



Virtual Christmas Eve Service

*Friday, December 24, 2021
Crossnore Presbyterian Church
200 Chapel Drive, P.O. Box 386
Crossnore, NC 28616*

Christmas Prelude: *The First Nowell*

Sung by Pentatonix: <https://youtu.be/0u5UvnKICTA>

Church Family News (at the end of the worship service)

Call to Worship:

Come and see!

We hear the call of Love, ringing in our ears.

Come and see!

We remember the stars leading the way.

Come and see!

We long for a sign, an experience, to know God face to face.

Come and see!

We come, to be part of God's story of Love.

Hymn # 133 *O Come All Ye Faithful*

Text and Music: John Francis Wade, 1743

Sing along with Carrie Underwood: <https://youtu.be/y8oc1ovRsnk>

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!

Lighting of the Christ Candle

We give thanks for the light of hope—unrelenting and inexplicable.

Our hope in Christ shines on.

We give thanks for the light of peace—strong and unafraid.

The peace of Christ lights our way.

We give thanks for the light of joy—persistent and unpredictable.

The joy of Christ brightens our lives.

We give thanks for the light of love—radiant and holy.

The love of Christ comforts and challenges.

Now let us light the Christ candle as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Thank you, God, for your light in this world through Jesus Christ.

The light shines in the darkness. And the darkness has not overcome it.

Hymn # 113 *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Text and Music: French carol

Sing along with 233 singers and ASL interpreters from 43 countries under the direction of David Wesley:

<https://youtu.be/ywVUSj39hoc>

**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!

First Reading: Luke 2:1-7

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.



Special Music: *O Holy Night*

Listen to Carrie Underwood: <https://youtu.be/sWGMNXCy5Co>



Second Reading: Luke 2:8-20

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into

heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Hymn # 134 *Joy to the World*

Sing along with Soundiva Classical Choir: <https://youtu.be/GGyYAzrctzk>

**Joy to the world, the Lord has 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 and nature sing**

**Joy to the world, the Savior reigns
Let men 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**

Christmas Homily and Prayer (PDF Attachment)

Rev. Kathy Campbell

Special Music: *What Child Is This*

One Voice Children's Choir: https://youtu.be/sNYpxYKtC_w

Christmas Offering Invitation:

Every dollar of our offering on this Christmas Eve is going to Volunteer Avery County to assist with heating oil and electricity during the long cold winter months for our neighbors in need, especially the elderly.

Unison Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

Almighty God, we give thanks for the greatest Christmas gift of all, your Beloved, the Christ. As we welcome him again into our lives, we commit ourselves to the work of his kingdom. Receive the gifts we offer as signs of our commitment to live according to Jesus' good news, by which we are redeemed. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Closing Hymn # 122 *Silent Night, Holy Night*

Sing along with Winchester Cathedral Choir: <https://youtu.be/iRZOv31n1sY>

**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 dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord, at thy birth; Jesus Lord, at thy birth.

Christmas Benediction:

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.

~written by Howard Thurman



The Christmas Eve Offering will be received through the end of the year.

Some of our members gave their Christmas Offering in memory or in honor of a family member or friend:

- John and Laura Dorrer- in memory of Elizabeth Nelson
- Marty and Candice Hohlweg- in memory of JW and Sarah James
- Don and Dotty Huston- in memory of Dotty's daughter, Julie Ann Roche
- Jane Johnson- in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Obie Johnson
- Max and Martha Gessner- in honor of Dennis and Caroline Jones
- Bob and Linda Taylor:
in memory of Linda's Parents, Faye and WD Tennant; in memory of Bob's parents, Grace and Jack Taylor;
in memory of Peggy Hardy-Hufnagel; in memory of Bill Bagby; in honor of Kathy Campbell

Please add June Bagby to your prayer list. She fell and fractured her hip last night and is having surgery this afternoon at Watauga Medical Center. Her son, Bill Jr., is with her.

Please keep Jim and Anna Taylor in your prayers as well. Anna's mother passed away last Saturday, the day after her 94th birthday, and her funeral was held on Wednesday. On Tuesday, Jim received word that his younger brother, Robert, who lives in Norway, died of an apparent aneurysm. Please pray for comfort and peace for Anna and Jim and their loved ones in their time of grief and gratitude.