



CHRISTMAS EVE 2020 SERVICE ONLINE
FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA



CHRISTMAS CHIMES

WELCOME - Rev. Renée Rico

POEM "To Carry a Dream" by Sarah Are Rev. Renée Rico

To carry a dream
Is to walk at night,
Or to walk by light,
But with a pebble in your shoe.

To carry a dream is to
Wake at night
To wake and blink twice,
In case you see something new.

To carry a dream
Is to plant trees in old age,
To be a part of a church,
That is human and frayed.

To carry a dream is foolish and wild.
It's the faith of a child,
Wishing on stars.

But to carry a dream is also hopeful and wise,
The faith of our elders,
Saying God will provide.

So may we walk
Until we see the light.
May the pebble in our shoe
Remind us why we fight.
May they say
We are foolish and unwise,
And may we continue to dream;
May hope keep us alive.

PRELUDE "Night of Wonder" - arr. Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Margie Riley

One: This year, we dreamed of world peace.

All: We dreamed of deep breaths and restful sleep.

One: We dreamed of love that lasts and suffering that passes.

All: We dreamed of doors open wide and a cure to disease.

One: We dreamed, because to dream is to believe.

All: For to dream is to hope; to dream is to see.

One: So make room in your being to dream yet again,

All: Of a world without fear, and a God that draws near.

One: For it is almost Christmas.

All: Love is almost here.

One: May we dream to see, and hope to believe. Let us worship Holy God.

CAROL "O Come, All Ye Faithful" #133 verses 1,3,4

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!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

OPENING PRAYER (Responsively)

Elder Margie Riley

One: Ever-present God, from time to time we dream radical dreams.

**All: We dream of freedom for the imprisoned, food for the hungry,
and equality for all.**

One: We dream bold, radical dreams,
until the world tells us that these dreams are impossible.

**All: And when that happens,
we are tempted to tuck our dreams into coat pockets
And let them collect dust on the shelves of our hearts.
Forgive us for giving up so easily.**

One: Forgive us for giving up so easily, for on this night we remember and celebrate a radical dream— That you dwelled among us.

**All: Give us the courage to dust old dreams off the shelf
With the confidence that with you, the impossible is possible.**

One: With you, a light always shines in the darkness.

**All: With you, even an unwed teenage couple and a band of shepherds Can bring joy
to the world.**

One: Thanks be to God for a dream like that. Amen.

A PROPHECY

Isaiah 9:2-7

Elder Ruth Van Otten

CAROL *“Come, Thou, Long-Expected Jesus”* #82

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set they people free,
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE – The Smith Family – Sonny, Beth, Lily, Ashton

CAROL **“O Little Town of Bethlehem”** #121 Verses 1-2

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 wondering love,
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE BIRTH Luke 2:1-7 Elder Heather Carter

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. 2 This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to be delivered. 7 And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

SPECIAL MUSIC **“Mary Did You Know?”** arr. O'Donnell Elder Beth Smith, Soloist

THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS Luke 2:8-14
Children's Sermon – Richard Carter

CAROL **“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”** #119 vs. 1-2

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 the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”

Christ by highest heaven adorned, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, off spring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”

MEDITATION

The Rev. Renée Rico

SPECIAL MUSIC *“Silent Night”* – Gruber and Mohr

Janis Wheat, Piano

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Elder Dave Rockwell

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

John 1:1-5

Elder Dave Rockwell

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 came into being through him,
 and without him not one thing came into being.
What has come into being ⁴ in him was life,
 and the life was the light of all people.
⁵ The light shines in the darkness,
 and the darkness did not overcome it.
 The light of the World has come to give us his light for our lives.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CAROL

“Silent Night”

#122

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

POSTLUDE *“Joy to the World”* - Traditional