

Welcome to

Maplewood Presbyterian Church

Christmas Eve 2020

Prelude *Once in Royal David's City*
Jerome Mitchell, trumpet

Welcome

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Prayer (said together)

Loving God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the beauty of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendor of your heavenly glory.

Give us, O God, such love and wonder that with the shepherds and wise men, and pilgrims unknown, we may adore the holy child, the promised King; and with our gifts worship him, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Carol *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Prayer of Adoration

All glory to you, loving God, for the gift of your Son, light in darkness and hope of the world, whom you sent to save. With singing angels let us praise your name and tell the earth his story, that all may rejoice, and find peace, **experiencing your love through Jesus Christ, the Lord. Amen.**

Readings: Genesis 1:1-4
2Corinthians 4:5-6

Carol *What Child is This?*

Solo *Gesu Bambino*
David Little, piano

Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7
Luke 1:76-79

Solo *O Holy Night*
Dan Woodworth, soloist

Reading: Luke 2:1-7

Carol *Away in a Manger*

Reading: Luke 2:8-14

Carol *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Readings: John 12:44-46
Micah 5:2-5a

Carol *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Presentation *Christmas According to Kids*
Southland Christian Church

Prayer

Solo *I Wonder as I Wander*
Bud Kershner, soloist, Stephen Eddy, viola

Reading: John 1:1-14

Carol *Silent Night*

Benediction

Carol *Joy to the World*

Postlude

Our grateful thanks to our worship leaders:

Hallack Greider, Lloyd Fleck & Lorraine Leclerc, Michelle Kangas, Elise Brazukas, Jerome Mitchell, David Little, Dan Woodworth, Bud Kershner, Stephen Eddy & Dayle Zimmer from behind the scenes!



Maplewood Presbyterian Church Christmas Eve Service



Additional Notes

- The translation of the Bible being used for the readings is "The Message" by Eugene Peterson. This translation presents the Christmas story in a fresh way.
- Don't forget to have your votive candles ready to light and hold when we sing "Silent Night." An electronic candle was provided to you in your Advent bag, along with the liturgical readings.
- We'd like to send an extra share of gratitude to our "off-premise" musicians, who graciously took on the challenge of recording their pieces at home and then navigating the internet to electronically send their music to Maplewood.
- A special note: One of our featured soloists, Bud Kershner, became a member of Maplewood Presbyterian Church over thirty years ago. He and his wife Polly were both very active at Maplewood – Polly with the Maplewood Presbyterian Women, and Bud in the choir. For many years, they lived just a few houses down the street from the church. A few years ago, Bud moved to Auburn and hasn't been able to attend services at MPC.

He has, however, been staying in touch with Maplewood through the online sermons and weekly emails. He saw music director Michelle Anderson's posting looking for volunteers to sing or play and decided to contact her. It turns out Bud had an old CD recording of some of his music, which he graciously shared with Michelle. One of his song recordings, "I Wonder as I Wander," will be played tonight (Bud last sang with the MPC choir in 2007).

Entirely separately, unaware that we were using Bud's recording, Stephen Eddy recorded a version of "I Wonder as I Wander" with his viola. Once we found out, we made a last-minute decision to combine the two recordings: Stephen's solo introduces Bud's singing – a great example of what a fluid and adaptable bunch of folks we are at Maplewood! Even if we can't be together in person, we find ways to connect!