

The Christmas Story
Family Christmas Eve Worship
December 24, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

■ ■ ■ *Prelude*

“God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”

Ian Zych, violin

“That Boy-Child of Mary”

Malawi trad., arr. Tom Colvin

Descant Choir

■ ■ ■ *Welcome and Opening Prayer*

*** Hymn No. 115**

“Away in a Manger”

■ ■ ■ *The Christmas Story*

Scene 1

An Angel Comes to Mary

Scene 2

Mary and Joseph

Scene 3

Traveling to Bethlehem

Scene 4

The Shepherds Are Visited by Angels

“Ringing Joy for Baby Jesus”

Cherub Choir

Scene 5

The Wise Ones

Offertory

English trad.

“The Seven Joys of Mary”

Descant Choir

*** Hymn No. 134**

“Joy to the World”

Prayer

Rev. Clover Beal

■ ■ ■ *Lighting of the Christ Candle*

Hymn No. 122

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

Stanzas 1 and 2

■ ■ ■ *The Benediction*

■ ■ ■ *Postlude*

Improvisation on Christmas Carols

Cast

Narrator	Alexander Shaner	Angel	Jessica Owusu
Mary	Lotus Headen	Angel	Julianna Weissbrod
Gabriel	Jalen Bailey	Wise One 1	Chloe Birdsell
Joseph	James Birdsell	Wise One 2	Megan Winters
Innkeeper	Max Winters	Wise One 3	Rowan Trammell
Shepherd 1	Benjamin Hidek	Director	Beth Zych
Shepherd 2	Yorrik Trammell		

The Christmas Joy Offering

Tonight’s offering, unless otherwise designated, will go to the PC(USA)’s Christmas Joy Offering, a fund to support the ministries of racial and ethnic education as well as the assistance program of the Board of Pensions.

Join us Sunday, December 29
Worship in Fellowship Hall
11:00 am

Forest Hill Church, Presbyterian

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Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr., Pastor	Anne Wilson, Ministry of Music
Rev. Clover Reuter Beal, Assoc. Pastor	Liz Wollaeger, Dir. Of Chr. Education
Rev. Tricia Dykers-Koenig, Parish Assoc.	Kristen Otte, Director of Youth Ministries

Luke 2: 1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And 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.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When 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.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.