

# *The Chapel in the Pines*

**December 31, 2023**

*Serving our Community by Preaching, Teaching,  
and Living the Gospel of Jesus Christ*

## **Nativity of the Lord A Service of Lessons and Carols**



### **Gathering Music**

**The Chiming of the Trinity**

**Prelude**

**Concerns, Celebrations, and Prayers of our Chapel Family**

**\*Congregational Choral Call to Worship**

#131 Angels, from the Realms of Glory (verse #1)

**Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth.  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**\*Invocation**

**\*A Litany for the First Sunday of Christmas**

Jesus Christ, the son of Mary, the Son of God is born.  
**God's word has been made flesh among us.**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.  
**Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
on them a light has shined.**

You, O Lord, have multiplied the nation. You have increased its joy.  
For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder.  
**His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

He is also called Emmanuel, for in him God is with us.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**\*Hymn**                      #136 The First Noel (verses 1 and 2)

**1** The first Noel, the angel did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

**Refrain:**

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.

**2** They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east, beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night. **[Refrain]**

**3** And by the light of that same star  
Three wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a King was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went. **[Refrain]**

**4** This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay. **[Refrain]**

**5** Then entered in those wise men three,  
Full rev'rently upon their knee,  
And offered there in His presence  
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. **[Refrain]**

**6** Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,  
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,  
And with His blood mankind hath bought. **[Refrain]**



## **A Christmas Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**

**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 trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever...Amen.**

### **Mary's Little Boy Child**

Soloist/Bruce Macdonald Hairston

#### **The First Lesson**

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*For a child has been born – for us! The gift of a son – for us!*

#### **Hymn**

#137 What Child Is This (verse 1)

- 1** What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

#### **Refrain:**

This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

#### **The Second Lesson**

Isaiah 11:1-9

*...and a little child will tend them.*

#### **Hymn**

#160 Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming (verses 1 & 2)

- 1** 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 Flower bright,  
Amid the cold of winter  
When half-gone was the night.
- 2** 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-gone was the night.

#### **The Third Lesson**

Luke 1:26-35, 38

*The Holy Spirit will come upon you, the power of the Highest hover over you;  
Therefore, the child you bring to birth will be called Holy, Son of God.*



**Hymn** #141 O Little Town of Bethlehem (verses 1 and 2)

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary,  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars together  
Proclaim the holy birth!  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth.

**The Fourth Lesson** Matthew 1:18-23

*She will bring a son to birth, and when she does, you, Joseph, will name him Jesus – "God saves" – because he will save his people from their sins.*

**\*Hymn** #127 Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne (verses 1 and 2)

- 1 Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown,  
When Thou camest to earth for me;  
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room  
For Thy holy nativity.

**Refrain:**

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus -  
There is room in my heart for Thee!

- 2 Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang,  
Proclaiming Thy royal decree;  
But of lowly birth didst Thou come to earth,  
And in great humility. **[Refrain]**

**The Fifth Lesson** Luke 2:8-16

*...the shepherders talked it over. "Let's get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us."*

**Hymn** #128 It Came upon the Midnight Clear (verses 1 and 2)

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold;  
"Peace on the earth, good-will to men,  
From heav'n's all-gracious King!"  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.
- 2 Still thru the cloven skies they come  
With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heav'nly music floats  
O'er all the weary world;  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hov'ring wing,  
And ever o'er its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.



## **The Sixth Lesson**

Matthew 2:1-11

*Overcome, they kneeled and worshiped him.*

*They opened their luggage and presented gifts: gold, frankincense, myrrh.*

### **\*Hymn**

#163 As with Gladness Men of Old

- 1** As with gladness men of old  
Did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light,  
Leading onward, beaming bright,  
So, most gracious Lord, may we  
Evermore be led to Thee.
  - 2** As with joyful steps they sped  
To that lowly manger bed,  
There to bend the knee before  
Him Whom heav'n and earth adore,  
So, may we with willing feet  
Ever seek the mercy seat.
  - 3** As they offered gifts most rare  
At that manger rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy,  
Pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.
  - 4** Holy Jesus, every day  
Keep us in the narrow way;  
And when earthly things are past,  
Bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide,  
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.
- Amen.

## **Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

### **\*Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above ye heavenly host.**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

## **Christmas Meditation**

A Christmas Carol – Christina Georgina Rosetti, 1856

## **The Seventh Lesson**

John 1:1-14

*We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son...*





**\*Hymn** #162 The Birthday of a King

**1** In the little village of Bethlehem,  
there lay a Child one day,  
And the sky was bright with a holy light  
o'er the place where Jesus lay.

**Refrain:**

Alleluia! O how the angels sang.  
Alleluia! How it rang!  
And the sky was bright with a holy light,  
'twas the birthday of a King.

**2** 'Twas a humble birth-place, but oh, how much  
God gave to us that day,  
From the manger bed what a path has led,  
what a perfect, holy way. **[Refrain]**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

*Lessons and Carols had its origin at Truro Cathedral (England) on Christmas Eve 1880, when a service of scripture and supporting carols was developed by the Bishop of Truro, F.W. Benson. Some thirty-eight years later in 1918, this format was adapted for Christmas Eve at King's College Chapel, Cambridge, England. The BBC broadcast from King's College helped to popularize the Service of Lessons and Carols, and it was quickly duplicated by cathedrals and small churches throughout the world. The heart of the service continues to this day – that is, the retelling of the Christian's story of faith from the beginning of time to the coming of the Word incarnate.*



## Prayers for Chapel Friends:

Patty and Jackie Madden, Jack Sealey, Phyllis Mahin, Anthony Tuliano, Janet Hegeman, Evangeline Caliendo, Laurie Stevens, Little Daniel Auman, Koran Sanders, Olivia Macdonald, Lerici Racine, Kevin Carter, Neida Crow, Kerra Paduano, Kathy Steele, Harry Wahlquist, Walter Hundley, Esther Robinson's sister Judy, Cindy Hess, Lynn Garbarino, Bob Macdonald, Elaine Bertino, Mary Farley, Kitty Price, Kerri Klein, Jean Schmidt, Ed Barry, Bill Bohl, Cynthia Fetty, Bob Lovin, Dwight and Faye Jessup, D.J. Kirit, Steve Hall, Phil Westerman, Lucy Dunn Martin, Jerry Hyatt, Chandler Stewart, Drew Carr and family, Mary Faas, Robert Allen, Ann Rorie, Sharon Hacker, Agustina Barry, Ron and Sara (Cissy) Ellis, Michael Taylor, Gerry Crow, Rev. Bill and Marty Bruner, Mary Steensen, Debbie Franklin, Nancy Cecchini, Mary Herold, Joseph Rickards, the family and friends of River Carter, and the family of Mabs Wahlquist.



## Prayers for Chapel Family:

Bud Holzerland, Nancee Letter, Dave Westerman, Meta Evans, Charles Hinson, Tamara Lee, Butch and Mary Kay Allen, George Hoffman, Glenda Clendenin, Jean Lawrence, Mary Tuft, Phillip Thingstad, Sue Van Horne, Jimmy McCaskill, Carol Caggiano, Kathy Hilton, Dick Van Horne, Sandi Keyser, Bill and JoAn Moses on the death of their son-in-law, Ron.

## January Announcements



**Monday, January 1** Laurie Faig  
**Wednesday, January 10** Jon Tichenor  
**Wednesday, January 10** Bob Tourt  
**Saturday, January 13** Kiona Baker

## Altar Flowers



### January

**1-7** Alicia DeLong & Steven Welch  
**1-14** **Volunteer Needed**  
**1-21** **Volunteer Needed**  
**1-28** **Volunteer Needed**

## Looking Ahead!

<b>Thursday-January 4</b>	3:00 pm
<b>Sunday-January 7</b>	9:00 am
<b>Tuesday-January 9</b>	6:30 pm
<b>Wednesday-January 10</b>	4:30 pm
<b>Friday-January 12</b>	10:00 am
<b>Saturday-January 13</b>	7:45 am
<b>Sunday-January 14</b>	9:00 am
<b>Wednesday-January 17</b>	4:30 pm
<b>Sunday-January 21</b>	9:00 am
<b>Wednesday-January 24</b>	4:30 pm
<b>Sunday-January 28</b>	9:00 am

## **Fran's Friends**

Epiphany  
Ladies Bunco-4-Missions  
Chapel Choir  
Mission Team  
CITP Men's Fellowship  
The Second Sunday after Epiphany  
Chapel Choir  
The Third Sunday after Epiphany  
Chapel Choir  
The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

## Contact Us:

## Coffee Fellowship



### January

**1-7** Dennis & Sandy Cifranic  
**1-14** Mary Snead  
**1-21** **Volunteer Needed**  
**1-28** **Volunteer Needed**

### **Pastor**

Rev. Paul James 910-690-5529  
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### **Chapel Administrator**

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### **Financial Secretary**

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### **Music Director**

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### **Seven Lakes Cemetery/Columbarium Team Leader**

Mike Barry 910-466-9100  
[citp-cemetery@7lakeschapel.com](mailto:citp-cemetery@7lakeschapel.com)

### **Sound/Audio Technician**

Dillon Corral

To sign up for Coffee Fellowship:

**Call:** Church Administrator 910-400-5188

**Email:** [citp10@7lakeschapel.com](mailto:citp10@7lakeschapel.com) OR Sign up on the Podium outside the fellowship hall.



## Board of Directors – 2023

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## Chapel Staff and Contact Info

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*Sound/Audio Technician, Dillon Corral*

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