

HERITAGE

Presbyterian Church



*He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream
Jeremiah 17:8*

LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

December 22, 2024

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www.heritagewildwood.org

WELCOME!
TO
HERITAGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness,
and to whomsoever will —
we open wide our arms
and welcome you
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

Prayer 9:15 a.m. in Pastor's Office
Children at church 9:25 a.m. in the Library
Youth & Adults Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:40 a.m.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

From Isaiah 52:7

*LEADER: How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of
happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion,*

RESPONSE: "Your God reigns."

WE ACKNOWLEDGE GOD'S PRESENCE IN OUR MIDST

WE SING A SONG OF PRAISE

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Chorus

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Chorus

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

Chorus

Felix Mendelssohn and Charles Wesley

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SCRIPTURE READING AND CANDLE LIGHTING

Matthew 2:1-12

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶ “And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

WE SING A SONG OF ASCENT

Once In Royal David's City

Trinity Hymnal #225

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall:
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And through all His wondrous childhood
He would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden
In whose gentle arms He lay:
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as He.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heav'n above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him, but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;**

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.**

**From there He will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

SHEPHERDING PRAYER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND OFFERING

WE CONFESS OUR SIN AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD

O gracious and gentle and condescending God,
God of peace, Father of mercy, God of all comfort:
we confess before You the evil of our hearts;
we acknowledge that we are too inclined
toward anger, jealousy, and revenge,
to ambition and pride,
which often give rise to discord and bitter feelings
between others and us.
Too often have we thus both offended and grieved You,
O long-suffering Father.

(We will take a few moments for silent reflection and confession.)

Forgive us this sin and permit us to partake of the blessing
You have promised the peacemakers,
who shall be called the children of God.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 52:9–10

*Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.*

WE SING A SONG OF ASSURANCE

Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming Trinity Hymnal #221

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to men a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

The shepherds heard the story, proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of glory, was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped and in the manger found him,
As angel heralds said.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God; from sin and death he saves us
And lightens ev'ry load.

O Savior, child of Mary, Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory, Who dost our weakness know,
Bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven
And to the endless day.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**Children ages 4-6 are invited to attend
Children's Church**

PREACHING OF THE WORD

“And he shall be their peace.”

Micah 5:1-5a

*Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops;
siege is laid against us;
with a rod they strike the judge of Israel
on the cheek.*

*² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.*

*³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.*

*⁴ And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength
of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.*

⁵ And he shall be their peace.

SERMON NOTES

WE SING A SONG OF RESPONSE

Brightest and Best

Hail blessed morn, see the great Mediator
Down from the regions of glory descend
Shepherds go worship the babe in a manger
Lo! For a guard the bright angels attend

Say, shall we yield Him, in costly devotion
Fragrance of Edom and offerings divine?
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean
Myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?

Chorus

Brightest and best of sons of the morning
Dawn on our darkness and lend us Thine aid
Star in the East, the horizon adorning
Guide where our infant Redeemer was laid

Vainly we offer each ample oblation
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure
Richer by far is the heart's adoration
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor

Chorus

Cold on His cradle the dewdrops were shining
Low lies His bed with the beasts of the stall
Angels adore Him, in slumbers reclining
Wise men and shepherds before Him do fall
Wise men and shepherds before Him do fall

Chorus 2x

Guide where our infant Redeemer was laid

Ben Shive, Fionán De Barra, Keith Getty, and Reginald Heber
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BENEDICTION

Philippians 4:5b-7

The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

GUIDE TO FAMILY WORSHIP THIS WEEK

Scriptures: Micah 5:1-5a

Song: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Missions Prayer: Jenny Whitman/ISI St. Louis

PRAISE & PRAYER:

- * Pray that we will daily prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus as King!
- * Pray for those who are recuperating from surgery, from chronic ailments and for our mothers-in-waiting!
- * Pray for the Persecuted Church around the world.
- * Pray that Community Groups cultivate close relationships that will encourage our walk with Christ.
- * Pray that the Lord will continue to bring new people to our church family to join us in worshiping the Lord and learning of His love and mercy to us.
- * Pray for those who lead Heritage PCA in the direction that God has planned for us: Teaching Elders: Jesse York and Tim Herrera; Ruling Elders: Rich Albert, Jacob Hammack, Ken Leslie, Steve McVey, Kerry Messer, Mark Saeger and Larry Valentine.
- * Pray for our Deacons who provide aid for those in need and maintain our church campus: Rob Carpenter, Joe Ehart, Ben Gruhn, John McFee, Eric Myers, Terry Goring and Adam Saeger.
- * Pray for our Senior Pastor Jesse York and Assistant Pastor Tim Herrera as they preach God's Word to us and as they encourage our walk as the redeemed of God.