

In his dying and rising, you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

People: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Minister: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Empower us by your Spirit, O God, to be Christ's presence in the world even as Jesus was God-with-us. Give us courage to speak his truth, to seek his justice, and to love with his love. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm.

People: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

Communion of the People

Give Thanks To God

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer ("*debts and debtors*") Blue p. 16

Offering

Tonight's offering (see entrance to sanctuary on your way out tonight) will be split between the "Agape Fund" and the "Good Samaritan Fund" to help church families and people in the community.

*Lighting of Individual Candles
(TURN ON YOUR CANDLE BY TIGHTENING THE FLAME TOP)

Go- In God's Name

*Hymn "*Silent Night*" Insert

*Benediction Rev. Pat Wadsworth

*Postlude Katharine Schendel

Merry Christmas from
Grace Presbyterian Church!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 2021



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Christmas Eve Service

Gather - Assemble in God's Name

Prelude Katharine Schendel

Silent Meditation

Signing of Friendship Register

Lighting of the Advent Wreath David & Donna Causey

Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord is King!

People: Tell the earth to celebrate and all islands to shout.

*Hymn "The First Nowell" Blue #56

Opening Prayer (in unison)

Glory to you, almighty God, for you sent your only-begotten Son, that we might have new life. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for you became flesh and lived among us that we might become your people. Glory to you, Holy Spirit, for you direct and rule our lives. Glory to you, almighty God, and to your Son, Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Call to Confession

Leader: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all

People: and teaching us to renounce what is evil in this world.

Leader: Let us confess our sin together to our gracious God.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess

that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.

Silent Prayers of Personal Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

Leader: Christ our Savior gave himself for us,

People: that he might redeem us from our sin and claim us as his own people.

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God!

*Praise Response

Gloria Patri

Grow - Proclaim God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 62:6-12

Special Music

"O Holy Night"

Nick Manzo (Solo)

Jean McLain (Harmony)

Epistle Reading

Titus 3:4-7

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1-20

Message

Rev. Pat Wadsworth

*Hymn

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Blue #36

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

Minister: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O holy God, creator and ruler of the universe. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and called us to love and serve you. When we were unfaithful and turned from your ways, you did not forsake us, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and sent prophets to call us back to your way.

In the fullness of time you sent your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior. In him, your Word, dwelling with you from all eternity, became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth, and we beheld your glory, Immanuel!

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sign to the glory of your name:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Minister: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Born in humility, he came to rule over all. Helpless as an infant, he showed the power of your love. Poor in things of the world, he brought the wealth of your grace. Rejected by many, he welcomed all who sought him.