

Eastminster Presbyterian



Friday, December 24, 2021
5:00 p.m.

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
INDIALANTIC, FLORIDA

Christmas Eve

Order of Worship

"For to us a child is born for us, to us a son is given" Isaiah 9:6

Welcome/Announcements
Strang

Rev. Dr.

Prelude *"Pastoral Symphony"*

Handel

Invocation

Call to Worship

Leader: The light of God's love is given to us tonight.

People: **This is the night of the Holy birth.**

Leader: Let the love of Jesus be born in your hearts and spirits.

People: **Loving God, open our hearts to receive this blessed gift.**

All: **Friends, rejoice. The Good News is here!**

Congregational Carol- #41
FIDELES

ADESTE

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels,
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation.
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

**Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given.
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing,**

**O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

**The Lighting of the Christ Candle
Ray**

Matt Ray and Barbara

Leader: Advent Hope moves us, Advent Peace stills us, Advent Joy stirs us, Advent Love leads us.

People: **Jesus is the Son of God! In Him our Hope is fulfilled, our Peace is sealed, our Joy is complete, and our Love is consummated.**

All: **Rejoice! A Savior is born!**

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Chuck Reisinger

Lord Jesus Christ, you are loving and merciful. Forgive us for being so captivated by lights and tinsel of the Christmas season that we forget You are life, and love. You are the baby in the manger who grew to be the Lord over all creation. It is sometimes easier to leave You in the manger than to follow Your teachings and challenges. Father, most often we do not follow Your teachings, nor do we live up to Your challenges. Help us to have child-like faith so we may never question You, but follow You in obedience to Your Word. Forgive us all our sins. May we return our expectations to Your birth this night, knowing You are Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

ALL: The true light that enlightens all has come into the world. That light shines on in the darkness, and the darkness has never been able to extinguish it. This is the Good News: God has heard our confession. God has forgiven our sin. Thanks be to God!

The Prophecy of the Messiah

**Pastor:
Dawson**

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7, Isaiah 40:1-5

Rev. Darice

Carol of Response #9

VENI EMMANUEL

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind.

Bid envy, strife and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Coming of Jesus Is Announced to Mary and Joseph

Luke 1:26-38, Matthew 1:18-25

Pastors:

Rev. Dr. Strang & Rev. Chuck Resinger

POLISH MELODY

"To A Maid Engaged to Joseph"

**To a maid engaged to Joseph, the angel Gabriel came;
"Fear not," the angel told her, "I come to bring good news."
Good news I come to tell you, good news, I say, good news;
"For you are highly favored by God, the Lord of all."**

The Preparations for the Birth of Jesus

Jesus Is Born

**Pastor:
Dawson**

Luke 2:1-7

Rev. Darice

Carol of Hope #43

ST. LOUIS

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie,
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark street shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

CRADLE SONG

"Away in a Manger"

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed; the little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky look down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

Jesus' Birth is Announced to the Shepherds

Pastor:
Dawson

Luke 2:9-14

Rev. Darice

Congregational Carols - #38

CAROL

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

It came upon the midnight clear that glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold
Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all gracious King.
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

"The First Nowell" #56, Vs 1

THE FIRST NOWELL

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.

The Shepherds Find the Baby Jesus

Pastor:

Luke 2:15-18

Rev. Chuck Reisinger

Special Music
Yon

"O Holy Night"

Pete Hemmer, Tenor

The Wise Men Bring Their Gifts to Jesus

Pastor:
Strang

Matthew 2:1-11

Rev. Dr.

Christmas Carol- #56

THE FIRST NOWELL

"The First Nowell"

And by the light of that same star, three wise men came from country far.
To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.
Noel, noel, noel, noel. Born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in the wise men three, full reverently upon the knee.
And offered there in His presence their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
Noel, noel, noel, noel. Born is the King of Israel.

We Offer Our Gifts to God

Offertory

M. Hayes

*"What Can I Give Him?"
Chancel Choir*

Meditation

"To Praise and Ponder"

Rev. Dr. Strang

Ministry of Music

Pietro Yon

*"Jesu Bambino"
Laura Lee, Soprano - Darica Dawson, Liturgical Dance*

**The Passing of the Light
Reisinger**

Rev. Dr. Strang, Rev. Darice Dawson, Rev. Chuck

John 1:1-5

**Carol of Light #60
NACHT**

STILLE

"Silent Night"
**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.**

BENEDICTION

Carol of Joy #40

ANTIOCH

"Joy to The World"

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let earth receive her king.
Let every heart prepare Him room and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

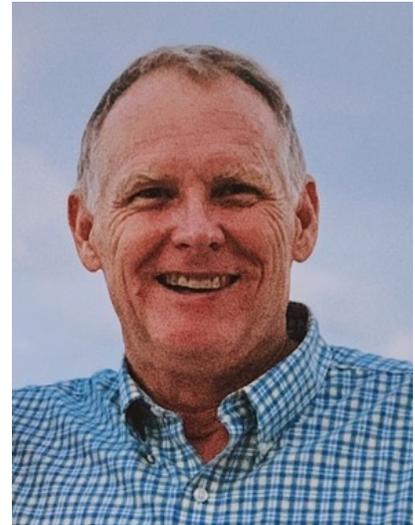
He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

* Poinsettias may be picked up after the 5pm service in the Breezeway in the front of the sanctuary.

*Used votives may be placed in the basket in the Breezeway or taken home.

There's just something special about Christmas Eve, isn't there?

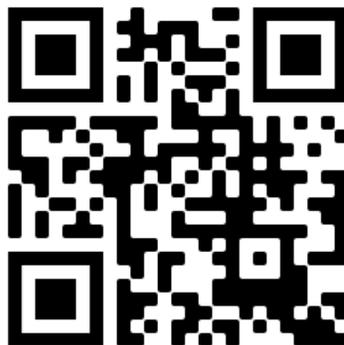
When we get to this point of the year there are many emotions that fill my heart. I think of Christmases long ago at my grandmother's home in Alabama with the soaring ceilings, and beautiful Christmas china, and silver... even at the kid's table! I think of my late father's annual reading aloud of Henry Van Dyke's, The Otherwise Man. I remember one Christmas climbing up the highest acacia tree I could find in the East African Rift Valley to try to find enough satellite signal to call home. I cherish the joy in my children and grandchildren's hearts that lifts my spirit. And, of course, I enjoy the special food!



Tonight, Christmas Eve, is especially meaningful. You can just sense it. I think it is connected to the realization that the God of all creation comes close to us and abides with us as *Emmanuel*, "God with us." Of course, the celebration of any birth special, but the birth of the Christ-child is the defining moment in all of history. For in His advent, we are in enabled to join in a relationship with the God who made us, who loves us, and who has given and continues to give everything for us.

On behalf of the entire congregation at Eastminster Presbyterian Church, I welcome you to Christmas Eve worship! Please know, whoever you are, wherever you have been, whatever you have done, you are welcome here this day and every day. It is the goal of this church to simply reflect the light and love of Jesus Christ who has come into the world with hope, peace, joy and His very presence. Merry Christmas!

May God Bless You,
Pastor Fred Foy Strang



Christmas Poinsettia Dedications

In Memory

- *Anne Adams and Richard Bustelo in memory of Steve Adams and Nancy Bustelo*
- *Bonnie Griffith- in memory of Roger and Graig Griffith*
- *Christine Bordeau in memory of Elsie(Mom)*
- *RJ, Trudy, and Cathy in memory of Skip and Blanche Boardman*
- *Jane Bederhoff in memory of Bob and Marge Ellenberger*
- *Beth and Bob Reggiannini in memory of Anne Lind*
- *Nancy Arnett in memory of my parents, Kay Gardner, Scott Gingham, Gin Blake*
- *Nancy Fowler in memory of Carolyn and Dugald Black*
- *Bob Clark in memory of Dugald and Carolyn Black*
- *Rev. Bob and Louise Wines in memory of Laure and Tom Wines Hyde*
- *Teresa Fleenor in memory of Sam and Faye Hall*
- *Patsy Oliphant in memory of Louisa and Olin Oliphant*
- *Jerry Hargrove in memory of Frances Pleasants*
- *Melinda Miller in memory of her husband and parents*
- *Dot Mullin in memory of Ray Mullin*
- *Julio and Susan Vallette in memory of Julio D. Vallette Sr. and Steve, Harry and Terry Villhardt*
- *Regina Schmidt in memory of Peter and Al Schmidt*
- *Bob Washburn in memory of Jacqueline Costello*
- *Charles and Joan Pittman in memory of Cynthia Pittman, beloved daughter*
- *Jim and Cindy Earp in memory of our mothers*
- *Jeanette Stewart in memory of loved ones*
- *Steve and Alice Tarr in memory of Paul and Rose Tarr, Harold and Millie Dove*
- *Nancy Sorensen in memory of mom, dad, and brother, George*
- *Kay Burnette in memory of Janice Jones*
- *Jeanine and Dave in memory of Mr. Gerald Farley*

In Honor

- *Kelly Dunn in honor of Dave and Midge Dunn*
- *Ron and Nancy Marshall in honor of family*

- *Jim and Edna Fisher in honor of our grandchildren*
- *Jim and Susie Morris in honor of our children and grandchildren*
- *Sunny Rudloff in honor of Amelea, Adam, Charlie, Matthew, Peter and Andrew*
- *George and JoAnn Edwards in honor of our children and their families*
- *Jim and Sophie Bryan in honor of our children and grandchildren*
- *A friend in honor of Jill McCall and Suzan Reed*
- *Jay Butterfield and Andy Reitch in honor of Darice Dawson*