December 24, 2025
The Nativity of the Lord
Christmas Eve

Prelude *"In the Bleak Midwinter"* Holst
Yinzhe Li, piano

"Ukrainian Bell Carol Fantasy" arr. Dobrinski
Sanctuary Bells

Welcome Rev. Bill Pinches

Lighting of the Advent and Christ Candles
Nancy Sue MacDonald and Mary Ozee

We light these candles as signs of the coming light of Christ.
As the Lord has promised, in days to come
The people who walked in darkness *Isa. 9:2*
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness,
on them light has shined.
Let us walk in the light of the Lord. **Amen.**

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Prayer of the Day

Introit *"Noel"* arr. Sorenson
Sanctuary Choir

Opening Sentences
I am bringing you good news of great joy.
To us is born this day in the city of David
a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.
This will be a sign for you:
you will find a child wrapped in cloth
and lying in a manger.
Glory to God in the highest,
peace on earth,
and goodwill to all!
Let us go now to Bethlehem.

+ Carol: GTG #133 *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"* ADESTE FIDELES

Prayer for Illumination

The First Lesson *The Angel Gabriel Visits the Virgin Mary* Luke 1:26-38
Gift Tayong
Gabriel and Mary come to the manger.

The Second Lesson *Mary's Song of Praise* Luke 1:46-55
Timothy Pinches

The Third Lesson *The Angel Visits Righteous Joseph* Matthew 1:18-25
Matthew McGonigal
Joseph comes to the manger.

The Fourth Lesson *The Birth of Jesus the Messiah* Luke 2:1-7
Hannah Koutz
Baby Jesus comes to the manger.

The Fifth Lesson *The Angels Visit the Shepherds* Luke 2:8-20
Owen Brickner
The shepherds, sheep, and angels come to the manger.

+ Carol: GTG #119 *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* MENDELSSOHN

The Sixth Lesson *The Word Became Flesh* John 1:1-5, 10-14, 16-18
Davis Baker

Ascription of Praise *Luke 2:14*
Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth! **Amen.**

Anthem *"See Amid the Winter's Snow"* arr. Forrest
Sanctuary Choir

Storytime for the Children Katharine Wise

Music *"Good King Wenceslas"* arr. McKee
Sanctuary Bells

Meditation "The Gift" Rev. Bill Pinches

+ Carol: GTG #147 *"The First Nowell"* THE FIRST NOWELL

Prayers of Intercession

Anthem *"Peace, Peace"* arr. Bock

Sharing the Light of Christ
Acolytes will move through the sanctuary as we begin singing
"Silent Night," lighting the candle of those seated near the aisles.
Tip your unlit candle towards a candle that is already lit;
please do not tip your candle after it has been lit.
We invite you to sit in quiet meditation as the light grows.
We will extinguish our candles as "Joy to the World" begins.

Carol: GTG #122 *"Silent Night, Holy Night!"* STILLE NACHT
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.

Silent Reflections

+ Carol: GTG #134 *"Joy to the World"* ANTIOCH

+ Charge
Go forth to sing and bless God's holy name. *Ps. 96:2, 4; Luke 2:14*
Glory to God in the highest!
For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised. **Alleluia!**

+ Blessing
The Lord look upon you with favor *Num. 6:26; Luke 2:14*
and give you peace. **Amen!**

Postlude *"And the Child Grew"* Thompson
Caitlyn Brown, organ

Serving Us Today
Guest Organist: Caitlyn Brown
Strings: Zuo Chonghua, Runqi Weng, Weigen Jiang, and George Smith
Greeters: Lucinda Davenport, Ron Dlouhy, and Jane Hamelink
Sound: Marty Subject **Livestream:** Tami Chapman
Security: Tim Hammond, Dan Baker, and Will Ozee

Credits

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Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Charlie Herrick
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Sanctuary Choir Director / Bell Choir Director: Deb Melse
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Financial Secretary: Becky Moots
Choral Music Accompanist: Yinzhe Li
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Gloria in excelsis deo!
Prince of Peace Abbey
Oceanside, California

Mason First Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2025
The Nativity of the Lord
Christmas Eve

Holy Family
by Margret Hofheinz-Döring, 1973

He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
(Isaiah 9:6)