



Linway United Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2020 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6:00 p.m.

This entire service will be recorded and posted on:
www.LinwayChurch.org and on the Linway Church Facebook Page

Prelude

Words of Welcome: Rev. Eric E. Dennis

Gathering Prayer (In Unison)

Give us, O God, such love and wonder that with the shepherds and magi, pilgrims unknown, we may come to adore the holy child, the promised King; and with our gifts, worship him, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Lighting of the Christ Child Candle

L: During Advent we've anticipated the coming Savior.

P: Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

L: We've anticipated the One who is the hope of the world.

P: Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

L: We've anticipated the One called the Prince of Peace.

P: Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

L: We've anticipated the One who is the source of our joy.

P: Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

L: We've anticipated the One who is the Father's gift of love.

P: Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

L: Tonight our waiting is over as we celebrate the One who is Emmanuel, God with us.

P: Joy to the world, the Lord has come!



Carol of Hope:

O Holy Night

Please refrain from singing

*Invitation to Confession

Andrew Dennis, Liturgist

*Unison Prayer of Confession

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as a light shining in the darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light or trusted Good News to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive us our sin and the doubt of our life, O God. Renew our hope so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

L: Know this: the assurance of our forgiveness has come.

For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given...

P: of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end... to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from this time forth and forever more (Isaiah 9:6-7).

L: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:

P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*Gloria Patri – *Please Stand*

Special Music:

Ding Dong Merrily! He Is Born!

Instrumental Solo

Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 1-20

Evening Prayer, the Lord's Prayer and Instrumental Response

Sermon

"A Quiet Beginning"

Rev. Eric E Dennis
The Apostles' Creed

*Affirmation of Faith

Invitation to the Lord's Table

L: Like the Israelites who praised you in the midst of their preparations to leave Egypt;

P: Like Jesus & the disciples who celebrated their oneness with you in the midst of crisis;

L: We turn to you, O God, in the midst of our lives.

P: We gather as part of your family of faith at your table to remember your mighty works of old.

L: We lay our hopes and fears before you in joyful anticipation of the future you are bringing into being.

ALL: Thanks be to you, O God, for your loving kindness poured out to us in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer of Consecration and Thanksgiving; The Words of Institution

The Response

L: Empower us by your Spirit, O God, to be your presence in the world, even as Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us. Give us courage to speak his truth, to seek his justice, and to love with his love.

P: Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, when we shall feast with all the saints in the joy of your perfect peace. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Darkness

Lighting of Our Individual Candles

John 1:1-18

The Pastor will light his candle from the Christ Child Candle.

The Deacons will light their candles from the Pastor's Candle.

The Deacons will then light the candle nearest the center aisle.

Please pass the light by **tipping the unlit candle** to receive the flame.

Carol of Peace:

Silent Night

Margaret Dennis

— Please refrain from singing —

After the carol, please extinguish your candle and help the children.

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude: Carol of Joy

Joy To The World!

*Indicates those able to please stand

Merry Christmas!

When Attending Worship Services in the Sanctuary

-We ask that you please complete an attendance card & place it in the basket when exiting the Sanctuary in case contact tracing becomes necessary. Include name, address, phone, & email.

-Please wear your mask properly the entire time and refrain from singing.

-Please place any offering in the box when exiting the Sanctuary.

-Please use the restrooms located in the Preschool Hallway

For Children: Coloring packets are in the back of the Sanctuary. The Nursery is closed.



John Arnold, Tracy Augustin, Charlotte Ban, the Bernhardt Family,
Pat Brant, Betty Brinker, Clay & Lois, Clark Danner, Janet Doherty,
Mike Feigh, Betty Frommell, Nancy Kelley, Kim, Audrey Koppel,
Jean Lawton, Linda, Chuck Linderman, Edward Lloyd, Rita Marrow, Anne Nutter,
Carol Pascarella, Joey Pecar, Fran Peppler, Ann Puscaric, Renee, Patty Rodgers, Madison Spahr,
Michael Spingola, Rose Stark, Tom Szmuc, Wilma Taylor, Peg Torbich, Ed Waszkiewicz