



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.



The Setauket Presbyterian Church

"As active disciples of Jesus Christ, we celebrate and share the love of God among ourselves and with others."

CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT COMMUNION

December 24, 2013

11:00 PM

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" is based on the 5th Century "O Antiphons" which the church read at evening vespers during the Octave (last eight days) before Christmas, one each evening, Dec. 17-23, with Christmas Eve Vespers being the Christmas Vigil. We reinterpret this tradition for the four Sundays of Advent and our three services on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Music

Ringing of the Steeple Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (verse 6)

arr. John Weaver

Bell Choir Singers

Call to Worship: The Christ Candle

One: O Radiant Dawn, Splendor of Eternal Light, Sun of Justice:

Another: Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

All: You have come, Lord Jesus!

* Hymn 108 *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

PRAYER OF PREPARATION (a prayer of Howard Thurman)

Loving God, you draw over every day the restful veil of night: enfold us in your heavenly peace. Lift from our hands our cares and tasks, and all through the night bear in your bosom the weight of our burdens and sorrows, that in this night of wonder we may feed upon your love and power, for it was in the night that you gave to us your very self in Jesus Christ our Lord...

(Moment of silence for personal confession and reflection) Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

...Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

* Gloria (refrain from Hymn 113 *Angels We Have Heard on High*)

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

HEARING THE WORD

Sung Prayer for Illumination

Hymn 347, Verse 1 (PICARDY)

***Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand,
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.***

A Proclamation from the Prophets of the Bible Isaiah 9:2-7

Anthem *Christmas Medley*

arr. B.B. Kinyon

Hand Bell Choir

The Christmas Story from the Bible Luke 2:8-20

A CHRISTMAS STORY FROM NOWADAYS

The Rev. Mary B. Speers

SHARING OUR LOVE THROUGH THE OFFERING

Offertory

(Please sign the Ritual of Friendship pads, noting fellow worshipers as it is returned.)

* **Doxology** (Hymn 147, verse 6 - *The First Nowell*)

***Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
That hath made heav'n and earth of nought,
And with his blood our life hath bought:
Nowell, Nowell...born is the King of Israel!***

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Jesus our life, with the wise men of old we offer our gifts to you. Be born in us today: guide our faith from infancy to maturity; lead us beyond the concerns of the moment to those of eternity. Renew our spirits, and strengthen us to be your body in your world, through the indwelling power of your Holy Spirit. AMEN.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

* **Hymn 347** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* (verses 1 & 2)

PICARDY

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving, with Intercessions, and The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Sharing the Bread and Cup (Please hold the elements until all are served.)

Sung Prayer after Communion

* **Hymn 121** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (verses 3-4)

ST. LOUIS

* SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*When you light your candle, hold the **lit** candle upright, and tip the **unlit** candle towards it*

* **Candlelight Carol (insert)** *Silent Night*

STILLE NACHT

Verse 1 in English; then verse 1 in the original German; then verses 2, 3 & 4 in English

* BENEDICTION

...and let the whole church say, **Alleluia! Merry Christmas!**

MORE CHRISTMAS MUSIC

Please extinguish your candle and put it the receptacles provided as you leave.

please rise in body or in spirit; **unison prayers are in bold.*

Large Print Bulletins, Bibles, Hymnals and Listening Devices are available; please ask a Deacon.