



CHRISTMAS EVE

For Unto Us a Savior is Born

5 p.m., December 24, 2023

Shelby Presbyterian Church

An Intergenerational Service

Celebrating the Birth of Our Lord

*Please Rise as You are Able

PRELUDE: "Lullaby" (Roger Lowe)

Bruce Moser

*OPENING HYMN #133 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

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!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;

God's only Son, begotten, not created!

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Drew Mangione, Pastor

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: CHRIST CANDLE

Carolyn Billings and Duncan, Alyssa, Nico, and Margot Blount

Family of God, siblings of Christ: hope, peace, joy, and love are born this night.

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!

Behold Emmanuel, our God is with us in chaos, in suffering, in uncertainty, and in all our families endure.

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!

Join with the company of heaven and earth, proclaiming the good news Jesus Christ is born!

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!

Tonight, we light the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love. We light the Christ candle too, as a symbol of Emmanuel, God with us, for unto us a child is born in the City of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

PRAYER

RESPONSE HYMN #92 "While We Are Waiting, Come"

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.

Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come.

Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

O grace from heaven, come; o grace from heaven, come.

Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come.

Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

CALL TO CONFESSION

June Hobbs

SILENT MEDITATION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

June Hobbs

Sisters and brothers, believe the good news! **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

***GLORIA PATRI (sung): Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST: The Peace of the Lord be with you! And also, with you!**

June Hobbs

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: Loving God, by the gift of your Spirit, teach us to treasure your words and ponder them in our hearts through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

June Hobbs

THE FRIENDLY BEASTS: AN OLD ENGLISH CHRISTMAS CAROL

adapted from Tomie dePaola

Judy Black

Bly Borders

Claire McCullough

Duncan Blount

Lyn Huston

Lilly McCullough

Charlie Brownlee

Anna Grace McCullough

Lucas Stern

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:1-12

Carol Ann Hoard, Min. of Christian Education & Families

HYMN #113: *"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

THIRD SCRIPTURE READING:

Luke 2:13-20

Drew Mangione

HYMN #115 *"Away in a Manger"*

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.
Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me for ever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

SERMON:

"One of Us"

Drew Mangione

SPECIAL MUSIC: *"The First Nowell"* (Innes)

Emily Monroe and Sherry Thomas

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Brief Statement of Faith, lines 1-6):

Carol Ann Hoard

In life and death, we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

HYMN #134: *“Joy to the World”*

verses 1 and 3

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

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessing flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.**

CALL TO PRESENT OFFERING

Drew Mangione

Shelby Presbyterian Church Emergency Assistance Fund, which directly serves neighbors in crisis.

Offertory: *“Still, Still, Still”* (arr. Hayes)

Emily Monroe and Sherry Thomas

***DOXOLOGY (sung): Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: *“The Friendly Beasts”*

**Jesus our brother, strong and good
Was humbly born in a stable rude
And the friendly beasts around him stood
Jesus our brother, strong and good**

**Thus every beast by some good spell
In the stable dark was glad to tell
Of the gifts they gave Emmanuel
The gifts they gave Emmanuel**

CHRISTMAS LITANY

Carol Ann Hoard

To my enemy, **I give you forgiveness.**

To my opponents, **I give you the benefit of the doubt.**

To my family and friends, **I give you my faithfulness.**

To my neighbors, **I give you my kind service.**

To every child, **I give you a good example.**

To all I meet, **I give you my love and grace.**

To myself, **I give patience and perseverance.**

To you O Lord, **I give you my whole self, all that I am.**

*PASSING OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST (As we sing, we will light our candles – please tilt your unlit candle toward a lit candle to light.)

*HYMN #122: *“Silent Night, Holy Night!”*

**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.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Drew Mangione

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*HYMN #134: "Joy to the World"

verses 2 and 4

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and
wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

*POSTLUDE: "O Come All Ye Faithful" (Payne)

Emily Monroe

IF YOU PLACED a poinsettia(s) in the church, we thank you. You may pick yours up following this service.

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING! HAVE A BLESSED AND HOLY CHRISTMAS!

If you're able to stay, we need your help putting the cushions back in the pews.
Balcony cushions are in the sound room and Sanctuary cushions are in the Narthex Parlor.

This service is broadcast live at: www.Facebook.com/ShelbyPres and www.YouTube.com/c/ShelbyPres
Shelby Presbyterian Church, 226 E. Graham St., Shelby, NC 28150 - (704) 487-8503 - www.ShelbyPres.org

Sound Board: Chip Blackley & Mike Jackson Music Licenses: 1575277 (CCLI)/A-739540 (One License)

Scriptures read in service are original translations, unless otherwise noted.

Feel free to read a familiar translation and listen for different word choices.

CHILDCARE is available for infants through preschool in Room 102, staffed by Lindsay Carter, Lilly Hamilton,
and Holly Conner. *In order to protect your children, please be sure they are
accompanied at all times by a parent or responsible adult caregiver.*

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS: The Office will be CLOSED Monday, December 25th, Tuesday, December 26th, Friday,
December 29th. Office hours Wednesday, December 27th and Thursday, December 28th are from 10:00 to 2:00.
By law, all donations made for calendar year 2023 must be received or postmarked by December 31.

THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS begin tomorrow and are followed by the feast of the Epiphany, which we will
celebrate on January 7 with the ordination and installation of officers, and the GIFT CARD OFFERING for Turning
Point Academy. Please consider donating \$10 gift cards, which teachers and administrators will use as incentives
for the students. Great options include Chic-Fil-A, Cookout, Domino's, Sonic, Wal-Mart, etc.