

Carol ~ *Silent Night*, verses 1, 2, and 4 ~ No. 253

*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;  
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia.*

*Christ the Savior is born! / Christ the Savior is born!*

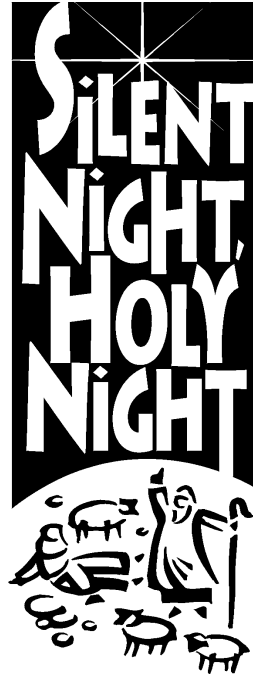
*Silent night, holy night, / Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, / Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.*

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

\*Those who are able may stand.

**BOLDFACE TYPE** indicates words spoken or sung by the congregation.



## **HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

423 Hebron Road, Staunton, VA 24401

Telephone (540) 885-1648 Church website: [www.hebronpc.com](http://www.hebronpc.com)

Pastor: Rev. Frank Wyche

Office Hours: M-F, 8:30-12:30

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Minister of Music: Ben Heizer

Church Secretary: Tamme Flory

Office Hours: Mon.-Tues., and

Thurs.-Fri., 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

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Clerk of Session: Larry Mayer

*The church office will be  
closed Monday, Dec. 26; and  
either Friday, Dec. 30, or Mon-  
day, Jan. 2.*

*Regular office hours will be  
in effect Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012.*



*No offering will be received  
during this service.*

*If you wish to give a gift to  
the church, please place it in  
one of the offering plates as  
you leave.*

# HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*The Order of the Worship of God*

*Christmas Eve*

*December 24, 2011*

*8:00 P.M.*

PRELUDE *In Sweet Rejoicing* ~ Dietrich Buxtehude Ben Heizer, Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Frank Wyche, Pastor

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *Of the Father's Love Begotten* Chancel Choir

**\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** ~ Luke 2: 10b-12; Isaiah 9:6

L: Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people;  
for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

**P: And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths  
and lying in a manger.**

L: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon  
his shoulder,

**P: And his name will be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting  
Father, Prince of Peace."**

**\*UNISON PRAYER** ~ Loving God, we rejoice that the Messiah – Emmanuel – has  
come! You came among us, not in power, but in the form of a child. Even as Jesus  
humbled himself, teach us humility; even as Jesus came not to be served, but to serve,  
draw us into a discipleship of service. May our joy and praises come from our hearts,  
and not just be words that we recite together. We pray all this in Jesus' name, Amen.

**\*HYMN** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* #249

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND THE CHRIST CANDLE

*Lighting the candles of Hope, Prophecy, Gospel and Faith* ~ Mike and Robin Ruleman

L: Tonight we light the Christ Candle, rejoicing in the salvation of God, which began with  
the birth of Jesus, the incarnation of God the Son as Emmanuel, "God with us."

**P: We rejoice along with the shepherds, who were told by the angel, "Do not be  
afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the peo-  
ple; for to you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."**

L: Christmas is a time for joy and peace.

**P: May the peace of Christ reign in our hearts.**

**SUNG RESPONSE: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, vs. 1***

*Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, / Born to set Thy people free.  
From our fears and sins release us; / Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, / Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, / Joy of every longing heart.*

ANTHEM *How Quietly* ~ Joel Raney



Chancel Choir

God sent the Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be  
saved through him." And as the apostle Peter said in Acts, "For the promise is to you, and to  
your children, and to all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

**Carol ~ *Joy to the World!*, verses 1 and 4 ~ No. 270**



*Joy to the world! the Lord is come; / Let earth receive her king!  
Let every heart prepare Him room, / And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing, /  
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing!*

*He rules the world with truth and grace /  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of / His righteousness  
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love!*

Christmas Message ~ Rev. Frank Wyche

SOLO ~ *O Holy Night!* ~ Ben Heizer

**Lighting Candles To Share the Light of Christ** ~ Please come forward and take a candle  
from one of the containers on the front row, and spread out within the Sanctuary to make a  
circle, as the Scripture Lesson is read.

GOSPEL LESSON ~ John 1: 1-14, 16-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He  
was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not  
anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of humanity. The  
light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.  
There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came  
for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe  
through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the  
light. The true light that enlightens every person was coming into  
the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through  
him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and  
his own people received him not. But to all who received him,  
who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of  
God; who were born, not of blood nor of human desire nor of hu-  
man intention, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt  
among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from  
the Father. And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was  
given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God;  
the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known.



The true light, which enlightens  
everyone, was coming into the world.  
J o h n 1 : 9

Carol ~ *What Child Is This?*, verse 1 ~ No. 281

*What Child is this, who, laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*



Eighth Lesson ~ Wise Men Bring Gifts ~ Matthew 2: 1-2, 9b-11

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him." [A]nd lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.



Carol ~ *We Three Kings*, verse 1 ~ No. 288

*We three kings of Orient are;  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar –  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain –  
Following yonder star.  
O, star of wonder, star of night  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light.*



Ninth Lesson ~ A Blessing for All Peoples ~ Genesis 12: 1-3

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who curses you I will curse; and by you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Tenth Lesson ~ John 3:16-17; Acts of the Apostles 2:39

For the promise was not only to Abraham, but that through Abraham, all the world would be blessed, as the gospel according to John says: "For God so loved *the world* that he gave his only Son, that *whoever* believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For

## A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

"Lessons and Carols" is a traditional English celebration of Christmas using selected scripture lessons to tell the Christmas story, alternating with congregational singing of selected verses of Christmas hymns and carols related to the scripture lessons. The opening prayer is traditionally called the "Bidding Prayer."

### UNISON BIDDING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

~ From PCUSA *Book of Common Worship*

All glory to you, eternal Father, for the gift of your Son, whom you sent to save us. Along with singing angels, let us praise your holy name, and tell the earth his story, so that all may believe, rejoice, and bow down, acknowledging your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. And teach us now to pray together, as Jesus taught his disciples to pray: **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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

First Lesson ~ God Gives a Promise ~ Jeremiah 23: 5-6

Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Carol ~ *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, verse 1 ~ No. 245

*O Come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel*

**Emmanuel  
'God With Us'**

Second Lesson ~ A Birth Foretold ~ Luke 1: 26-28, 30-33

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end."



**LESSONS  
& CAROLS**

**Carol ~ O Little Town of Bethlehem, verse 3 ~ No. 250**  
*How silently, how silently, / The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
 So God imparts to human hearts / The blessings of His heav'n.  
 No ear may hear His coming, / But in this world of sin,  
 Where meek souls will receive Him still, / The dear Christ enters in.*



Third Lesson ~ A Prophecy Fulfilled ~ Matthew 1:18-23

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel," which means, "God with us."



**Carol ~ Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming, verse 2 ~ No. 255**  
*Isaiah 'twas foretold it, / The rose I have in mind;  
 With Mary we behold it, / The virgin mother kind.  
 To show God's love aright / She bore to us a Savior  
 When half-spent was the night.*

Fourth Lesson ~ The Birth of the Christ ~ Luke 2: 4-7

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

**Carol ~ Away in a Manger, verse 1 ~ No. 262**  
*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
 The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
 The stars in the sky looked down where He lay;  
 The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*



**Carol ~ Infant Holy, Infant Lowly, verse 1 ~ No. 279**  
*Infant holy, Infant lowly, / For His bed a cattle stall;  
 Oxen lowing, little knowing / Christ, the Babe, is Lord of all.  
 Swift are winging angels singing, / Noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
 Christ, the Babe, is Lord of all! / Christ, the Babe, is Lord of all!*

Fifth Lesson ~ The Shepherds Are Told of the Birth ~ Luke 2: 8-11

And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

**Carol ~ The First Noel, verses 1 and 6 ~ No. 265**  
*The first Noel, the angel did say,*

*Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
 In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
 On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
 Noel, Noel! Noel, Noel!  
 Born is the King of Israel!*

*Then let us all with one accord  
 Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,  
 Who hath made heav'n and earth of naught,  
 And with His blood mankind hath bought.  
 Noel, Noel! Noel, Noel!  
 Born is the King of Israel!*



"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field..."

Sixth Lesson ~ The Angels Praise God ~ Luke 2: 13-14

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

**Carol ~ Angels We Have Heard on High, verse 1 ~ No. 278**  
*Angels we have heard on high  
 Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
 And the mountains in reply,  
 Echo back their joyous strains.  
 Glo-ria in excelsis Deo, / Glo-ria in excelsis Deo.*

Seventh Lesson ~ Shepherds Visit the Child ~ Luke 2: 15-18

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child; and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

