

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Offertory Silent Night L. Shackley

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you!
And also with you.
Let us pray.

We give you thanks, Holy One,
for the world of wonder you have made—
forest and field, sea and sky,
and for the gift of grace that you have given—
a little child, lying in a manger.
Receive these gifts and tenderness and love,
of gratitude and praise, and use them for your glory;
in the name of Jesus Christ,
the child of Bethlehem, we pray. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Prayed in unison)

*PROCESSION OF LIGHT

Silent Night, Holy Night Adam Schultz, Guitar

1. Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born;
Christ the Savior is born!"

3. Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at they birth.

4. Silent night, Holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born;
Christ the Savior is born.

SENDING

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE Joy to the World arr. M. Hyzer



HOWARD MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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303 East St. James Street
Tarboro, North Carolina 27886
Telephone: 252-823-4138/4139
Website: www.howardmemorial.org

THE SESSION

Benjamin Kane, Moderator
C.W. Mayo, IV, Clerk of Session (2015)

Committee Moderators of the Session

Christian Education Lynn Taylor (2016)	Membership Development Betsy Davis (2016)
Congregational Life Ellen Clark (2015)	Ellington Smoot (2017)
Facilities June Cherry (2015)	Mission and Christian Witness Kelly Parker (2016)
Finance and Stewardship Greg Sessions (2017)	Stuart Sanderson (2016)
Harry Doughtie (2017)	Worship Carnell Lamm (2016)
Tom Cordle (2017)	Nancy Whitehurst (2015)
Beth Brinson (2015)	
Bill Clark (2017)	

(Elder Class in parenthesis)

Staff

Rev. Benjamin E. E. Kane, Pastor

Children's Education & Music Director.....	Katie Schultz
Director of Music/Organist.....	Bill Hilderbrandt
Finance Administrator.....	Gail Hussey
Office Administrator/Facilities.....	Joy Acree
Sexton.....	Arthur Walker

"We are united in the belief that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior and in the transforming power of God's love and grace. We seek to follow the Word of God and remain committed to service and mission both locally and beyond."

December 24, 2015
Christmas Eve Children's Worship
The Feast of the Nativity
Rev. Benjamin E. E. Kane

GATHERING

PRELUDE **Do you Hear What I Hear** **Noel Egney**
(Sung by the Congregation)

1. Said the night wind to the little lamb,
Do you see what I see
Way up in the sky, little lamb,
Do you see what I see
A star, a star, dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite
With a tail as big as a kite

4. Said the king to the people everywhere,
Listen to what I say
Pray for peace, people everywhere!
Listen to what I say
The Child, the Child, sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light
He will bring us goodness and light

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE IN THE ADVENT WREATH

Every year we light our candles.
We watch the flames flicker with wonder.
God's light is here.
This light is life for all people.
The darkness will never overcome it.
The Word is with us. Thanks be to God.
(Light the Christ candle.)

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Good and gracious God,
on this holy night you gave us your Son,
the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes;
the Savior of all, lying in a manger.
On this holy night
draw us into the mystery of your love.
Join our voices with the heavenly host
that we may sing your glory on high.
Give us a place among the shepherds
that we may find the One for whom we have waited,
Jesus Christ, the Messiah and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

*HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

True God from true God, Light from light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
very God, begotten, not created!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

*CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Jesus, you are God's holy child, born of Mary:
Lord have mercy..
Jesus, in you all the fullness of God is pleased to dwell.
Christ have mercy.
Jesus, you are the Word made flesh, full of grace and truth.
Lord have mercy.

THE WORD IN SCRIPTURE AND SONG

THE PROPHECY

SCRIPTURE

Hear the Word of God! Our ears are open.

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7 (Page 638 in your pew Bible)

THE VERY FIRST CHRISTMAS

THE SETTING

Luke 2: 1, 3-4 (Page 58 in your pew Bible)

*HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

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.

For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praise sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Luke 2: 1-7 (Page 58 in your pew Bible)

THE ANGELS VISIT THE SHEPHERDS

Luke 2: 8-14 (Page 58 in your pew Bible)

*HYMN

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King.
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Price of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

THE SHEPHERDS COME TO THE MANGER

Luke 2: 15-20 (Page 58 in your pew Bible)

*HYMN

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask the to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

THE KINGS PRESENT THEIR GIFTS TO JESUS

Matthew 2: 1-2, 9b-11 (Page 2 in your pew Bible)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

*HYMN

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, through-out the heavens there shone a holy light.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!