

CHRISTMAS EVE
7:00PM Candlelight Lighting Service
Rev. Mark Piedmonte
Music Director – Gregory Fraser

THE GATHERING

NOTE - During Covid, masks are required. There will be no singing other than by the minister and organist. At this time there is no need to stand during designated hymns. Hymn lyrics are provided as inserts so you may participate spiritually. We do not touch hymnals, friendship pads, Bibles, or offering plates. Place offering in plate upon entrance or when exiting.

PRELUDE with SILENT PRAYERS

WELCOME/GATHERING

Leader: Light shines on those who live in darkness,

All: for a child is born to us this night.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Do not be afraid; for see –

I am bringing you good news of great joy.

**All: To us is born this day in the city of David a Savior,
the Messiah, the Lord.**

Leader: This will be a sign for you:

you will find a child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.

All: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace!

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Great God, as you came at night when all was still, so enter our lives this night.

Illumine our paths with the light of Christ's presence, that we may clearly see the way,
the truth, and the life of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

All: Amen.

OPENING HYMN: "O Come All Ye Faithful"

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

***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.***

INVITATION TO OFFERTORY – Loose Offerings will be split between the Samaritan
Shelter and the PCUSA Joy Offering supporting Presbyterian seminaries and retired
ministers.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

MUSIC REFLECTION

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

A great light in the darkness - Isaiah 9:2, 6–7

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

A little child will lead them - Isaiah 11:1–4a, 6–9

What child is This?

An angel appears to Mary - Luke 1:26–35, 38

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Mary gives birth in Bethlehem - Luke 2:1–7

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Angels announce the Messiah - Luke 2:8–16

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

And the Word became flesh - John 1:1–14

Angels We Have Heard on High

Special Music: "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"

Message: Made Mighty

Rev. Mark Piedmonte

CANDLE LIGHTING SERVICE

Silent Night, Holy Night

BENEDICTION

Leader: Go into the night, glorifying and praising God for all you have seen and
heard. And may Jesus Christ, the Son of God, be your light, this night and
forevermore.

All: Alleluia!

Leader: Go forth in peace and joy.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

BENEDICTORY HYMN: "Joy to the World!"

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
December 25th - no AM worship in the church;
December 27, 2020 – Online service only

Weekly email: Pastor Mark sends weekly email announcements and devotionals.
Do we have your email address to add you to the list?

Our church is on Facebook! “Like” us at:
Buckingham Presbyterian Church
Contact information for Pastor Mark Piedmonte:
Email: pastorpedmonte@gmail.com

Enjoy! Be Blessed!
And of course:
Merry Christmas, Berlin!!!

STATEMENT FROM SESSION RE: BPC's COVID-19 RESPONSE

The BPC Session is on top of the mounting concerns over rising COVID cases in MD and has the best interest of our church family at heart. We are committed to following MD state guidelines and will make any needed adjustments accordingly. For now, we will continue to meet in-person for worship with attendance at or below 50% capacity. We will also make every effort to assure services are taped and uploaded to Face Book and to the church website in a timely manner for folks who choose to worship from home instead. We will also limit indoor group gatherings. For now, let's do all we can to stay – and help others to stay – healthy and safe. Please, when on church grounds for any reason, wear masks, avoid physical contact, stay 6 feet apart and wash your hands often. And if you feel sick in any way – please stay home, see the doctor, and call Pastor Mark for healing prayers. 610-428-3135. With God's help, and each other's, we will get through this!

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