on the baby Jesus. May our love become a
shelter for those who turn to us for protection. May our
arms offer the welcome every stranger needs, in the
name of Jesus who reaches out to us from the manger.**

**All: Lord Jesus Christ, we have come to find you this
Christmas. Be our staff to lean on when we lose our
footing. Be our guide when we cannot find our way. Pull
us free from danger. Saviour, rescue us with the light of
your love. Be our strength now and in the year ahead, so**

**that we may walk with your courage and compassion,
come what may. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: Generous and loving God, your gift to us in Christ Jesus still draws us to the manger and opens our hearts with wonder. Bless our gifts in his name, so that they may draw others to your love, to find the blessing we have discovered in the One born for us. Amen.