

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church  
December 25, 2021 – Christmas Day  
In the sanctuary and by livestream at 11:00 a.m.



**Opening Music**

Christian Women Fellowship

**Opening Scripture**

**Psalm 98:4–9**

*The Psalmist calls God's people to praise.*

- <sup>4</sup> Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
- <sup>5</sup> **Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody.**
- <sup>6</sup> **With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.**
- <sup>7</sup> Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who live in it.
- <sup>8</sup> **Let the floods clap their hands;  
let the hills sing together for joy**
- <sup>9</sup> **at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming  
to judge the earth.**
- He will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.  
Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord!

**Welcome**

**Carol**

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Glory to God #133

## **Call to Worship** [*responsive*]

Listen. Here is good news.

**The Living God, Weaver of time and space,  
far beyond us, yet nearer than body and bone,  
is joining us in person,**

delivered in the labor of birth,

washed and clothed, cradled, nursed, and fed.

**This is a wonder and a mystery. This is good news of great joy.**

Let us worship God with joy.

## **Lighting the Christ Candle**

### **Opening Prayer**

**Carol** [*stand*]

“He Came Down”

Glory to God #137

### **Children’s Message**

#### **Scripture**

**Isaiah 12:2–6**

*The prophet looks ahead to God’s salvation.*

<sup>2</sup> Surely God is my salvation;

I will trust, and will not be afraid,

for the Lord God is my strength and my might;

he has become my salvation.

<sup>3</sup> With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

<sup>4</sup> And you will say on that day:

Give thanks to the Lord,

call on his name;

make known his deeds among the nations;

proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup> Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;

let this be known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,

for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

**Carol**

“Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”

Glory to God #119

#### **Scripture**

**Luke 2:1–7**

*The Christmas story.*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was

descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

#### **Luke 2:8–14**

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!’

Leader: This is the Witness to God’s Word. **People: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol** [*stand*]

“The First Nowell” *verses 1–4*

Glory to God #147

**What We Believe** [*stand, responsive*]

from The Brief Statement of Faith, PC(USA)

Fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

**preaching good news to the poor**

**and release to the captives,**

**teaching by word and deed**

**and blessing the children,**

healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,

eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,

**and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,

Jesus was crucified,

**suffering the depths of human pain**

**and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

God raised Jesus from the dead,

**vindicating his sinless life,**

**breaking the power of sin and evil,**

**delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**Invitation to Generosity and Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer** [*together*]

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.

**Carol** [*stand*]

"Joy to the World"

Glory to God #134

**Passing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

**Closing Music**

Christian Women Fellowship

**Closing Blessing**

**Participating in the service:**

The Fofuh / Pokam Family – Peter, Joelle, David, Daryl and William  
Mr. Wade Meyers, Director of Music and Worship Arts  
Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence and Rev. Mary Austin



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smartphone camera to scan the QR code  
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