

† CAROL

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.**

† BENEDICTION

Dr. Martin

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

arr. Jeff Perks

The Christmas Eve special offering will support Sardis' nearby neighbor emergency assistance fund which was established to help neighbors who need one-time assistance with expenses such as rent and utilities. This provides another layer of emergency support beyond what local non-profits can provide to help neighbors from being evicted or having their power cut off.

We have several offering options.

- Option 1: Make a credit card gift online using your mobile device: go to sardis.org and click on "Make a Gift Now".
- Option 2: Click the QR code here to go directly to the secure online form.

Thank you for your gifts and support of Sardis Presbyterian Church and our community.



6100 Sardis Road
Charlotte, NC 28270

704.366.1854
www.sardis.org



ROOM IN THE STORY

Christmas Eve

SARDIS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2024

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

CANDLES ARE AVAILABLE at the Sanctuary entrances or you may ask an usher to provide one for you.

CANDLE LIGHTING: If you do not wish to take your candle home with you tonight there are fire safe receptacles outside the sanctuary.

PLEASE SILENCE all cell phones, but feel free to check in on social media and let people know you are here.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY is provided in the main body of the Sanctuary, on the side aisles on the seventh pew, and in the transept area. A handicap unisex bathroom is located in the left rear hallway.

NEXT SUNDAY, December 29, we will have one Worship Service at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. There will not be Sunday School.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed December 26 and 27 for Christmas holidays.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

9:00 PM • DECEMBER 24, 2024

† Rise in body or in spirit.

PRELUDE Puer Natus Est Everett Titcoomb

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Joe B. Martin

† CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Martin

Leader: Fear Not! For behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.

All Sing: First verse of Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Hymn #119

Leader: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

All Sing: Second verse of Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Hymn #119

Leader: Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.

All Sing: Third verse of Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Hymn #119

† EVENING PRAYER Rev. Dr. Allysen Schaaf

† HYMN #133 O Come, All Ye Faithful *Adeste Fideles*

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 11:1-3a; 4a; 6-9 Lillian Gass

ANTHEM The Yearning
Throne Together Craig Courtney

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 1:18-23 Andrew Beals

† HYMN #121, vs. 1, 3, 4 O Little Town of Bethlehem *St. Louis*

MEDITATION Telling Stories Dr. Martin

OFFERTORY How Great Our Joy
Throne Together Craig Courtney
Our Christmas Eve offerings will be given to the Neighbor Assistance Fund.

WE CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE Dr. Schaaf

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND SHARING THE LORD'S SUPPER

When the usher cues your pew, please come forward to receive communion. Please eat and drink as you are served. If you are unable to come forward, remain seated and someone will serve you. For those who need gluten free or allergy friendly bread, it is available at the Communion table. Ingredients are listed on www.sardis.org.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (hymnal page 35)

ANTHEM O Holy Night
Throne Together arr. Hyslop

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

FINAL READING John 1:1-14 Dr. Martin

SHARING THE PEACE AND LIGHT OF CHRIST

Ushers will light a candle at the end of your pew. Worshipers will then pass the light from person to person down the pew. Candles that are lighted should remain upright while those to be lighted are tilted to the burning candle. As you pass the light, you are invited to say, "The peace of Christ be with you" and respond with "And also with you."

Our gratitude for Nancy Watson, organist, Vernon Sumwalt on timpani, and Tom Kirby on trumpet.