

*Frenchtown Presbyterian Church*  
*Christmas Eve 2019 8 pm*

*Welcome! It is a privilege to have you worship with us. We sincerely hope you receive a blessing from the service. We extend to you an invitation to make this your church home.*

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*Gathering*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: If you are like Joseph, and you are seeking truth,

**All: There is room here for you.**

One: If you are like Mary, and you are seeking rest,

**All: There is a seat here for you.**

One: If you are like the wise men, and you are looking for a sign,

**All: These candles are here for you.**

One: If you are like the angels, and you cannot help but sing,

**All: There is a melody here for you.**

One: Come in. You are in God's house.

Love was born tonight, and there is love here for you.

**All: Let us worship the God of love.**

\*HYMN 133

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: This Advent, we have waited. . . And to those lights we add the Christ candle, for the wait is over.

**All: Love is here. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*Proclamation and Response*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

**God of mangers and palaces, of shepherds and kings, reveal yourself to us here in the mystery and magic of the season.**

**Free us to see the signs of your promise and hear the whispers of good news.**

**May we join the songs of joy that proclaim to the world your presence among us.**

**May we glorify and praise you in ways that might convince the world of your grace and transform us all according to your love. Amen.**

*The story of the Birth of Christ in Scripture & Song*

Luke 2:1-5

Hymn # 121

*O Little Town of Bethlehem (verse 1)*

Luke 2:6-7

Hymn # 115

*Away in a Manger (Praise Band)*

Luke 2:8-12

Hymn # 118

*While Shepherd Watched Their Flocks (verses 1-3)*

Luke 2:13-14

Hymn # 113

*Angels We Have Heard on High (verses 1,3)*

Luke 2:15-16

Anthem

*Still, Still, Still*

Luke 2:17-18

Hymn # 134

*Joy to the World (verses 1,2,4)*

Luke 2:19-20

Anthem

*Glory, Glory to God*

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

RESPONSE HYMN # 144      *In the Bleak Midwinter (verse 4)*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CHRISTMAS PRAYER (*unison*)

**Loving God, if Jesus alone is born this night,  
we have missed the point.**

**Bring us to new birth**

—the awakening of mind to ponder the wonder of this  
night

—the illumination of heart to sense the joy of  
Christmas

—the stirring of imagination to envision the host of  
angels

—the quickening of spirit to behold the good news of  
peace and goodwill

—the enlivening of passion to go unto Bethlehem and  
worship the Christ Child.

**O God of the Nativity, be born anew in each of us, and  
in all the world. Amen.**

*Sending Forth*

SCRIPTURE LESSON      John 1:1-5

\*THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

\*HYMN #122                      *Silent Night (Praise Band)*

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE