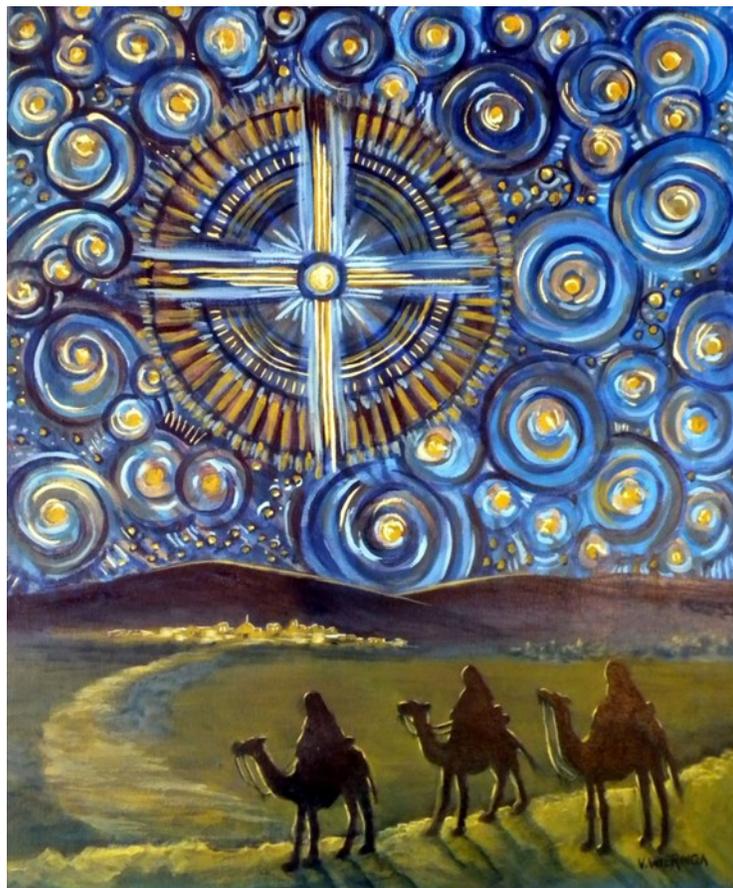


WEBSTER GROVES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2020
5:00 p.m.

OUR MISSION

**We seek to live Christ's love,
welcome all people and joyfully serve God.**



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

We have watched; we have waited in hope.

for peace.

in joy!

with love.

Now our redemption draws near!

Hear the Word of the Lord from Isaiah 9:2-7:

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son is given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. Glory to God in the highest.

SONG: "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

PRAYER

Jesus Christ, holy child, glory of God revealed,

by starlight we first saw your face; now by candlelight we sing your praise.

Though the night is long, you are our hope.

Though the path is dark, you lead the way.

**By your Spirit,
help us to shine with the brightness of your truth
and share the warmth of your great love,
so that all may believe, rejoice, and give thanks,
for you are the light of the world. Amen.**

LESSON: "O HOLY NIGHT" Shawn Portell

SONG: "O Holy Night"

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she 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.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Jo-

seph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

DIALOGUE SERMON

SONG: "Away in a Manger"

OFFERING/SILENCE

PRAYER

**Glory to you, God most high—
you have given us a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord—
good news of great joy for all.
Make us messengers of the gospel and shepherds of your people;
guide us always in paths of peace;
through Jesus Christ we pray.**

SONG: "Silent Night"

CHARGE

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Joy to the World"