FPC
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • MARYSVILLE, OH

ORDER OF WORSHIP **CHRISTMAS EVE** **DECEMBER 24, 2025**

Prelude . . . . . "O Little Town of Bethlehem" . . . . . *Emily Mathys* & Mindy Smith
Instrumentalists

Welcome and Opening Prayer . . . . . *Rev. Diane Flynn*

Please sign and pass the black pew pad.

Gathering . . . . . "Christmas Blessings" . . . . . *Senior Choir*

*Call to Worship:

Leader: Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy.
People: To us is born this day in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.
Leader: This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.
People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace!
Leader: Let us go now to Bethlehem.

Lighting of the Advent Candle . . . . . *Rhett and Anneke Brown*

*Hymn of Praise . . . . . *"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"* *Hymn # 132*

The Seven Lessons and Carols

First Lesson: Adam and Eve disobey God *Mark Crosthwaite*
Genesis 3:8-15; 17-19

Interlude . . . . . "Sin and Grace" . . . . . *On Screen*

Second Lesson: God's promise to Abraham *Emily Martin*
Genesis 22:15-18

Hymn . . . . . *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (vs.1 & 2, seated)* *Hymn #88*

Third Lesson: The prophesy of a peaceable world for God's people *Chris Martin*
Micah 4:1-4

Anthem . . . . . *"God So Loved the World"* . . . . . *Senior Choir*

Fourth Lesson: The angel appears to Mary *Sophia Brown*
Luke 1:26-38

*Hymn . . . . . *"While We are Waiting, Come"* *Hymn #92*

Fifth Lesson: Mary gives birth in Bethlehem *Ethan Martin*
Luke 2:1-7

Special Music . . . . . *"Messiah"* . . . . . *Molly Barker, soloist*

Sixth Lesson: Angels announce the Messiah *Diane Crosthwaite*
Luke 2:8-16

*Hymn . . . . . "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" Hymn #119

Seventh Lesson: And the Word made flesh *Rev. Diane Flynn*
John 1:1-14

Reflection on the Word . . . . . "The Gift of Fragility" . . . . . *Rev. Diane Flynn*

Anthem . . . . . "Silent Night" . . . . . *Senior Choir, Bell Chimes*
Interlude . . . . . *"Jesus, Light of the World"* . . . . . *On Screen*
*Doxology . . . . . "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymn #608

Offertory Prayer

Great God, accept these gifts we offer as we wait in hope for your coming again. Use all that we have and all that we are as you bring light in every darkness, ease heavy burdens, and turn our endless warring into your endless peace. In Christ's name, we ask it. Amen.

Lighting of the Christ Candle . . . . . *Rev. Diane Flynn*

The Candle Lighting

(Tip only unlit candles to receive the flame. During the last verse of "Away In a Manger," hold your candles aloft.)

Hymn . . . . . *"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" (Vs. 1 & 5 only, seated)* *Hymn #123*

Hymn . . . . . *"Away in a Manger" (all verses)* *Hymn #115*

Candles are Extinguished

*Benediction . . . . . *"Christmas Blessings"* . . . . . *Senior Choir*

Postlude . . . . . "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" . . . . . *Emily Mathys & Mindy Smith*
Instrumentalists

Please join us in the coffee room for hot chocolate and cookies

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
From all of us at FPC