

**First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Worship**  
**A Service of Lessons & Carols – January 1, 2023**

**GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

Leader: Light and Peace, in Christ our Lord.  
 People: **Thanks be to God.**

*\* We invite you to rise in body or in spirit where there are asterisks \**

*We invite you to read all **bold** words aloud with the community*

**TOLLING OF THE HOUR**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sing to the Lord a new song;  
**sing to the Lord, all the earth!**  
 Sing to the Lord and bless God’s name;  
**tell the good news of salvation from day to day.**

Ps. 96:1–2

*We start services with a “Call to Worship” to establish the context for worship as an encounter with the Holy One who calls all things into being.*

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of glory, your goodness and loving-kindness have come to dwell among us,  
 and salvation has knocked on our door.

**We can’t wait to tell the world about this child,  
 this joy we can’t contain,  
 this hope that came alive.**

Open our mouths and stretch out our arms, so we may sing your praises  
 and embrace the child in a manger.

**Amen.**

**\*HYMN #134**

“Joy to the World!”

1 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.

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

2 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.

4 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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Beloved in Christ, it is our duty and delight  
to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels,  
and to go in heart and mind to Bethlehem,  
and see this thing which has come to pass,  
and the babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us hear again from the holy scriptures  
the tale of the loving purposes of God  
from the first days of our sin  
until the glorious redemption brought us by this holy child;  
and let us make this house of prayer  
glad with our carols of praise.

But first, because this of all things would rejoice Jesus' heart,  
let us pray to him for the needs of the whole world,  
and all his people;  
for peace upon the earth he came to save;  
for love and unity within the one Church he did build;  
for goodwill among all peoples.

And particularly at this time, let us remember  
the poor, the cold, the hungry, the oppressed;  
the sick and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved;  
the aged and the little children;  
and all who do not know the Lord Jesus, or do not love him,  
or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember all those who rejoice with us,  
but upon another shore and in a greater light,  
that multitude which no one can number,  
whose hope was in the Word made flesh,  
and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we forevermore are one.

These prayers and praises

let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven,  
in the words that Christ himself has taught us:

**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.**

## RESPONSE

"Gloria in excelsis Deo"

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the response "Gloria in excelsis Deo". The music is written in a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a long note on "Glo" followed by eighth notes for "ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o". The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating that a single note spans multiple syllables. The first staff ends with a fermata over the final note, and the second staff continues the melody, ending with a double bar line.

Glo - - - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De - o,  
Glo - - - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De - o.

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD THROUGH LESSONS & CAROLS

**THE FIRST LESSON** Adam and Eve disobey God Genesis 3:8–15, 17–19

**THE SECOND LESSON** God's promise to Abraham Genesis 22:15–18

**CAROL #132** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

2 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

**THE THIRD LESSON** A great light in the darkness Isaiah 9:2, 6–7

**THE FOURTH LESSON** A little child will lead them Isaiah 11:1–4a, 6–9

**CAROL #129** "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,  
of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.  
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,  
when half spent was the night.

2 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 for us a Savior,  
when half spent was the night.

**THE FIFTH LESSON** An angel appears to Mary Luke 1:26–35, 38

**CAROL #121** "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

1 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 streets shineth the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

**THE SIXTH LESSON** Mary gives birth in Bethlehem Luke 2:1–7

**CAROL #145** "What Child is This?"

1 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!

**THE SEVENTH LESSON** Angels announce the Messiah Luke 2:8–16

**CAROL #119**

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

**THE EIGHTH LESSON**

Magi come from the East

Matthew 2:1-11

**CAROL #151**

"We Three Kings"

1 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!

**THE NINTH LESSON**

And the Word became flesh

John 1:1-14

**CAROL #147**

"The First Noel"

6 Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel!

**RESPONDING WITH THANKSGIVING****OFFERING OF OUR LIVES, GIFTS, AND GOODS**

Through Jesus Christ,  
God has poured the Holy Spirit on us.  
Through the water of rebirth and renewal,  
we have been saved,  
not because of any works of righteousness we have done,  
but out of pure love.  
Let us respond to this love  
by offering our hearts and lives to God.

**Blessed be God forever.****PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

We bless you, O Lord our God,  
for you have blessed us with every spiritual blessing—  
the redemption of our souls,  
the forgiveness of our sins,  
the riches of your grace,  
lovingly lavished upon us.

Gather up the gifts of our lives and use them, in your wisdom, to fulfill your good purpose.  
Mark us with your Word and seal us with your Spirit,  
that we may praise your glory now and in the world to come;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Those wishing to make offerings by electronic transfer may use this QR code or go to [fpcedgewood.org/donate](http://fpcedgewood.org/donate)*



## SENDING INTO THE WORLD

### \*HYMN #136

"Go, Tell it on the Mountain"

*Refrain:* Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. (Refrain)

2 The shepherds feared and trembled  
when lo! above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)

3 Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)

### INVITATIONS TO BE THE CHURCH TOGETHER

#### BLESSING

May the Christ, who, by his incarnation,  
gathered into one the things of heaven and earth,  
fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill,  
and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always. Alleluia!

Go forth in peace and joy.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

#### POSTLUDE

*Please be seated as we partake in a time of contemplation.  
When the music ends, we invite you to join us in the Gathering Place for coffee hour!*

#### SERVICE IN THE WORLD

*Christian worship and service does not end at the conclusion of the Morning Service;  
we go forth to love and serve the Lord in daily living.  
In so doing, we seek to fulfill our chief end: to glorify and enjoy God forever.*

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#### ***Participants in this worship service:***

**Elder Rhonda Apessos**, liturgist | **Shaun Cloonan**, minister of music | **Sunny Sakai**, pianist  
**John Foster**, **Angel Lehrian**, **Jim Segedy**, **Lisa Segedy**, **Bobbie Thompson**, readers  
**Mandy Rineer**, song leader | **John Foster**, videographer

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or audio only on our SoundCloud channel at [www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood](http://www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood)



# Welcome

## Thanks be to God for allowing us to worship with you!

IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY: first, welcome! Please fill out a blue visitor's card found in the pew rack. If you are interested in being on our email or newsletter mailing lists, provide that information so we can keep in touch. We hope you consider joining us more often!

HAPPY NEW YEAR! The Church Office will be closed tomorrow for the holiday observance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS are due for the Annual Report on January 9. Copies of last year's reports were mailed, both by regular and email. Call the office if you didn't receive yours.

COMMUNION will be celebrated both on January 8 and 15, 2023. Additionally, we will ordain and install officers next Sunday during our worship service.

FPCE IS GOING TO BE BUILDING Blessing Bags on January 15th following the church service. These bags will be available for anyone to take and pass out to those in need. If you would like to make a financial donation please do so by January 8th or consider dropping off requested items (see list below) before January 15th. If you have any questions please email Tyler McGuigan at [mcguigantylor@yahoo.com](mailto:mcguigantylor@yahoo.com). Items needed: applesauce, granola bars, crackers, tuna packets, bottled water, socks, plastic, forks/spoons, toothpaste, toothbrush, mouthwash, comb, wet wipes, chapstick, small packs of tissues, hand sanitizer

WILKINSBURG COMMUNITY MINISTRY has several opportunities to volunteer for various projects in the area, including their weekly mobile pantry distribution. Visit <https://app.involvemint.io/projects> to find out more information or scan the QR code to the right.



## CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

AH=Apessos Home, B=Basement Band Room, C=Choir Room, CE=CE Office, GP=Gathering Place, L=Lounge, O=Office, PS=Pastor's Study, S=Sanctuary, Sc=Scout Room, SL=Side Lawn, SR=Social Room

Monday, January 2

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, January 3

10:00AM Book Club (AH)

Thursday, January 5

5:00PM Flute Lesson (CE)

7:00PM SAA (L)

7:00PM Milepost6 (B)

Friday, January 6

5:00PM Flute Lesson (CE)

8:30PM AA (SR)

Saturday, January 7

8:30PM AA (SR)

Next Sunday, January 8

9:30AM Choir Rehearsal (S)

11:00AM Worship (S)

Youth Sunday School (GP)

12:15PM Fellowship (GP)

## How can you become involved?

As we reimagine the ministries at FPCE, consider if you have a heart for:

- Encouraging our younger members
- Learning more about God & faith
- Praising God through music
- Serving senior citizens
- Working in publicity/advertising

...please contact a member of our FPCE Family listed below for more details on how to become involved!

## OUR FPCE FAMILY

**Pastor..... The Rev. Jason Dauer**  
[pastorjason@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:pastorjason@fpcedgewood.org)

**Office & Cleaning Manager**  
..... **Judy Mysels**  
[office@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:office@fpcedgewood.org)

**Building Manager .....** **Rob Mysels**  
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**Minister of Music .....** **Shaun Cloonan**  
[music@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:music@fpcedgewood.org)

**Pianist..... Sunny Sakai**  
[Sunnysakai4@gmail.com](mailto:Sunnysakai4@gmail.com)

**Ministers..... The Entire Congregation**



First Presbyterian Church of  
**EDGEWOOD**  
*The Community Church*



*Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ,  
our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to  
love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.*

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