

**Blacksburg Presbyterian Church**



*Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion*  
*Sunday, December 24, 2017*  
*8:00 p.m.*

# A CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 24, 2017

8:00 o'clock

*Welcome to all who gather on this holy night. Blacksburg Presbyterian Church is a community of Christ, led by the Holy Spirit, working for the glory of God. If you are visiting, we invite you to come again and discover the full ministry of the church. May God's peace and grace be yours.*

## PRELUDE

## GREETING

Catherine Taylor

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Please stand as you are able and welcome the Light that comes this night in Christ.

*(The Christ candle is lit.)*

Jesus Christ, the son of Mary, the son of God is born this night.

**God's word has been made flesh among us.**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness - on them a light has shined.**

You, O Lord, have multiplied the nation. You have increased its joy.

**For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulders. His name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor,**

**Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

He is also called Emmanuel, for in him God is with us.

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

**Eternal God, this holy night shines with the brilliance of your one true light. May that light shine in our hearts and in our words and deeds. May the hope, the peace, the joy, and the Love born in Bethlehem this night fill our lives and become part of all we say and do. May we share the divine life of your son Jesus Christ, even as he humbled himself to share our humanity. Amen.**

✠ HYMN No. 133, vv. 1-3

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

## FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15

Emily Rhodes Hunter

## CAROL

*Adam Lay Ybounden*  
Adult Choir

MARTHA JONES BURFORD

Four thousand winter though he not too long;  
And all was for an apple, and apple that he took,  
As clerkes finden written in their book.  
Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been,  
Ne had never Our Lady a been heavene Queen.  
Blessed be the time that apple taken was:  
Therefore we moun singen: Deo Gratias.

## SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Bill Neely

CAROL No. 112, vv. 1, 4

*On Christmas Night All Christens Sing*

SUSSEX CAROL

THIRD LESSON Matthew 1:18-23 Nancy Artis

HYMN No. 140 vv. 1-2, 4  
FOURTH LESSON *Once in Royal David's City* IRBY  
Luke 2:1-7 William Ducker

HOMILY "Right in the Middle on the Edge" Dr. Taylor

HYMN No. 121 vv. 1-3 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* ST. LOUIS

FIFTH LESSON Luke 2:8-14 Melody Zobel

HYMN No. 113 *Angels We Have Heard on High* GLORIA

SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:15-20 Joel Hunter

HYMN No. 114 vv. 1-2  
AND HYMN No. 115 v. 3 *Away in a Manger* CRADLE SONG  
MUELLER

SEVENTH LESSON John 1:1-5 Sarah Windes

HYMN No. 134 *Joy to the World* ANTIOCH

#### OFFERING OF OUR LIVES

OFFERTORY *What Star is This* arr. RICHARD SHEPHARD  
Adult Choir, Judy McCord, Bells

What star is this, with beams so bright,  
More lovely than the noonday light?  
'Tis sent to announce a newborn King,  
Glad tidings of our God to bring.

While outward signs the star displays,  
An inward light the Lord conveys,  
And urges them with force benign,  
To seek the Giver of the sign.

"Tis now fulfilled what God decreed,  
"From Jacob shall a star proceed";  
And lo! The Eastern sages stand to read in heaven  
the Lord's command.

O, while the star of heavenly grace  
Invites us, Lord, to seek Thy face,  
May we no more that grace repel,  
Or quench that light which shines so well!

To God the Father, God the Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,  
May every tongue and nation raise  
An endless song of thankful praise!

† DOXOLOGY *What Child Is This* GREENSLEEVES

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all to won him.  
The King of kings salvations brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary**

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Use the center aisle to reach a station, take a piece of bread and dip it in the cup. Return to your seat by the side aisle. Gluten, dairy and egg-free bread and individual cups are available at the center station in front. If you need to remain seated, the elements will be brought to you.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

...we lift our song of hope:

*Sing:* **Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
That hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
and with his blood our life hath bought.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.**

LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING OF BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER SUPPER

Will Crone, horn; Elizabeth Crone, flute

† HYMN No. 122

*Silent Night, Holy Night!*

STILLE NACHT

- 1. **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.
- 2. **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."

- 3. **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.
- 4. **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.

† BENEDICTION

† POSTLUDE *If you sponsored a poinsettia, please only the poinsettia, not the trays or the pinecones.*

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† Please stand in body or in spirit.