

# Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Aisquith Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2013

11:00 PM

Prelude (10:45 PM)

Call to Worship (11:00 PM)

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let earth receive her king! Let every heart prepare him room! And heaven and nature sing!*

This Christmas Eve, we light this white candle as a visible sign that Jesus Christ is at the center of our lives and at the heart of this church. And we confess together...

**We believe in “one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of Gods, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.”**  
*from The Nicene Creed*

Processional *Once in Royal David's City* H. J. Gauntlett  
Lucas Hague, soloist  
(Hymn No. 225 – The congregation will **stand** and join in on verses 4 & 5)

\*Invocation

## The Nine Lessons of Christmastide

The First Lesson Genesis 3:1-15  
God declares in the Garden of Eden that the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.  
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir *Gloria* Vivaldi

The Second Lesson Genesis 22:15-18  
God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.  
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

\*Carol No. 196 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Hyfrydol

The Third Lesson Isaiah 7:10-14; 9:2, 6, 7  
Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by the prophet.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.  
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir *The LORD Will Soon Appear* J. S. Bach

The Fourth Lesson Micah 5:2-4  
The prophet foretells the glory of Bethlehem.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.  
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

\*Carol No. 201 (vv. 1, 2) *O Little Town of Bethlehem* St. Louis

The Fifth Lesson Luke 1:26-38  
The angel Gabriel visits the Virgin Mary.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.  
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir *He Hath Put Down the Mighty From Their Seat and Hath Exalted the Humble and the Meek* G. B. Pergolesi

The Sixth Lesson Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 2:1-7  
The Evangelists tell of the birth of Jesus.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.  
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir *O Praise the LORD* G.F. Handel

The Seventh Lesson Luke 2:8-16  
The shepherds go to the manger.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.  
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir *Angels We Have Heard on High* arr. Shaw/Parker  
\*Carol No. 200 *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* Carol

The Eighth Lesson Matthew 2:1-11  
The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.  
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

The Offering of Our Gifts

The Offertory *O Holy Night* Adolphe Adam  
Iraida Poerezhnaya, harp

The Ninth Lesson John 1:1-14  
St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.  
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir *Domine Fili Unigenite, Jesus Christ* Vivaldi  
(*The Only Begotten Son of God, Jesus Christ*)

\*Carol No. 210 *Silent Night, Holy Night* No. 210

\*Benediction

Postlude *Trumpet Tune* Henry Purcell  
Casey Burnett, trumpet  
Gloria Hague, organ

**(Please carefully extinguish all candles before you leave!)**

A special thanks to all our guest musicians and a special thanks to Mrs. Gloria Hague our Director of Music.

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

**If you donated a poinsettia** this year you may take it home after the service.

**There will** be no Sunday School and only one service on Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM. *RockHouse* will **not** meet that evening.

**The 2014 offering envelopes** are in the narthex. If you would like to begin

using envelopes for your giving, please sign up on the narthex table.

**The 2014 Flower Chart** is in the narthex. If you would like to dedicate a bouquet on a particular Sunday, please sign up now.