

Worship for December 26

GATHERING MUSIC

HYMN 136 *Go Tell it on the Mountain*

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Listen! The Word of God resounds throughout the earth.

O come let us adore him!

Regard the reflection of God's glory.

O come let us adore him!

Behold the exact imprint of God's very being.

O come let us adore him!

See the firstborn of creation and heir of all things.

O come let us adore him! Christ the Lord!

Call to Worship vo. 55.1

HYMN 133 *O Come All Ye Faithful*

PRAYER OF ADORATION

HYMN 123 *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mystery and wonder, far beyond our knowing and yet closer than our breath, as we celebrate the joy of Jesus' birth, we confess our reluctance to live as he directs. The justice and righteousness close to his heart are often far from what we do. With tender mercy, restore us. With Christmas glory, bathe us. With love made flesh, inspire us; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ.

(silent prayers)

Call to Worship vol. 55.1

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

HYMN 147 *The First Nowell*

SCRIPTURE READING John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

HYMN 145 *What Child is This*

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Offering boxes are available at the back of the sanctuary.
Gifts may also be made online at starmountpres.org.

HYMN 113 *Angels We Have Heard on High*

LITANY

Jesus Christ, holy child, glory of God revealed, by starlight we first saw your face; by candlelight we sang your praise. Though the night is long, you are our hope. Though the path is dark, you lead the way. By your Spirit, help us to shine with the brightness of your truth and share the warmth of your great love, so that all may believe, rejoice, and give thanks, for you are the light of the world.

Holy child of Bethlehem, you are the hope of the world, the song of the angels, the treasure of our hearts, and the glory of God among us. Call us to worship you in the places where your love is born anew: wherever kindness prevails, justice flourishes, and peace reigns. Send us out to serve you, sharing good news of great joy, and praising God through you in the unity of the Holy Spirit.

Glory to you, God most high— you have given us a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord— good news of great joy for all. Make us messengers of the gospel and shepherds of your people; guide us always in paths of peace.

Holy God, all-glorious giver of grace, you are light, shining in darkness; you are life, the life of all people. Fill us with the light and life of Christ, through whom all things were made, so that we may be faithful disciples, bearing witness to your grace and truth; through Christ, your Word made flesh.

Office of Theology & Worship, PCUSA

HYMN 132 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN 134 *Joy to the World*

BENEDICTION