

Christmas Eve Service
Aisquith Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2025

6:30 PM

*We welcome you to worship this evening. It is a privilege to have you as our guest.
As you join us today, begin to worship quietly with personal prayer.
Please turn off your cell phone and turn your hearts and minds toward God.*

Musical Preparation

What Child Is This

Organ and Brass

Chorale

A Child Is Born in Bethlehem

J.S. Bach
The Aisquith Choir

A Child is born in Bethlehem, Alleluia! Exult for joy, Jerusalem! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Come then, and on this natal day, Alleluia! Rejoice before the Lord and pray. Alleluia! Alleluia!

From Handel's Messiah

Recitative

Comfort Ye My People

Handel
Mr. Robert Brown, Tenor

Comfort ye, Comfort ye my people, saith your God, saith your God; Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare, her warfare is accomplish'd, that her iniquity is pardon'd, that her iniquity is pardon'd. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Air

Ev'ry Valley Shall Be Exalted

Handel
Mr. Robert Brown, Tenor

Ev'ry valley, ev'ry valley shall be exalted, shall be exalted, shall be exalted, shall be exalted, ev'ry mountain and hill made low the crooked straight, and the rough places plain, the crooked straight, the crooked straight, the rough places plain, and the rough places plain. Ev'ry valley, ev'ry valley shall be exalted, Ev'ry valley, ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight, the crooked straight, the crooked straight and the rough places plain, and the rough places plain, the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.

Chorus

And The Glory Of The Lord

Handel
The Aisquith Choir

And the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, And the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it; and all flesh shall see it together, and all flesh shall see it together, For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it, And the glory, the glory of the Lord, and all flesh shall see it together, and the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and

all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it, and all flesh shall see it together, and the glory, the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, together, For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it, for the mouth of the Lord, the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Service of Worship

Welcome & Announcements

Prayer of Invocation

Scripture Reading

John 3:16

For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him
should not perish but have eternal life.

Choral Introduction

For God So Loved the World

Lanny Wolfe

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish,
but they shall have, they shall have everlasting life.

For God

Scripture Reading

John 1:1-4

Read by: Hannah Fisher

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

Hymn No. 197

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Thirsting

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace thus saith our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Yea, her sins our God will pardon, blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved his anger he no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many a day, now her griefs have passed away;
God will change her pining sadness into ever springing gladness.

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
Bidding all men to repentance, since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign,
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;
And all flesh shall see the token, that his word is never broken.

So Loved

Scripture Reading

1 John 4:9-10

Read by: Chris Snowden

⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Hymn No. 230

Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor

French Carol

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor;
Thrones for a manger didst surrender, sapphire paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who was rich beyond all splendor, all for love's sake becamest poor.

Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man;
Stooping so low, but sinners raising, heav'nward by thine eternal plan.
Thou who art God beyond all praising, all for love's sake becamest man;

Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling, make us what thou wouldst have us be.
Thou who art love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship thee.

The World

Scripture Reading

John 15:18-19

Read by: Lisa Snowden

¹⁸ "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."

Hymn No. 201

O Little Town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

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.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n!

So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

He Gave

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:31-32

Read by: Brenna Bell

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

Hymn No. 224

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Go Tell It

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.**

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent blocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! Above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Down in a lowly manger our humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

His Only Son

Scripture Reading

John 1:14

Read by: Verena Cabell

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.

Hymn No. 208

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

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.***

God of God, Light of Light;
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb:
very God, begotten, not created;

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of hea'v above;
glory to God in the highest;

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing;

We Give Our Gifts for the Glory of God's Only Son

Prayer of Dedication

The Offertory

Ten Thousand Joys

Don Marsh and Karen Dean

Duet: Dr. Hattie Smith-Shannon (soprano) and Mr. Robert Brown (tenor) with The Aisquith Choir

Standing here beside the manger, looking at this little stranger, wond'ring if He'll be like other boys; Looking down across tomorrow knowing there will be some sorrow; I still know He'll bring ten thousand joys. **Ten thousand hoys – Sweet Son of God, You came to me. And my heart sings because I know that You are mine, in You I find Ten thousand joys – Enough to last through all the years; And joy to shine through all my tears, ten thousand joys, ten thousand joys. I know He came from God to save us from our sins, and that He came to set His people free; But how was I to know when Jesus came into my life that God's own Son had come to bring to me Ten thousand joys – Sweet Son of God, You came to me And my heart sings because I know that You are mine, In You I fin Ten thousand joys – Enough to last through all the years, And joy to shine through all my tears – Ten thousand joys to last the years; Ten thousand joys, Ten thousand joys!** When I am alone with Jesus, in the quiet, where no one sees us, or when He is with me in life's noise; If I speak I know He'll hear me, and to know that He is near me always brings to me ten thousand joys.

Whoever Believes in Him

Scripture Reading

John 20:30-31

Read by: Lieseli Cabell

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Hymn No. 211

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

God Rest You Merry

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray;

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O 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.

“Fear not, then,” said the angel, “let nothing you affright,
this day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
to free all those who trust in him from Satan’s pow’r and might.”

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 Son of God to find.

Should not Perish

Scripture Reading

John 10:27-30

Read by: Mary Fisher

²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one.”

Hymn No. 203

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

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 th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel.

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.

But Have Eternal Life

Scripture Reading

1 John 5:11-12

Read by: Gregory Cabell

¹¹ And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.
¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Hymn No. 207

Good Christian Men Rejoice

In Dulci Jubilo

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Earth and heav'n before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

We Go Forth to Shine the Light of Christ!

Candle Lighting & Hymn No. 210

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, heav'nly 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!

Benediction and Three-Fold Amen (Hymnal, pg. 740)

Danish

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Postlude

Hallelujah!

Handel

The Congregation is encouraged to stand and join in the singing of the Postlude.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

The kingdom of this world is become
the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and of His Christ;
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever

King of Kings,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
and Lord of Lords,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
and Lord of Lords,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
and Lord of Lords,
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,
and He shall reign for ever and ever
and He shall reign for ever and ever

King of Kings
for ever and ever. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And He shall reign for ever and ever,
for ever and ever,
King of Kings,
and Lord of Lords,
King of Kings,
and Lord of Lords,
and He shall reign for ever and ever,

King of Kings,

and Lord of Lords.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

A very special thanks to those who contributed to the service this evening:

Director of Music Ministries: Dr. Kenneth Dean, Jr.

Music Arranger: Mr. David Russell

Vocalists: Mr. Robert Brown
Dr. Hattie Smith-Shannon
Mr. Vincent Stringer

Musicians: Mr. Brandon Cofield - Trombone
Mr. Bryan Flippin – French Horn
Mr. Ronald Rolling – Trumpet
Mr. David Russell – Trumpet
Mr. Paul Wallace – Acoustic Bass

Our Christmas Offering will go to the *PCA Ministerial Relief Fund*.

If you donated a poinsettia for this year's service, thank you! You are welcome take it home after the service.

Christmas cards and the 2026 offering envelopes are in the narthex. If you would like to begin using envelopes for your giving, please speak to Pastor Ceselsky.

Please pick up your Christmas Cards!

Poinsettias for Christmas 2025

From

George & Ruth Ellen Beerli
George & Ruth Ellen Beerli
George & Ruth Ellen Beerli
John & Christine Clark
John & Christine Clark
Gus & Debbie DeFord
Gus & Debbie DeFord
Diane Eisenmeier
Anna, Andrew & Bruce Graham
Alice Orie
Alice Orie
The Oswinkle Family
The Oswinkle Family
The Oswinkle Family
The Oswinkle Family
Candy Short
Candy Short
The Wickham Family

Memorial

In memory of Charles & Jeannette Gronenthal
In memory of Gebhard & Rosa Beerli
In memory of Ralph & Jeannette Faulkingham
In loving memory of Ralph Clark III
In memory of Barbara Clark
In memory of Parents & Siblings
In memory of Debbie's Parents & Brother, Butch
In memory of Ed & Alvina Eisenmeier
In loving memory of Pastor Tom Graham
Giving Thanks for His Grace & Blessings
Giving Thanks for His Grace & Blessings
In loving memory of John & Anna Oswinkle
In loving memory of Andy & Frances Zebrowski
In memory of George M. Wienecke, USNR
In memory of Joseph Zebrowski
In memory of Michael & Laura Jones
In memory of Don Short
In memory of Joseph