

Christmas Eve

at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church



The Adoration of the Shepherds
by Guido Reni, circa 1640, The National Gallery, London

December 24, 2014, 8:30 p.m., Service of Holy Communion

*"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 all." Luke 2:11, 13*

Our celebration of the birth of Christ continues...

Sunday, December 25

10:00 a.m. ~ Carols & Worship in the Sanctuary

All are welcome!

Protective candle holders and candles, which will be lighted during "Silent Night," are available near all entrance doors. Please return the candle holders as you leave.

The Christmas Eve Communion Service, 8:30 p.m.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Christmas is a joyous celebration. Some prepare by greeting each other with quiet words of peace. Some wish to prepare in silent attention to the prelude. Please be respectful of how those around you prepare.

PRELUDE

Pièce d'Orgue	J.S. Bach
Pastorella	J.S. Bach
My Soul Magnifies the Lord	J.S. Bach
Prelude and Fugue in G	J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sherrri Hausser

- One: O sing to the Lord a new song; tell of God's salvation from day to day.
All: **For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; God is to be feared above all gods.**
One: Worship the Lord in holy array; tremble before God, all the earth!
All: **Honor and majesty are before God; strength and beauty are in God's sanctuary.**

Please rise as able.

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

¹ Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare Him room And heaven and nature sing ...	³ No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found...
² Joy to the World! The Savior reigns: Let us our songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy ...	⁴ He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love...

Please be seated.

THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

R. Charles Grant

- One: We will indeed praise you, O God, and cause your works to be known. Your mercy and grace shall endure forever. As we obey your commandments and abide by your wisdom, we shall proclaim to the nations how you can be trusted. Upheld by the covenant you established, with our feet firmly placed on an unshakable foundation, we enter your presence to give you all glory.
All: **Amen.**

THE COMMON CONFESSION

R. Charles Grant

One: Let us pray.

All: **Your grace, O God, has appeared for the salvation of all, calling us to renounce false gods and irresponsible love. In the midst of our sin, Christ has appeared as a sign of our hope, redeeming us and calling us to be a people eager to do your will. Make us zealous for good deeds in response to your wonderful deed in Jesus Christ. We confess the vain worship of ourselves and our neglect of your children. Forgive us and empower us to live upright and godly lives in this world.**

A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

Know that in Christ you are forgiven, and be at peace.

All: **Alleluia! Amen.**

WORDS OF WELCOME

James L. Carter



THE WORD OF THE LORD

THE COMING OF THE KINGDOM IS FORETOLD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

Louisa Watkins Umphres

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR CAROL

A Spotless Rose

Herbert Howells

A spotless rose is blowing, sprung from a tender root, of ancient seers' foreshowing of Jesse promised fruit; Its fairest bud unfolds to light amid the cold, cold winter, and in the dark midnight. The rose which I am singing, whereof Isaiah said, is from its sweet root springing in Mary, purest maid; For through our God's great love and might, the blessed babe she bare us in a cold, cold winter's night.

ST. LUKE TELLS OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

R. Charles Grant

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR CAROL

What Child

Paul Lohman

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary! Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary! So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king to own him. The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

THE SHEPHERDS LEARN OF JESUS' BIRTH

THE THIRD LESSON

Luke 2:8-14

James L. Carter

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR CAROL

Hodie, Christus Natus est

Healey Willan

Today, Christ is born! The Savior hath appeared: on earth the choirs of Angels sing, Archangels together rejoice, saying: Glory to God in the Highest! Alleluia!

Please rise as able for the Fourth Lesson.

ST. JOHN UNFOLDS THE GREAT MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION

THE FOURTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

Sherri Hausser

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain standing.

THE CHRISTMAS COLLECT

James L. Carter

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with thy Spirit.**

One: Let us pray.

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Teach us to proclaim the birth of your Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Please be seated.

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

In the Bleak Midwinter

CRANHAM

¹In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

³Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But His mother only, in her maiden bliss,
Worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

²Our God, heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter a stable-place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

⁴What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give Him: Give my heart.



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

THE CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

Louisa Watkins Umphres

The Christmas Eve Offering will go toward Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church’s outreach to Philadelphia-area ministries and to our mission partners throughout the world.

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

As the Dark Awaits the Dawn

Christopher Aspaas

As the dark awaits the dawn, so we await your light. O Star of promise, scatter night, loving bright, till shades of fear are gone. As the blue expectant hour before the silvering skies, we long to see your day arise, whole and wise, O lucent Morning Star. As the moon reflects the sun until the night’s decrease, may we your healing light release, living peace, unto your holy dawn. Shine your future on this place, enlighten every guest, that through us stream your holiness, bright and blest; come dawn, O Sun of grace. We await your light.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Louisa Watkins Umphres

*Please rise if able and greet those around you with a handclasp and the words,
“The Peace of the Lord be with you.”*

Please be seated.



SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION

R. Charles Grant

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Sherri Hausser

One: The Lord be with you.
All: **And also with you.**
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: **We lift them to the Lord.**
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**
One: *(The prayer continues.)*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*Please receive the bread and hold it until the pastor signals you to partake with the community.
When you receive the cup, please commune individually.
The bread in the separate cup is gluten- and casein-free so that all may participate.*

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

The congregation is invited to join the choir in the singing of carols.

¹Choir: 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.

³Women: Jesus is our childhood's pattern,
Day by day like us He grew;
Men: He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us He knew.
All: And He feels for all our sadness,
And He shares in all our gladness.

²All: 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.

⁴All: 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.

- ¹All: 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;
 O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him;
 O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.
- ²Women: Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
- Men: Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
- All: O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him;
 O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.
- ³All: Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
 Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
 Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
 O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him;
 O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

¹Angels 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!

³Come 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!

²Shepherds, 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!

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

- ¹All: 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!"
- ²Men: 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.
- Women: 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.
- All: Hark! The herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the newborn King!"



THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

The candle lighters will light their candles from the pastor's candle. They then will light the candle of the first worshipper in each pew, who will pass the light down the pew. When the light comes to you, please tip your candle toward the lighted candle.

CHOIR CAROL

Candlelight Carol

John Rutter

How do you capture the wind on the water?
How do you count all the stars in the sky?
How can you measure the love of a mother,
Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

Refrain: Candlelight, angel light, firelight and starglow
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn.
Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Angels are singing;
The Christ child is born.

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him,
Seraphim round him their vigil will keep.
Nations proclaim him their Lord and their Savior,
But Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep.
Refrain

Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger:
Christ our Redeemer, asleep in the hay.
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation:
A child with his mother that first Christmas Day.
Refrain

Please rise as able.

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

Silent 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.

Please be seated.

THE BLESSING AND CHORAL AMEN

James L. Carter

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

Jeffrey Brillhart



Dianne Heard will be playing the carillon this evening.

The cut-work, embroidered communion cloth on the table
was given to the glory of God by Mr. and Mrs. George C. McFarland in 1981.

Christmas Flowers

In Memory of...

John H. Africa
Samuel Craighead Alexander
J. Roy and Mildred Dorwart Allison
Kenneth Atwood
Mrs. Clara Augsdorfer
Blanche Ella Babiasch
Mrs. Annie Robinson Barrington
Frank H. Bassett, III
James Clay Bassett
Dr. and Mrs. William Bates
Elizabeth M. Bates
Vernon Bean
Gail D. Bentley
William H. Bentley, Jr.
Carmen C. and Eloise Bernand
John W. Bickhart, Jr.
David Bogle
Josephine and William Bogle
George and Ruth Bollinger
Richard. C. and Barbara B. Bond
Mr. and Mrs. George H. Borst
Elizabeth M. Bradley
Linda Brinkman
Mr. Samuel and Mary Buchanan
Anne Garrett Buck
James Mahlon Buck, Jr. (two donations)
Mr. and Mrs. Matilda B. and Roy D. Butcher
Kathleen Carrington
Helen Williamson Carson
Joe Castle
Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Charrington, Jr.
Margaret Downey Chew
Maurice L. Clancy
James Clifford Clay
Heather Miller Cox
Jere Coleman Cox
Debbie Craig
Middy and Elmer Craig
John, Mildred and Mary Crowther
James E. Davidson, Jr.
Jean Dorrance
Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Dunlop
Lt. Col. and Mrs. Carter M. Edmonds
Marjorie and Arch Eglin
Virginia and Richard Eisenhart
Claude Robert Epps, Jr.
Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Evans
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Evans
The Fish and Mannon Families
Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. Flood
Richard H. Flood
Charles J. Foster III
Judith S. Foster
Charlotte Hume Freeman
N. E. Freeman, M.D.
W.W.K. Freeman
Louise and Claudel Galloway
William C. Galloway, Jr.
Martha and Wallace Gardner
Doris L. Garner
M. Rosinda Navarro Getty
Stuart K. Gord
Ralph and Irma Gregg
Mr. and Mrs. Elizabeth N. and Ernie Grosshanten
Mrs. Margery Guenthoer
Frances Gurley
Joseph Charles Hanger
David Stewart Hanna

In Memory of...

Alan Harding
Lynn and Porter Hardy, Jr.
Mildred and Morgan Harding
Porter Hardy III
Mr. and Mrs. Iler M. Hathaway
Mr. and Mrs. George J. Hauptfuhrer
Michael C. Havens
Mr. and Mrs. Norment Doniphan Hawkins
Lois and Paul Hicks
Kathryn S. Himmelberger
Harry W. Homeier
Richard E. Honig
Mrs. Victoria S. Hulse
Julia Hunter
David Thompson & Margaret Drummond Jervis
Samuel Alexander & Elizabeth Neill Jervis
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Joseph
Sandra Elizabeth Ladd
John Francis LaFarge
Mrs. Kathleen Robinson Mackie Lake
Mrs. Dorothy Lazzaro
Richard W. Ledwith, Sr.
Marlin E. and Janet T. Lerch
Richard B. Light
Mr. and Mrs. A. Donaldson Loch
Ruth M. Longacre
Betty Anne Loser
William R. Ludwig II
George C. Mackie, M.D.
Mary Frances and R. William Maggs
Sis and Jack Magoun
Mr. and Mrs. William Martin
Verne S. Mattison
Jesse and Helen May
Dr. Stephen Paul McConnell
Robert E. McDonald
Reed and Adelaide McIntire
George H. and Bernice R. McKean
Gregory McMullan
Herbert H. Middleton, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert H. Middleton, Sr.
Edward Bingham Miller
Emma Miller
Florence and Lawrence Miller
Janet Miller
Mr. and Mrs. Margaret and Peter Navarro
Hamilton Miller & Etta Mae Neill
Bessie Dunseath O'Neill
Mr. and Mrs. Haig H. Pakradooni
Mr. and Mrs. John B. Pearson
Henry P. Pendergrass
Harold and Annette Pough
Emilie M. Pyle
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Rauch
Howard A. Richter, M.D.
James R. Rittenhouse
Mr. and Mrs. Walter G. Rittenhouse
Gwenyth Johnson Roberts
James P. Roberts
James P. Roberts, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. James K. Robinson, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Jos. W. Rogers
Frances and Edwin Ross
Gladys Sasso
Marc J. Schogol
Jane Cox Shearer
Mr. and Mrs. Harry W. Sheetz
Isabel and William Sherrerd

In Memory of...

Kathleen and John Sherrerd
Ann B. and Mercer E. Simmington, Jr.
Susan Ann Skillman
Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Alton Skillman
Anne and Bradford Smith
David Thornton Smith
Elizabeth Smith
The Rev. Dr. Harold T. and Ethel Gardner Smith
Thornton G. Smith
Paul Charles Sombart
Richard S. Spielman
Thomas S. Stewart
Dorothy Styer
Dr. and Mrs. Timothy R. Talbot, Jr.
Pauline E. Taylor
Adele D. TenHoor
Mr. and Mrs. William L. Thorkelson
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John W. Vassey, M.D.
Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Ware, Sr.
Mr. Frank M. Ware, Jr.
Peggy & Jack Weir
Mrs. Virginia Hawkins Weitzel
Mr. Winfield Weitzel
Deryle Whipple
Desiree Whipple
Jacqui Whipple
Mr. and Mrs. Donald C. Wilber
Eugene K. Wolf
Mr. Irving F. Wolfgram
Dr. James Edwin Wood
Willard M. and Alla T. Wright
Dorothy and Paul H. Yeakel
Robert A. and Anna Bond Young
D. Anton Zurbrigg

In Honor of...

Catharine T. Barnett and Benjamin H. Barnett
BMPCC Staff
Carolyn Carter
The Dennis Family
Eli Engelman
Ruth Engelman
Theodore Engelman
H. Eugene & Jean B. Fisk
Marilyn and Howard Hicks
Ralph H. Himmelberger
Richard W. Knecht
Bill Landen
Charlotte T. Rittenhouse
Ruth Ann Rowland
Clifford Canan Satell
Matthew Jackson Satell
Jeff Hicks and Scott Swaldo

In Celebration of...

Brooke, Charlie and Teddy IV
Baptism of Claire Hetherington Pidot
Baptism of William Francis Thorkelson
Birth of Clayton James Barrow
Joy of Matthew C. Fuller
Joy of Trevor Michael Aronchick
Marriage of David Renninger and Lynn Long
Marriage of Eric C. Johnson and Arzo Bashir
Marriage of James Crouse and Tae Hee Lee
Marriage of Scott and Anne Fagan
Twins - Brendan Todd and Lillian Todd
The Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ

The Clergy and Staff of the church extend warm Christmas greetings to all.

MINISTERS

All the members of the church

PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. James L. Carter, D.Min.; Interim Pastor, Head of Staff

The Rev. R. Charles Grant, D.Min.; Associate Pastor
for Senior Adults and Pastoral Care

The Rev. Sherri A. Hausser, M.Div.; Associate Pastor
for Adult Education, Outreach, and Worldwide Ministries

The Rev. Kellen A. Smith, M.Div.; Associate Pastor
for Youth, Their Families and College Ministries

The Rev. Jacqui Van Vliet, M.Div.; Pastoral Associate
for Congregational Life and Family Ministries

The Rev. Joanne Shum Fong, M.Div.; Pastoral Resident 2010-12

The Rev. Louisa Watkins Umphres, M.Div.; Pastoral Resident 2010-12

PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Rebecca Alleva, Acting Youth Activities Director

Donna Barrickman, Director

of Communications and Membership

Carolyn Jervis Beitmann, Director

of Children's and Family Ministries

Lorie Benovic, Care Manager

Jeffrey L. Brillhart, Director of Music and Fine Arts

Patsy Cole, Director of the Weekday School

Pete DiRocco, Director of Facilities and Maintenance

The Rev. Joyce R. Krajian, M.Div.; Director

of the Middleton Center

Pam Lloyd, Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor

Ketti Jane Muschler, Director of BMPC Choir School

Joanne Solarz, Executive Director of Operations

David Van Houten, Ph.D.; Transition into Ministry Program Director

Jane Wilber, Assistant Director

of Children's and Family Ministries



The Rev. Robert C. Murphy, M.Div.; Parish Associate

Sue Gibbons, Shared Ministries Coordinator



The Rev. Eugene C. Bay, D.Min.; Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Margaret Anne Fohl, D.Min.; Associate Pastor Emerita

The Rev. George E. Hollingshead, Jr., D.Min.;

Associate Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. David B. Watermulder, Th.M., DD.; Pastor Emeritus

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