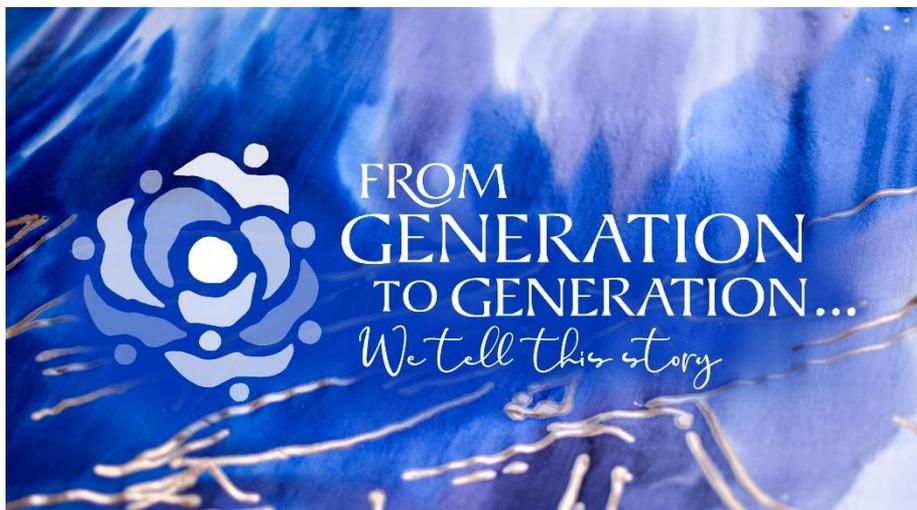


AN EVER-WIDENING CIRCLE OF GRACE



Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church

8505 Church Street | Crystal Lake, IL 60012 | 815.459.1132
www.rclpc.org | office@rclpc.org



John Dillon, Pastor
December 24, 2022
Christmas Eve, 7:30 pm

WORSHIP LEADERS: CHOIR
DIRECTED BY: ANTHONY JAY HOUSTON AND SCOTT IDDINGS
ACCOMPANISTS: ANN LEGG AND MIKE GRISWOLD
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: STEVE CONNELL
TECHNICAL ASSISTANT: WILL EMMANUEL

WE GATHER IN GRACE

A “+” indicates all are invited to stand.

PRELUDE: NIGHT HAS FALLEN

Arr: John Bell

WELCOME

+CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Joy and hope are in the air

All: Author of our lives, there is something so marvelous and wonderful about this night: the glow of the candlelight, and the familiar hymns, the kids that are wound tight with contagious, joyful energy, the feeling that something we've been waiting for just might be within reach.

One: Joy and hope are in the air

All: We want to share the joy of this night with the children of this city, with single parents, with lonely young adults, with our unhoused neighbors, with those who are grieving, with people who couldn't quite make it home for Christmas.

+HYMN #133 (v1, 2 & 3) O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

ADVENT CANDLE: *A CANDLE IS BURNING*

Words: Sandra Dean

Tune: Away in the Manger

**We honor Messiah with Christ's candle flame
Our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim
O Come, all you faithful, rejoice in this night
As God comes among us, the Christian's true light.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

+HYMN #134 (v1 & 2) JOY TO THE WORLD

PASSING OF PEACE WITH THOSE IN PERSON AND ONLINE

One: Isaiah promised long ago: A woman who is pregnant will have a son and name him Emmanuel, which means ‘God is with us’ (Is 7:14)

All: O Emmanuel, God among us, beside us, within us. Come to our communities, our homes, our lives. Come quickly and bring the gift of Peace.

One: Share the Peace of Christ with ALL.

+RESPONSE: HYMN # 113 ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

WE GROW IN GRACE

1ST SCRIPTURE READING: MARY’S STORY

Luke 1:26-35

+HYMN #145: WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

2ND SCRIPTURE READING: JOSEPH’S STORY

Matthew 1:18-23

+HYMN #113: ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

3RD SCRIPTURE: THE BIRTH

Luke 2:6-7

MESSAGE: WE TELL THIS STORY: NOT SO SILENT A NIGHT

+HYMN #121: O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

OFFERING: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE

Arr: David Willcocks

The regular offering goes to support the mission of RCLPC. The Christmas Joy Offering goes to support retired ministers, mission workers, and Presbyterian minority educational institutions.

+DOXOLOGY: VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Christ, all creatures here below.

Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter,

One God Triune, whom we adore. Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

COMMUNION: O HOLY NIGHT

Adolphe Adam

WE GO IN GRACE

+BENEDICTION

One: We believe that for generations people have gathered together on this holy night, because there is something about this story that speaks to the deepest parts of us.

All: **I will tell this story - of a love that makes room for all.
I will sing this story - of a love that knows our name.
I will live this story - because love has come again.
I believe that words have power.
I will not stay quiet. Amen.**

+HYMN #122 SILENT NIGHT

*We gather in grace, we grow in grace, we go in grace...
The journey continues in an ever-widening circle of grace.*

Our worship service is being livestreamed and is on Zoom



Visit Our Welcome Page...
rclpc.org/welcomeToRCLPC.html

GLORY TO GOD HYMNAL USED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

©CCLI LICENSE #1857579 | USED BY PERMISSION.

©OneLicense.Net License #A-708421 | Used by permission.

©Christian Copyright Solutions (CCS) License #13561 | Used by permission

Hymn 133: O Come, All Ye Faithful

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!

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

True God from true God,
Light from light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
very God, begotten, not created! (*Refrain*)

Sing, choirs of angels;
sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all
glory in the highest! (*Refrain*)

Hymn 134: Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is 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 earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Hymn 145: What Child Is This?

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through;
the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh,
the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high.
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary!

Hymn 113: Angels We have Heard on High

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!

Hymn 113: Angels We have Heard on High (cont.)

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!

Hymn 121: O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king,
and peace to all on earth.

Hymn 121: O Little Town of Bethlehem (cont.)

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

Hymn 122: Silent Night, Holy Night!

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 the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

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.