



The First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury

Christmas Vespers

December 12, 2010 – 4:00 p.m.

Prelude *“A Christmas Package”* **arr. Wesley Hanson**
Brass Choir

Bidding Prayer Dr. Louis Mitchell

Minister: Beloved in Christ, be it at this Christmas-tide our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger. Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God and the glorious redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

People: But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all His people; for unity and brotherhood within the Church He came to build, and especially in this our congregation. And because this would rejoice His heart, let us remember, in His name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love Him not, or who by sin have grieved His heart of love. Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in this Lord Jesus we for evermore are one. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ Himself hath taught us:

The Lord’s Prayer (Spoken by All)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

§ **Processional Hymn** *“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”* Blue Hymnal, No. 22

The Prophecy **Isaiah 9:6-7, 11:1-3**
The Chorale *“Lo, how a rose e’er blooming”* Joan Fraser, Narrator
(Es ist ein Ros’ entsprungen) Michael Praetorius

The Annunciation **Luke 1:26-33**
Youth Ensemble *“Go Tell It on the Mountain”* **Afro-American Spiritual**
Bell Choir *“Now is Born the Divine Christ Child”* Kevin McChesney

The Nativity of the Lord
Brass Choir
Bell Choir

Luke 2:1-7
“Ah, Holy Jesus” Johannes Cruger
“Silent Night” arr. Jeffrey Honore

The Angels
The Chorale
Children’s Choir

Luke 2:8-14
“Sanctus, Hosanna in excelsis” David Lantz III
“Angels We Have Heard on High”
“The Little Drummer Boy”

The Shepherds
Youth Ensemble
Brass Choir

Luke 2:15-20
“While Shepherds Watched their Flocks” English Melody
“Do You Hear What I Hear” arr. Michael Sweerney

The Three Kings
Bell Choir
The Chorale

Matthew 2:1-6
“We Three Kings” arr. Valerie Stephenson
“Three Kings in great glory of horses and men” Martin Shaw

The Star
The Chorale

Matthew 2:7-12
“Star of Courage” Jacques Wolfe
Jean Dvorak, soloist

Light of the World
Bell Choir

John 1:1-5, 14, 16
“Rejoice Greatly” Susan Geschke

§ **Congregational Hymn** *“Joy to the World!”* Blue Hymnal, No. 40

§ **Benediction** Dr. Mitchell

Postlude *“From heaven above”* Johann Pachelbel
Organ

(§ - Congregation is invited to stand)

~~ *Choirs* ~~

The Bell Choir

Patricia Bohrs, Director

Carolyn Barlow, Lil Conley, Peg Hagerty, Debbie Konrad, Ann Olsson, Pat Scott, Mary Ellen Szczepanik, Michele Till, Robin Toplin, Cathy Vogen, Becky Young, Susan Walcott and Ina Zimmer.

The Brass Choir

Patricia Bohrs, Director

Bob Briggs, Monty Hagerty, Chris LeBrun, Julius Martell, Dave Stewart, Luke Sickle, Roger Suttmeier and Ed Szczepanik.

Children's Choir

Laurie Davis, Director

Emma Borden, Emily Ellsworth, Christina Franke, Taylor Miller, Hunter Miller, Michelle Ochoa, Lillian Santoro, Biagio Toto and Cole Toto.

The Chorale

Donovan Klotzbeacher, Director

Richard Craig, Jean Dunham, Jean Dvorak, Joanne Hughes, Mark Hughes, Dorothy Klotzbeacher, Mary Speer, Ross Trube, Carol Vandercher, Larry White and Becky Young.

The Youth Ensemble

Patricia Bohrs, Director

Jenna Cody, Abby Gordon, Andrew Kasper and Taylor Miller

Flute: Jenna Cody; Keyboard: Roger Suttmeier; Guitar: Dan Trent; Tambourine: Alexander Vogen

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING:

- Joan Smith for the beautiful Christmas displays in the Narthex glass cases.
- Ed Konrad, Art Ryba, Linda Scott, Rick Scott, and Paul Venanzi for setting up the outdoor Crèche.
- Betty Borgeson, Kay Gartner, Cyndi and Wayne Girardet, Norma Keller, Karen Moutenot and Barbara Sears for decorating the Sanctuary.
- Ushers for this evening's service are Caren Anuszewski, and Carol and John Sprout.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

5:00 PM **Children's Service** - Please remember to have your child bring his or her own bell!

8:00 PM **Family Service** - featuring beautiful Christmas music.

11:00 PM **Candlelight Service Communion**, a Cranbury tradition. In this candlelight service, we celebrate the Lord's Supper and conclude by lighting individual candles for the Christ child while singing "Silent Night."