

## The Lighting of the Christ Candle

## Distributing the Light of Christ

*The greeters will light the candle of the first worshipper in each row.  
Please tilt your candle to receive the light and hold it upright for your neighbor.  
Parents, please assist your children in lighting and holding the candles.*

## Candlelight Carol

*Silent Night*

## A Blessing for Christmas

## Parting Song

*Go Tell it on the Mountain*

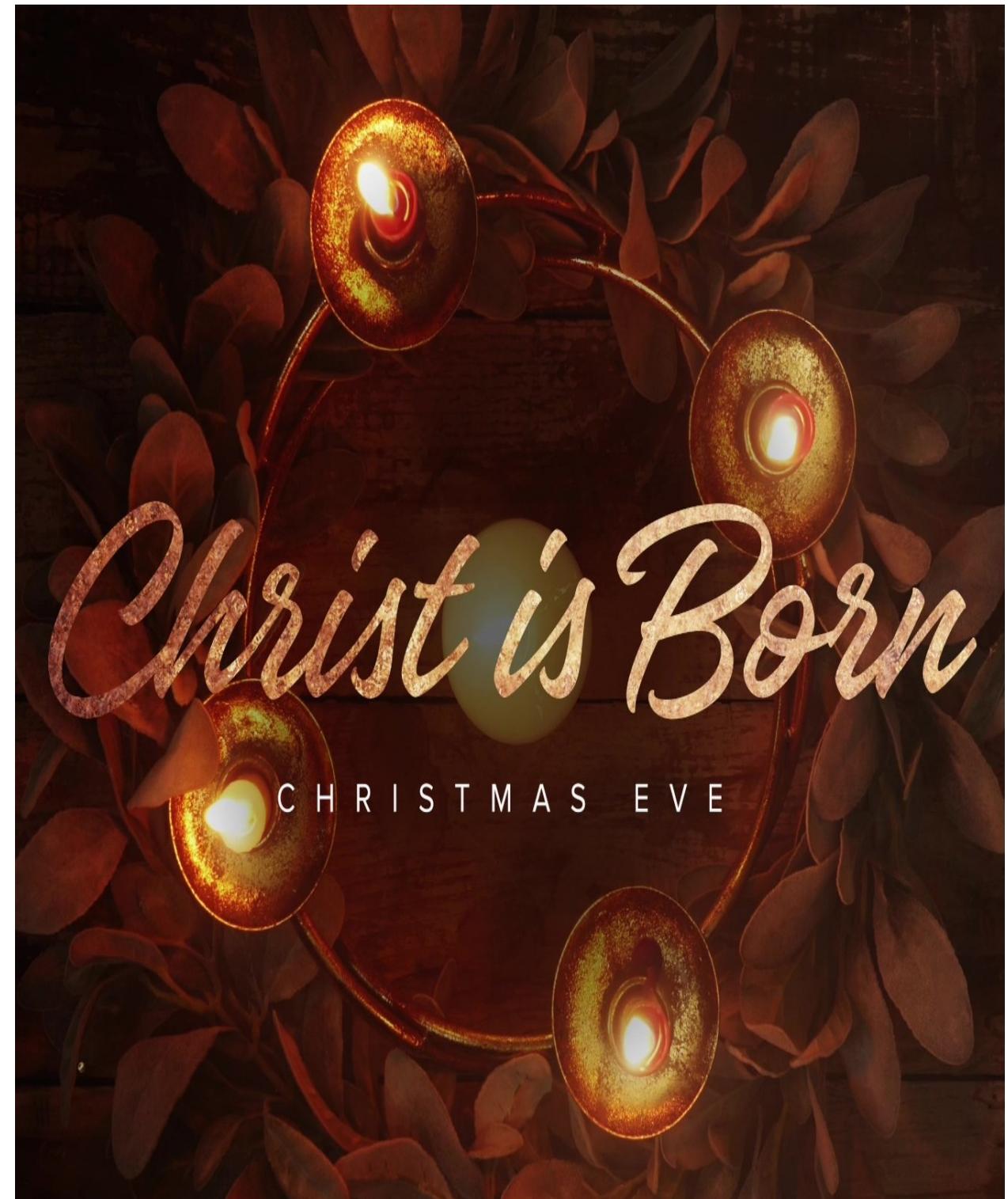
*Please place your candle in the basket on your way out of the Sanctuary.  
Thank you for sharing in the joy of Christmas Eve together here tonight.*

**Merry Christmas!**

**Thank you for worshiping with us!**  
**Join us again:**  
**9pm Candlelight Service**

**December 30th and all Sundays:**  
**9am Classical & 11am Contemporary**  
*(Children's programming is offered)*

**Christ Presbyterian Church**  
944 E. Gorham St. Madison WI 53703 608.257.4845 [www.cpcmadison.org](http://www.cpcmadison.org)





# CHRISTMAS EVE † DECEMBER 24, 2018

## 4:00 pm Contemporary Family Worship

A community centered in Christ, gathering in love, growing by grace, going forth to serve.

*Welcome!*  
We're glad YOU are here!

### Children & Youth

You are invited to participate as a character in the Nativity Scene. Costumes are in the Emmaus Room (back of Sanctuary). Please join in the story!



A hearing loop is available. Please speak to an Usher.

## OPENING PRAISE

### Welcome & Lighting of the Advent Candles

#### Opening Prayer (in unison)

Amazing God, on this night so long ago, You gathered a group of unlikely outsiders – Mary, Joseph, shepherds and others to be part of a great miracle: the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

Today You have sought us out and brought us to the manger. You have interrupted our routines with Your Good News. You have gathered this unlikely assortment of folk to become a holy people, a community of faith, who witness this night and gift of love together.

Help us receive you renewing love as we praise You on this Holy Night. AMEN.

**Carol**      *O Come, All Ye Faithful*      arr. Paul Baloche, 2013

#### Call to Worship (Leaders/People)

God is telling a story in our lives. It's quite a story – full of the promises God makes and our struggles to trust; full of mystery and angels with surprising news; full of hard endings and unexpected new beginnings.

Come, hear the story; pay attention to the angels' message in your heart in this place and time. Then join all creation in worshiping the God who tells it full of grace and truth; who comes in Jesus, the Word made flesh, and makes our story holy.

**God, give us eyes to see and ears to hear this miraculous story anew tonight! Give us voices to sing Your praise with hearts full of gratitude and wonder!**

**Carol** *Angels from the Realms of Glory* arr. Brad Henderson, 2007

## HEARING THE WORD

### Nativity Scene: The Birth of Jesus

*Tonight we hear the story of Christ's birth told using scripture from The Message. Tonight we hope you receive this age-old story with new eyes and new ears!*

*All children and youth are invited to participate! Costumes are available in the back of the Sanctuary. The characters will be invited forward during the story. Parents are welcome to accompany their children forward as desired.*

### Carols within the Nativity Scene

*(Please join in singing as the lyrics are projected. You may remain seated.)*

Mary, Did You Know  
Away in a Manger  
Angels We Have Heard on High  
Joy to the World

### Sharing the Peace of Christ

**Christmas Eve Message**      Receiving the Best Gift of All

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### A Christmas Eve Offering

*Tonight's offering benefits those in need in the Madison community.*

**The Offertory**      *Love Came Down to Bethlehem*  
Jon Guerra & Matt Maher, 2018

Love came down to Bethlehem while the world was sleeping  
Love came down to make amends for all creation's weeping  
He that sang the stars to life, He the Word became a cry  
Rejoice, rejoice, glory to God, Alleluia, Gloria!

King of heaven's highest aid, Child in lowly manger  
His, the privilege to forsake to welcome in the stranger  
Born to heal the bonds of men, born that we'd be born again  
Rejoice, rejoice, glory to God, Alleluia!  
Heaven and nature singing together  
Glory to God, Alleluia, Gloria!

Rejoice, rejoice, glory to God, Alleluia!  
Heaven and nature, angels and shepherds, wise men and beggars  
Praise to the Savior! Forever and ever, Gloria, Gloria, Gloria!

## WORSHIP SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

**Ministers**  
The People  
Especially the CHILDREN

**Preacher**  
Rev. Dale Chapin

**Contemporary Music Director, Piano, Vocals**  
Natalie Handley

**Children's Ministry Director**  
Stephanie Bolle

**Dancers**  
Mariana Vieth  
Lindsey Barge

**Vocals**  
Aaron Considine  
Trinity Kulp  
Julia Vander Ark

**Acoustic Guitar, Vocals**  
Derek Handley

**Electric Guitar**  
Abe Lee

**Bass Guitar**  
Mary Strait

**Drums**  
Steve Porter

**Sound & AV**  
John Itson  
Jessica Reed

**First Impressions**  
Fabrice & Malvina Nyanjo  
Matt Vieth  
Bev Faga