

Many thanks to the participants in tonight's worship

Pastor - Rev. Katie Palmer
Readers –Rod Billingsley, Linda Solyntjes, Denice Spicer, Tom Trigg
Advent Wreath– Pam Abreu, Erin, Brett, Delilah & Athena Gilland
Christ Candle Lighter – Sean Croto
Pianist - Em Krall
Sound – Patrick Rucker/Sean Croto
Visuals – Lisa Weinstein/Linda Solyntjes
Community Life Committee – Biscochitos



Christmas JOY Offering – If you have a monetary offering for the church or for the denominational Christmas JOY Offering, please leave it in the collection plate on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

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Pastor Katie Palmer pastorkatiepalmer@gmail.com

Welcome to Worship

Christmas Eve – 2019
First United Presbyterian Church
Las Vegas, New Mexico

A Service of Lessons and Carols



*Mary gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.
(Luke 2:7)*



LED TO THE MANGER

PRELUDE Em Krall

PREPARING THE WAY

INTROIT GTG # 106, *Prepare the Way, O Zion*, v. 2-3
Led by Karyl Lyne and D.R. Palmer

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 40: 3-5
***CAROL** GTG #129, *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

WELCOME Rev. Katie Palmer

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Four weeks ago, we began our Advent journey, following a path of stars to the manger.
We have followed the path, waiting, questioning, expecting. Once again, we light the candles of Advent.
We have prepared the way for the one who will give us light by which to see God's promises fulfilled. Now we light the candle of hope
as we hope for the one who comes to us, bringing justice and righteousness to our broken world. Let us live in hope!
We light the candle of peace
as we welcome the one who comes in peace—a peace by which we commit to live.
We light the candle of joy
as we rejoice in the unity the baby Jesus brings.
We light the candle of love that shines brightly
as we gather together at the manger to adore the Christ child, joining our voices in song:

***CAROL** GTG #133, *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

SECOND LESSON: Matthew 1:18-21
CAROL GTG #104, *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*

GATHERING PRAYER Rev. Katie Palmer

GOD COMES INTO THE WORLD

THIRD LESSON Luke 1:26-38
CAROL *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came* Karyl Lyne, D. R. Palmer

FOURTH LESSON Luke 2:1-7
CAROL GTG #115, *Away in a Manger*
As we sing, the Christ candle is lit

FIFTH LESSON Luke 2:8-14
***CAROL** GTG #113, *Angels We Have Heard on High*

SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:15-18, 20
***CAROL** GTG #126, *Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child*

PONDERING IN CANDLELIGHT

SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:19

MEDITATION *Mind the Gap* Rev. Katie Palmer
CAROL GTG # 110, *Love Has Come*

Please use caution when lighting your candle, tipping your unlit candle into the upright candle of your neighbor.

CAROLS GTG #122, *Silent Night, Holy Night*
GTG #121, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Please extinguish your candle as the lights come up.

GIVING JOYFUL THANKSGIVING

EIGHTH LESSON John 1:1-5, 14

NINTH LESSON Matthew 22:36-39
***CAROL** GTG #136, *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

THE BLESSING OF JOY

***MERRY CHRISTMAS!**
Please share the peace and joy of Christ with one another!

***CAROL** GTG #134, *Joy to the World!*

As you leave the sanctuary, please return candles to the basket near the doorway.

