

***Christmas Eve:
A Service of
Lessons and Carols***



***December 24, 2011
Fairlington Presbyterian Church***

Welcome to Fairlington Presbyterian Church!

*The Mission of Fairlington Presbyterian Church
is to be a Transforming Force for Good
in the World in the Name of Jesus Christ.*

You're Invited to Join us...

Sunday Worship: 11:00 am

Christian Education offered for Children & Youth

Staffed Nursery available for 0-2 years

3846 King Street Alexandria, VA 22303

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Office Hours: 10am to 4pm Monday-Friday

Email: office@fpcusa.org

^Please stand as you are able

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 24, 2011

Christmas Eve

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## **^PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

*No. 41*

**“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!

Refrain:

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!  
(Refrain)

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!  
(Refrain)

# LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

## WELCOME

### ▲CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 96*

One: Sing to the Lord a new song;

**Many: sing to the Lord, all the earth!**

One: Sing to the Lord and bless God's name;

**Many: tell the good news of salvation from day to day.**

One: Declare God's glory among the nations, God's marvelous works among all the peoples.

**Many: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.**

One: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.

**Many: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world, and those who live in it.**

One: Let the whole creation sing for joy at the presence of God, who is coming.

**Many: God is coming indeed, to judge the earth with righteousness, and the peoples with equity and truth.**

**All: Praise the Lord!**

## ▲ **OPENING HYMN**

*No. 49*

“Once in Royal David’s City”

Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for His bed.  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable,  
And His cradle was a stall.  
With the poor, oppressed, and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

Jesus is our childhood's pattern,  
Day by day like us He grew;  
He was little, weak and helpless,  
Tears and smiles like us He knew;  
And He feels for all our sadness,  
And He shares in all our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,  
Through His own redeeming love,  
For that Child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heaven above;  
And He leads His children on  
To the place where He is gone.

## **FIRST LESSON**

*Anthony Smith*

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

*The Messiah will come from the root of Jesse  
to restore the peace of creation.*

## **CAROL**

*No. 48*

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

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.

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.

## **SECOND LESSON**

*Kathryn Lawrence*

Luke 1:26-35, 38

*An angel appears to Mary and announces  
that she will bear a holy child.*

## **CAROL**

*No. 31*

**“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
(Verses 1 & 3)**

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!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth,  
Born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

## **THIRD LESSON**

*Alison Shorter-Lawrence*

Luke 2:1-7

*Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem,  
where Mary gives birth to her child.*

## **CAROL**

*No. 24*

**“Away in a Manger”  
(Verses 1 & 2)**

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.

## **FOURTH LESSON**

*Ray Biegun*

Luke 2:8-16

*Angels appear to shepherds in the fields  
and announce the birth of the Messiah.*

## **CAROL**

*No. 23*

“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.

## **FIFTH LESSON**

*Elizabeth Weber*

Matthew 2:1-11

*Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah  
and offer gifts to the baby Jesus.*

### **▲CAROL**

*No. 66*

**“We Three Kings of Orient Are”  
(Verses 1, 2 & 5)**

We three kings of Orient are,  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright;  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light!

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
King for ever, ceasing never  
Over us all to reign.  
(Refrain)

Glorious now behold Him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice;  
Alleluia, Alleluia  
Sounds through the earth and skies.  
(Refrain)

## **CHRISTMAS MEDITATION**

## **SHARING OUR OFFERINGS**

### **OFFERTORY**

*Joseph's Lullaby*

*arr. Bart Millard and Brown Bannister*

*Michael Dennis-Piano    Chris Hatfield-Soloist*

### **▲DOXOLOGY**

*22, Verse 4*

All Creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit Son,  
Evermore our voices raising  
To the eternal Three in One:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn king!

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

### **THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**One:**    The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**Many:**    **And also with you.**

# **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

## **INVITATION**

### **THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**One:** The Lord be with you.

**Many:** **And also with you.**

**One:** Lift up your hearts.

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

**One:** Let us Give Thanks to the Lord our God.

**Many:** **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be the 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.**

## **THE SHARING OF BREAD AND CUP**

*Please come forward via the center aisle to receive communion and return to your seat by way of the side aisles.*

*If you wish to receive communion in your pew, an usher will come to serve you.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

### **SIXTH LESSON**

*Rev. Leslieanne Braunstein*

**John 1:1-5, 9-14**

*The Word of God becomes flesh  
and lives among us, full of grace and truth.*

*As the organ begins to play the final carol, ushers will light their candles from the Christ candle. The ushers will then go up the aisles lighting the candles of those sitting on the aisles. Each person will light the candle of the person next to them. The person holding the unlit candle tilts their candle into the light.*

## ▲CLOSING CAROL

*No. 60*

### “Silent Night, Holy Night”

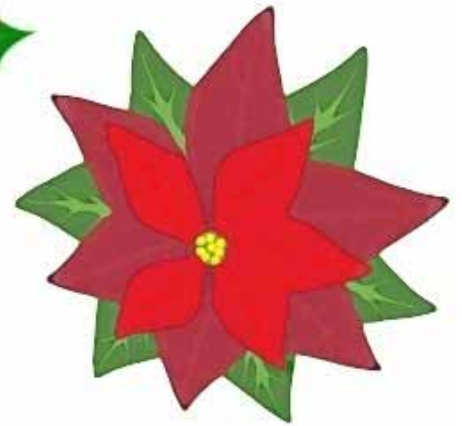
Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin mother and child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

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.

*The Poinsettias adorning  
the Sanctuary are given  
to the Glory of God.*



*In Memory Of...*

*Joseph H Baker II  
Jay & Rouie Brown  
The Brown's  
Margaret Shorter Cameron  
Laina Garver  
Lilla & Matthew Halchin  
Frank Kemler  
Joseph Kukolich  
Edythe Laughlin  
James McGregor*

*Mr. & Mrs. Harley Payne  
June Pickard  
Louise Quigg  
Schroeder loved ones  
George & Emily Smrz  
Ken Smrz  
Garnet Willow  
Parents of Mary Weber  
Parents of Tom Weber  
Ted & Mary Wilson*

*In Honor Of...*

*Jessica Danso  
Wesley Mitchell  
Patrick Retton*

*FPC Deacons  
FPC Session  
Church Staff & Officers*

Greetings,

Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior!

We are delighted you have come to worship with us at Fairlington Presbyterian Church on this most joyous evening of celebration! Indeed, Christ the Savior is born; and, our prayer is that during this worship service you will experience anew the presence of the living Christ dwelling among us.

For those of you who regularly have been coming to FPC's Christmas Eve service, you'll notice a change. FPC's pastor of twenty-two years has moved to the Chicago area, and the folks of this congregation are contemplating how God is calling this community of faith into a new season. While being a community in transition is unsettling, it is a great time to be part of a community that is seeking God's will for the future. Please know you are always welcome to join us as we explore the length and height and depth and breadth of God's love for the Fairlington community – and for Fairlington Presbyterian Church.

May God's richest blessings descend upon you all.

Grace and peace,

Leslianne Braunstein  
Interim Minister

Fairlington Presbyterian Church is a member  
of the Presbyterian Church USA.



FAIRLINGTON  
PRESBYTERIAN  
—CHURCH—