



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1028 South Belt Line Road
Mesquite, Texas 75149

December 10, 2023
5:00 p.m.

Welcome to the Christmas Program, presented by the children and youth of First Presbyterian Church! The whole congregation is invited and encouraged to join in singing the Christmas Carols during the program. If we are singing all verses, the hymn number will be given. If we are singing just a verse or two, the words will be printed in this program. An asterisk () indicates standing.*

VOLUNTARY *O Holy Night* Adam

GREETING, CALL TO WORSHIP, AND OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN 147** *The First Noel*

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

***FELLOWSHIP INTERLUDE** *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*
One of the most important aspects of worship and service to God is good fellowship among God's people. During this fellowship interlude, please take the opportunity to pass the peace of Christ to those around you.

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:26-38

HYMN *What Child Is This*
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.

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-5

THOSE WHO SERVE

Rev. Dr. E. Jones Doughton, Pastor
Ryoji Shimpō, Organist
Sheila Hammer, Youth Sponsor Volunteer
Erin Edling, Youth Sponsor Volunteer

HYMN *O Little Town of Bethlehem*
O Little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:6-7

HYMN *Away in a Manger*
Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-12

HYMN *Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all you 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 new-born king!"

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:13-14

HYMN *Angels We Have Heard on High*
Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo! Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:16-17

HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful*
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!

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:17-20

HYMN *Joy to the World*
Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-2

HYMN *We Three Kings of Orient Are*
We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O— star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

SCRIPTURE Revelation 22:21

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (adapted from The Heidelberg Catechism)
We believe in God the Father, the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who out of nothing created heaven and earth and upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence. God is our Father because of Christ the Son. The Son of God is called "Jesus" because He saves us from our sins and because salvation cannot be found in anyone else. Jesus is called "Christ" because He is ordained by God the Father and anointed by the Holy Spirit. We believe in God the Holy Spirit Who introduces us to Christ. The Spirit makes us share in Christ's benefits, the Spirit comforts us and remains with us forever.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*HYMN 136 *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

*BENEDICTION

*VOLUNTARY *Do You Hear What I Hear?* Gloria Baker

The congregation is asked to remain standing and in place until the entire cast has exited.

(Refreshments to follow in Wilbanks Hall)