

FRENCHTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion
Worship 2017
11:00 p.m.

Welcome friends! We stand together this night amazed at the miracle of the Incarnation – Emmanuel, God with us. Let us fill the sanctuary of the Lord with praise and our hearts with God’s hope, peace, joy and love. Merry Christmas!

Prelude “O Come O Come Emmanuel”
“O Holy Night”

We Gather in Anticipation of the Light

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing
you Good News of great joy.

**People: To us is born this day in the city of David a
Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.**

Leader: This will be a sign for you: you will find a child
wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace!

**All: Let us go now to Bethlehem and worship the
newborn King.**

*Carol #133 “O Come All Ye Faithful”

The Light Foretold

Lighting the Christ Candle

*Carol #119 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

The Light Dawns

Special Music “Til the Season Comes Round Again”
Reading from the Old Testament Isaiah 9:2-7

Reading from the New Testament Luke 2:1-20

Sermon

“There is the Light of Wonder in the Darkness of Uncertainty”

*Carol #132 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

Christmas Prayer

Offertory - Shari Bethman-Bjellquist “Mary, Did You Know”
(a portion of the Christmas Eve offering will support the
Presbyterian Christmas Joy Fund)

Communion – Special Music

We Carry the Light into the World

The Spreading of the Light from the Christ Candle

(As we pass the light of Christ, please hold the candle that is already lit in an upright position. Those receive the light of Christ will tilt their unlit candle until lit)

Candlelight Carol Medley

*Carol #121 vs. 1 & 5 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

*Carol #115 vs.1 & 2 “Away in a Manger”

*Carol #122 vs.1-3 & vs 1 repeated softly “Silent Night”

Christmas Blessing

Postlude “What Child is This”



Merry Christmas

Sunday, December 31st, New Year’s Eve One Service at 10 am.

Wednesday, January 24th - *Hope and Healing Service* at 7pm

Saturday, December 30th - Open House at the Manse, 4-9pm.

As we come to the end of 2017, consider a gift to Frenchtown Presbyterian Church in support of its meaningful ministries.

The church office will be closed between Christmas and New Year.
We will reopen on January 2nd.