

# CHRIST

TONIGHT— God will show His love in the most miraculous way - through the gift of His Son.

TONIGHT will be the birth of Jesus, the Christ.

TONIGHT— Heaven Touches Earth!

*A virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.*  
Matthew 1:23



# New St. James Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve Communion Service  
Sunday, December 24, 2017 - 9:30 p.m.

**\*Please stand, if able**

**Prelude**      *Good Christians All Rejoice (In Dulci Jubilo)*      H. Schoroeder (1904-1984)

\* **Carol**                      *In the bleak mid-winter (Craham)*                      **145**

## **Bidding Prayer**

## **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Introit**                      *Break forth o beauteous light*                      J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Break forth O beauteous Heavenly light, and usher in the morning: ye shepherds, shrink not with affright, but hear the angel's warning. This Child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be, the power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making.

\* **Carol**                      *God rest ye merry gentlemen*  
God rest ye merry gentlemen, let nothing you dismay.  
For Jesus Christ our Saviour was born upon this day  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray  
**Refrain:** *Oh tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy.*

From God our Heavenly Father a blessed Angel came;  
And unto certain Shepherds brought tidings of the same,  
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by Name:  
*Refrain*

**The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,  
And left their flocks a-feeding In tempest, storm and wind,  
And went to Bethlehem straightway the blessed babe to find:**  
*Refrain*

## **Welcome and Greetings**

**First Lesson**              Isaiah 9

<b>Carol</b>	<i>On Christmas night all Christians sing (Sussex)</i>	<b>162</b>
<b>Second Lesson</b>	Isaiah 11	
<b>Carol</b>	<i>Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming (Es ist ein' ros entsprungen)</i>	<b>151</b>
<b>Third Lesson</b>	The annunciation Luke 1	
<b>Carol</b>	<i>The angel Gabriel from heaven (Gabriel's message)</i>	<b>156</b>
<b>Fourth Lesson</b>	The birth of Jesus	
<b>Carol</b>	<i>Infant holy, Infant lowly</i>	<b>143</b>
<b>Fifth Lesson</b>	The shepherds go to the manger Luke 2	
<b>Carol</b>	<i>While shepherds watched</i>	<b>138</b>

**Anthem**      *Ding Dong! Merrily On High*

Ding dong! Merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing: Ding dong! Verily the sky is riven with angel singing. *Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!*

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen, and *io, io, io*, by priest and people sungen. *Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!*

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers; may you beautifully rime your evetime song ye singers. *Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!*

**Sixth Lesson**                      Wise men Matthew 2

**Anthem**      *The Three Kings (Wie Shöne Leuchtet der Morgenstern)*

P. Cornelius (1824-1874)

Ariel Harwood-Jones, soprano

Three kings from Persian lands afar to Jordan follow the pointing star: and this the quest of the travellers three – where the new-born King of the Jews may be. Full royal gifts they bear for the King; gold, incense, myrrh are their offering. The star shines out with a steadfast ray; the kings to Bethlehem make their way, and there in worship they bend the knee, as Mary's Child in her lap they see. Their royal gifts they show to the King; gold, incense, myrrh are their offering. Thou Child of man, lo, to Bethlehem the kings are travelling, travel with them! The star of mercy, the star of peace, shall lead

