

# CHRISTMAS EVE



First Baptist Church  
Whiteville, North Carolina  
December 24, 2016

# Christmas Eve Communion Service

December 24, 2016

5:00 p.m.

\*Please stand as you are able.

**Greeting** Rev. Ryan Clore

**Prelude** Mr. Jim Council  
*Sheep May Safely Graze* J. S. Bach, arr. Edmundson

\* **Carol, No. 89** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* ADESTE FIDELES

\* **Invocation** Rev. Clore

**Reading from the Psalms** Psalm 97:1, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12 Rev. Eddie Fort

**Solo** Mrs. Robin Fort  
*Sweet Little Jesus Boy* arr. Richard Walters

## The Christmas Story in Scripture and Songs

### Jesus' Birth

**Scripture** Luke 2:1-7  
**Carol No. 86** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* ST. LOUIS  
(Stanzas 1 and 2)

### The Angels

**Scripture** Luke 2:8-15  
**Carol No. 100** *Angels We have Heard on High* GLORIA  
(Stanzas 1 and 2)

### The Shepherds

**Scripture** Luke 2:16-20  
**Carol No. 101** *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child* TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUN  
(Stanzas 1 and 2)

**Prayer** Rev. Clore

**Solo** Mr. Melvin Ezzell  
*O Holy Night* Adolphe Adam

**Meditation** Heavenly Intervention Arrives...Right on Time Rev. Clore

## Communion

Musical Reflection

*Voluntary on, "Midnight Clear  
All My Heart This Night Rejoices  
Gentle Mary Laid Her Child  
Love Came Down at Christmas  
That Boy-Child of Mary*

Mr. Council  
arr. A. S. Sullivan  
Johann Georg Ebeling  
arr. E. MacMillan  
arr. D. Evans  
arr. Tom Colvin

## Lighting of the Christ Candle

Ryan, Jenny, Luke and Shannon Clore

Leader : Hope, peace, joy, and love. Four candles, four promises continually offered to us by God, and all of them manifest in one candle tonight.

People: **The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.** (Isaiah 9:2)

Leader : In Christ we find the hope of transformation, the peace that follows justice, the joy of self-fulfillment in community, and the love that encompasses us in all our diversity, empowering us to make our own unique contribution to this world.

Leader : Tonight, we light the last candle in the Advent Wreath—the Christ candle. In Christ we find light and life, and the challenge to be like him, answering his call and following in his footsteps.

People: **For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.** (Isaiah 9:6)

All: **We rejoice in God's steadfast presence in our lives, and in God's unique presence in the life of Jesus of Nazareth, in all his life manifesting the peace, love, and justice of God. Come to us, Lord Jesus. Be born in us this night, in our hearts, our minds, and our lives. May the light of your life be kindled in us, and lead us to the shining truth, of God with us, God for us, and God in us. Amen.**

## Passing of the Light

Carol

*Silent Night, Holy Night*

STILLE NACHT

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,  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night,  
Darkness flies, all is light;  
Shepherds hear the angels sing,  
"Alleluia! Hail the King!  
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born."

Silent night, holy night,  
Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing  
Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born.

**\* Departing Carol**

*Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come*

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

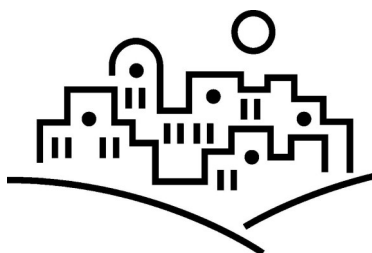
He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Depart with joy to serve and share the Good News!

**\* Postlude**

*Fanfare on "Joy to the World!"*

Mr. Council  
arr. Lani Smith



**Ministerial Staff**

Rev. Ryan Clore, Pastor  
Rev. Eddie Fort, Minister of Music

**Support Staff**

Mrs. Teresa Malpass, Ministry Assistant  
Dinah Reaves, Financial Ministry Assistant

Mr. Jim Council, Interim Organist

Church Office Hours 8:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m. Monday—Friday

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