



This service is being recorded by video and audio means.

\*We invite you to stand as able.



### *~The Gathering~*

PRELUDE (6:50 p.m.)

*Of the Father's Love Begotten  
He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child  
God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen  
O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Dr. Linda Stutzenberger, harp

Burton  
Underwood  
Pool  
Gaudet

GREETING

Rev. Matt Nieman

### LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE:

Advent series "Glowing with Advent" by Gail Gaymer Martin – published by Christian Publishers

Responsive Reading: Isaiah 9:2, John 1:5

One: The people who walk in darkness will see a great light;

All: **Those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them.**

One: The light shines in the darkness.

All: **And the darkness has not overcome it!**

Message: LisaKay Matchen



Song: “The Candle of Light” to the tune of “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

**Lord, we thank you and we praise you  
For your gift to us divine.**

**As we celebrate this Advent  
Fill our hearts with light sublime.  
Candles glowing, spirits growing,  
As the Christ child comes to earth.**

**We rejoice his holy birth. We rejoice his holy birth.**

Response (including Romans 15:13)

One: The Christ candle prepares us for Christ’s coming.

All: **Our hearts glow with the light of Advent.**

One: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: **We wait with hope, and peace, and joy, and love.  
Come, Lord Jesus.**

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

In those days, in the beginning, Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem. He was to be registered, and she was expecting a child. The time came for Mary to give birth, so she delivered her child, wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger.

**And the angels sang, “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth, peace to all whom God favors.”**

Let us worship our with-us God.

**Let us sing songs of praise!**

\*HYMN #31

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Mendelssohn

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving Christ, when the shepherds heard that you were born, they dropped their things and ran. They trusted the angels' invitation. They believed that your love existed for them. We wish that we were more like that.**

**Instead, somewhere between the angels' song and the manger, we tend to lose our way. We doubt ourselves. We doubt the invitation. We doubt that love could know our names.**

**Remind us that your love is personal and specific.  
Remind us that the good news of this day is for us.  
With hope we sing, we pray, and we run.**

*(please continue in silent prayer)*

\*KYRIE ELEISON

Conditor alme siderum



Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, Your peo - ple's  
ev - er - last - ing light, O Christ, Re - deem - er of  
us all, We pray You hear us when we call.

\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

\*GLORIA #23

Gloria

**Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo;**

\*THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**



~The Word~

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eric Corbett

**We always long for you, O Lord, but on this night, on this holy Christmas Eve, we long for you to feel as close as possible. So, as we prepare to hear this ancient story once again, we ask that you would awaken something new in us.**

**Awaken in us a fire for your Word. Awaken in us proof of your proximity. Awaken in us your love, which is bigger than the sky, and as close as our very breath. We are listening. We give thanks. Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:1-20

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**



SERMON “Words for the Beginning: Love Knows Your Name” Rev. Matt Nieman

~The Response~

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe that on a night like this one, a baby was born and placed in a manger. We believe that baby was God’s love in the flesh, who grew up to love the outcast and change the world. We believe that Jesus’ love was so big and so personal that the world will never be the same. So, despite the mystery of this holy night, we believe that a star shone, that the shepherds ran, that the angels sang, and that love was born. Yes, we believe it when the prophets say that unto you, unto us, a savior is born. Glory to God in the highest heaven! We believe.**

ANTHEM

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*  
Chancel Choir

arr. R. Leaf

The anthem text may be found in The Hymnal, #37

CALL FOR THE OFFERING



~The Eucharist~

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*(prayer continues)*



SANCTUS

Picardy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION



AGNUS DEI

Picardy

Lamb \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_ God, you take a-way the sins of the world:  
 have \_\_\_\_\_ mer - cy \_\_\_ on us. Lamb \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_ God, you  
 take a-way the sins of \_\_\_\_\_ the world: grant \_\_\_\_\_ us thy\_ peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

~The Sending~



\*LIGHTING OF CANDLES

\*HYMN #60

*Silent Night, Holy Night*

Stille Nacht

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1818, Trans. John Freeman Young, 1863. Music: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1818.  
 The Presbyterian Hymnal: Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs © 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press. All Rights reserved. Used by permission.

\*HYMN #40

*Joy to the World!*

Antioch

Text: Isaac Watts, 1719; alt. Music: Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742. Arr. Lowell Mason, 1836.  
 The Presbyterian Hymnal: Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs © 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press. All Rights reserved. Used by permission.

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #23 *Come to Bethlehem*

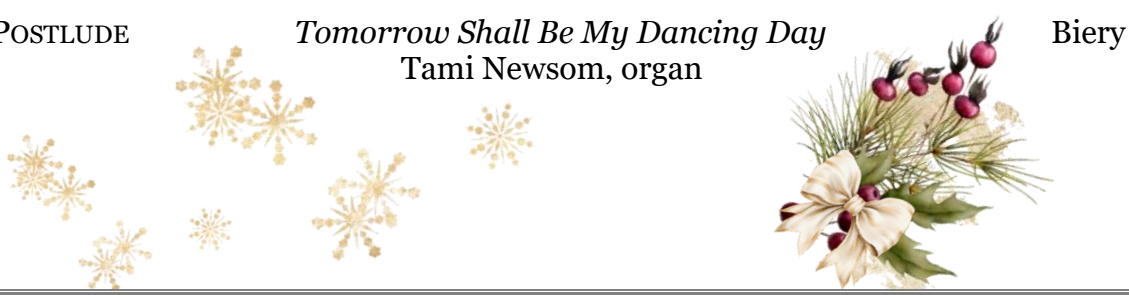
Gloria

**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!**

\*POSTLUDE

*Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day*  
 Tami Newsom, organ

Biery





*Communion Server* ~ Emily Sweetland

*Ushers* ~ Thom Haig & Mike Murphy

*Audio* ~ Ken Ladrach

*Video* ~ David Long & Turner Neely



**Farragut  
Presbyterian  
Church**

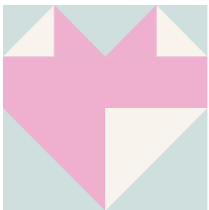
## *Merry Christmas*

The church office will be closed on Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.

We will be back in the office on Friday, December 27<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

**There will be one worship service at 10:00 a.m. next Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>.**

Today we celebrate the leaders of our church – past, present and future. We will be collecting the **CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING**, where 50% of your gifts assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs. The remaining 50% of your gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. *“In our living, in our giving we are there.”*



**“Words for the Beginning” Advent Series**

## **LOVE KNOWS YOUR NAME**

The love of God is represented by a heart with three triangles that seem to fold inward, ready for embrace.





Joy TO THE  
World

**FARRAGUT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

209 Jamestowne Blvd.~ Farragut, TN 37934  
865/966-9547 ~ [www.fpctn.org](http://www.fpctn.org)

*"Praising God, Serving Others, Growing in Faith"*

**Church Office Hours:**

Monday - Thursday 9am-3pm; Friday 9am-1pm

Pastor.....Rev. Matthew Nieman  
Director of Family Ministries.....Mason Warren  
Director of Music..... Dr. Angela L. Batey  
Associate Director of Music.....Tami Newsom  
Music Leader for Casual Worship.....Sandra Porter Bohlken  
Office Administrator .....Dawn Zilles/Sandra Bohlken  
Bookkeeper.....Lori Corbett  
Treasurer..... John Begovich  
Financial Secretary.....Tom Koch