

**ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION
AND WORSHIP OF GOD**
Christmas Eve, December 24, 2009
4 P.M.

* Congregation Stands

Procession

*Choir: “And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall
see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” Is. 40:5*

***Gospel Reading 1..... Isaiah 11:1-10**

*** Response O Come, O Come Emmanuel, pg. 9**

***Gospel Reading 2.....Isaiah 44:21-22**

Confession of Sin

*Almighty Father of our Savior,
Your Servant is born-- whom both heaven and earth adore.
He is sent to earth; light out of darkness, joy after sorrow,
redemption after expectation.
He is the express image of You, the apple of Your eye;
the chosen Messiah of all nations.
Yet we have daily turned our hearts cold to the warmth of
His authority and love.
We have disobeyed His commandments.
We have turned the temple of our hearts into stalls of sin and
sorrow.
Yet to a stall, He was born.
As He took on human flesh, You by grace, clothe our sinful
bodies with His righteousness.
Forgive us for disregarding Your love; forgive our
presumption and disobedience; cleanse our hearts of distraction
and secret faults.
Grant us Your light. Be to us and for us the light of our
countenance, our expectation and joy,
Our only glorious Redeemer and hope.
Have mercy upon us; that we may be redeemed from the kingdom of
darkness, and found finally in your glorious kingdom of light,
We pray to You, in Jesus name, Amen.*

Silent Meditation

*Bass: “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
and they that dwell in land of the shadow of death, upon them hath
the light shined.” Is. 40:5*

DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION

"Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.” (Isaiah 40:1-5)

Tenor: “Every Valley shall be Exalted”

***Gospel Reading 3.....Luke 1:26-38**

*** Response Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, pg. 5**

***Gospel Reading 4.....Luke 2:1-7**

*Soprano & Choir: “...There were shepherds abiding in the field,
keeping watch over their flocks by night. And lo! the angel of the LORD
came upon them, and the glory of the LORD shown round about them,
and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, “Fear not; for
behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all
people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,
which is Christ the Lord.” And suddenly there was with the angel a
multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, “Glory to God
in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.” Luke 2:8-14*

***Gospel Reading 5Luke 2:15-32**

*Choir: “And He shall purify the sons of Levi ... that they
may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.” Mal. 3:3*

HOMILY

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast!

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to the Lord!

(The people come forward to receive the sacrament.)

COMMUNION HYMNS

*Alto: “He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; He shall gather
the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.” Is. 40:11*

*Soprano: “Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I
will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and
learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye
shall find rest unto your souls.” Matthew 11:28-29*

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus pg.2 F
Comfort, Comfort You My People pg. 3 F
What Child Is This pg. 53 G
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming pg. 48 F
The First Nowell pg. 56 D
O Come, All Ye Faithful pg. 41 G
Joy to the World! pg. 40 D
As with Gladness Men of Old pg. 63 G

PRAISES OF THE PEOPLE

Unison: Let the just rejoice,
for their justifier is born.
Let the sick and infirm rejoice,
For their saviour is born.
Let the captives rejoice,
For their Redeemer is born.
Let slaves rejoice,
for their Master is born.
Let free men rejoice,
For their Liberator is born.
Let All Christians rejoice,
For Jesus Christ is born.

Choir : Hallelujah! (**The congregation is invited to join in song.**)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Choir: “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given:
and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His
name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God,
the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.” Is. 9:6*

Saint Peter

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH