



CHRISTMAS EVE

For Unto Us a Savior is Born

11 p.m., December 24, 2024

Shelby Presbyterian Church

*A Service Celebrating the Birth of Our Lord
with Candel Light Caroling at Midnight*

**Please Rise as You are Able*

PRELUDE: *"O Holy Night"* (Adam)

Carolyn Billings

*OPENING HYMN: *"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!
True God from true God, Light from light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
God's only Son, begotten, not created!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Drew Mangione, Pastor

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: CHRIST CANDLE

Steve Sisk

Come Lord Jesus, born of Mary, laid in a manger, our God and King!

Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace on earth among those whom God favors!

We light these candles for the hope, peace, joy, and love we have in you – Emmanuel – God with us!

In you, Lord Jesus, heaven and earth were made one again! You are the true temple!

We light this Christ candle for you are the light of the world drawing all nations to you!

Open our eyes to your action in this world! By your Holy Spirit, may we be your light in this world!

HYMN: *"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 nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessing flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

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.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Steve Sisk

SILENT MEDITATION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Steve Sisk

Sisters and brothers, believe the good news! **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

*GLORIA PATRI (sung): **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

*THE PEACE OF CHRIST: The Peace of the Lord be with you! **And also, with you!**

Steve Sisk

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

Steve Sisk

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Titus 2:11-15

SPECIAL MUSIC: *"Of the Father's Love, Begotten"*

Mary Connor

THIRD SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:1-20

Drew Mangione

SERMON: "The Catalyst of Grace"

Drew Mangione

HYMN: *"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Brief Statement of Faith, lines 1-8):

Steve Sisk

In life and death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

HYMN: *"Away in a Manger"*

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me for ever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

CALL TO PRESENT OFFERING

Drew Mangione

Tonight's offering is to support the SPC Emergency Assistance Fund, which directly helps neighbors in need.

Offertory:

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Mary Conner

*DOXOLOGY (sung): Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

CHRISTMAS LITANY

Steve Sisk

To my enemy, I give you forgiveness.

To my opponents, I give you the benefit of the doubt.

To my family and friends, I give you my faithfulness.

To my neighbors, I give you my kind service.

To every child, I give you a good example.

To all I meet, I give you my love and grace.

To myself, I give patience and perseverance.

To you O Lord, I give you my whole self, all that I am.

*PASSING OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST (As we sing, we will light our candles – please tilt your unlit candle toward a lit candle to light.)

*HYMN #122: *"Silent Night, Holy 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.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Drew Mangione

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*RECESSIONAL HYMN: "Go Tell It On the Mountain"

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!
While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light,
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!
The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!
Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

IF YOU PLACED a poinsettia(s) in the church, we thank you. You may pick yours up following this service.

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING! HAVE A BLESSED AND HOLY CHRISTMAS!

If you're able to stay, we need your help putting the cushions back in the pews.
Balcony cushions are in the sound room and Sanctuary cushions are in the Narthex Parlor.

This service is broadcast live at: www.Facebook.com/ShelbyPres and www.YouTube.com/c/ShelbyPres
Shelby Presbyterian Church, 226 E. Graham St., Shelby, NC 28150 – (704) 487-8503 – www.ShelbyPres.org

Sound Board: Chip Blackley Music Licenses: 1575277 (CCLI)/A-739540 (One License)

Scriptures read in service are original translations, unless otherwise noted.

Feel free to read a familiar translation and listen for different word choices.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS: The Office will be CLOSED Tuesday, December 24th – Friday, December 27th. Office hours for Monday & Tuesday, December 30th & 31st are 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

By law, all donations made for calendar year 2024 must be received or postmarked by December 31.

THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS begin tomorrow and are followed by the feast of the Epiphany, which we will celebrate on January 5th with the GIFT CARD OFFERING for Turning Point Academy. Please consider donating \$10 gift cards, which teachers and administrators will use as incentives for the students. Great options include Chic-Fil-A, Cookout, Domino's, Sonic, Wal-Mart, etc.