

## Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols

**December 24, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.**

*The hour is at hand. The time is fulfilled.*

*Venite adoremus*

*If you miss him, then nothing else*

*In all this wide creation now*

*Can take its place*

*Venite adoremus*

*The time is now—*

*That time when we must be there,*

*Simply be there, and adore.*

**-J. Barrie Shepherd**

### Prelude

*Noël (Grand Jeu et Duo)*

Louis-Claude Daquin

*O Holy Night*

Lani Smith (setting)

Organ & Piano Duet

### Introit

*We Have Seen the God of Glory* Jim Vyhanek (arr.)

(Divinum Mysterium – 12<sup>th</sup> Century)

Christmas Eve Choir

**Leader:** *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light,*

**People:** *for a child has been born for us, a son given to us!*

**Leader:** *Glory to God in the highest heaven!*

**People:** *Let us worship the Prince of Peace.*

### Prayer for Illumination

#### First Lesson

James 1:17; Titus 3:4-6; I Peter 1:8-9

**\*Hymn No. 28** “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” *In Dulci Jubilo*

#### \*Litany of the Christ Candle

**Reader:** *We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.*

*As the Lord has promised, in days to come . . . (Isa. 9:2)*

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;*

**People:** *on those who lived in a land of deep darkness, light has shined.*

**Reader:** *Let us walk in the light of the Lord.*

**All:** *Let us light the candle in Christ. Amen.*

The Christ Candle is lit.

*Let us pray...*

**ALL:** *Blessed Messiah, Son of God, you have come to redeem your people and set us free by your amazing love. As we praise your holy name, may the light of your love guide us, and may we rejoice in letting that light shine in all the world, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

### Second Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

### Choral Anthem

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* Trad. Polish Carol  
Żłobie Leży/Alan Bullard (arr.)

### Third Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9

### Choral Anthem

*Christmas Night* Kim André Arnesen

### Fourth Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

### \*Hymn No. 44

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” *St. Louis*

### Fifth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

### Choral Anthem

*Still, Still, Still* Norman Luboff, arr.  
(Austrian Carol)

### Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:8-20

### \*Hymn No. 41

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” *Adeste Fideles*

**Note:** For verse three we will sing alternate tune No. 42.

### Choral Anthem

*See Amid the Winter's Snow* John Leavitt, arr.

## “Keeping Watch Over”

Rev. M. Rex Espiritu

### Musical Meditation

“Ave Maria”

Franz Schubert

### Invitation to the Lord’s Supper

Leader: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

**People: They will come from the east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.**

Leader: According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him. This is the Lord’s Table. Our Savior invites those who trust in him to share the feast which he has prepared.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

### Words of Institution...The Lord’s Prayer

### The Bread and the Cup

### Prayer after Communion

### Seventh Lesson

John 1:1-5, 9-14

*We share the light of Christ...from this night forward*

(Pastor Espiritu will begin the lighting. A switch for your candle may be found on the bottom)

### Hymn No. 60

“Silent Night, Holy 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.*

### Charge and Benediction

### Postlude

*Christmas is Here*

Dale Wood

\*Indicates those who are able may stand.

### First Presbyterian Church

402 North Ship Street, Portland, Indiana 47371

260-726-8462

[www.firstpcportland.org](http://www.firstpcportland.org)

### Our Vision Statement

“To provide a ministry which will lead people to strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ and reach out with God’s love.