

December 24, 2023
Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion Service
North Warren Presbyterian Church
Reverend Burfoot S. Ward, III, Pastor
Cathy Peterson, Pianist

*"We trust God's Spirit to work in us,
through our words and deeds,
wherever we are."*

Prelude

Register Attendance

Please sign the friendship register located in the pew rack, your name only
if you attend regularly, completely if you are new or visiting.

Solo "O Holy Night" Amy Ransom

Call to Worship Micah 5:2, 4-5 page 1445 in pew Bible
(read by Lay Leader only)

Lighting Advent Candle for Jesus Bill & Celia Gross

***Hymn** "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" No. 251

*Invocation

***Offering Response** "Doxology" p.815

*Offering Prayer

Children's Message Rev. Ward

Sermon "Glory to God!" Rev. Ward

Scripture Lesson Luke 2:1-14 (from KJV as part of the sermon)

***Hymn** "A Communion Hymn for Christmas" No. 287

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation and Words of Institution

Pastor: Friends, on this Holy Night it is fitting that we gather at this, the Lord's Table, celebrating the great gift God has given us, in Jesus Christ, through this joyful feast!

Prayer of Dedication

People: We thank you Gracious Lord for the gift of your Son. May the joy of His birth, the witness of His life, and the mercy of His death, challenge us to follow His example leading others toward His eternal light.

Distribution of Elements

(You will be instructed when to come forward to pick up your bread and juice. Please wait until an Elder instructs you to come forward.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Passing of the Light

Pastor: This is the message we have heard from Him, this is the song we sing and proclaim to you; that God is Light and in God there is no darkness at all.

People: If we say we have fellowship with God while we walk in darkness, we lie, and do not live according to the truth.

Pastor: But if we walk in the light, as God is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another.

People: And the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

As "Silent Night" is played and the lights are dimmed, the pastor will light a candle from the "Christ" candle on the Advent Wreath and then light the candles of Ruling Elders. The Ruling Elders will then light the candles of those on the center of each aisle, who in turn will pass the light to the others in that row. REMEMBER, the lighted candle should remain upright, the unlit candle tilted. If you are using an electric candle, please light your candle by flipping the switch on the bottom. Once all candles are lit, we will sing all the verses of "Silent Night!"

***Hymn** "Silent Night! Holy Night!" No. 253
(all verses on the PowerPoint)

*Christmas Prayer and Benediction

Postlude

Please be careful to extinguish your candle prior to leaving your pew.
Please return your candle to the baskets provided as you leave the service.

All those who confess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to partake in the Lord's Supper. This includes baptized children who have received proper instruction from their parents.

*Those Who Are Able, Please Stand
We welcome all who have come to worship with us.
We pray that this service will be a blessing to you.

IV. As we leave this evening to celebrate Christmas with our family and friends, let us remember the words of the angels ...
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