



*Many thanks to the participants in tonight's worship*

Pastor - Rev. Katie Palmer

Readers – Jim Croto, Don Monnheimer, Linda Solyntjes,

Sharon Vander Meer, Beth Urech

Candlelighter – Sean Croto

Pianist - Em Krall

Sound – Patrick Rucker/Sean Croto

Visuals – Lisa Weinstein/Linda Solyntjes

Community Life Committee – Biscochitos

Poinsettia donated by:

Charlotte Wootton - In memory of Arletta Bailey and Dick Wootton



**Christmas JOY Offering** – If you have a monetary offering for the church or for the denominational Christmas JOY Offering, please leave it in the collection plate on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

Church Office: 505-425-7763

Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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[www.lvpresbyterian.com](http://www.lvpresbyterian.com)

*Welcome to Worship*



Christmas Eve – 2018

First United Presbyterian Church

Las Vegas, New Mexico

*A Service of Lessons and Carols*



*The angel said,  
“I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people”  
(Luke 2:10)*





## We Are Messengers of God

### PRELUDE

Em Krall

#### HEARING THE MESSAGE: HOPE FOR THE CHRIST

### INTROIT *Lift Up Your Gates*

Led by Karyl Lyne

One: Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

All: Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.  
Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7b

\*CAROL PH #28, *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

### WELCOME

Rev. Katie Palmer

#### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

One: People of God, we who are God's messengers share God's light this night.  
We share a message of hope.

All: Each of us is an individual while being part of the whole. Hope is found in both places.

One: We share a message of peace.

All: Let us find peace in our own hearts and share that peace in ever-enlarging circles to all around us and beyond so that many are touched by peace.

One: We share a message of joy.

All: May the joy of Christ's birth shine from our faces for all to see. He is here!

One: We share a message of love.

All: As a fish swims in the ocean, surrounded by water, so we live and move surrounded by God's love. Glory to God in the highest!

\*CAROL PH #41, *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

### GATHERING PRAYER

Rev. Katie Palmer

SECOND LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-3a, 6-9

CAROL *Let There Be Peace on Earth* (see monitors)

## GOD COMES INTO THE WORLD

### THIRD LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

### CAROL

STF #2099, *Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine*

*Women sing verse 1; men sing verse 2; all sing refrain and verse 3*

### FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

### CAROL

GTG #110, *Love Has Come* (see insert)

*As we sing, the Christ candle is lit*

### MEDITATION

from *An Advent Story* by Jenee Woodard

Rev. Katie Palmer

### RESPONSE

STF #2095, *Star-Child*

#### PONDERING IN CANDLELIGHT

### FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2:19

### CAROL

PH # 47, *Still, Still, Still*

*Please use caution when lighting your candle, tipping your unlit candle into the upright candle of your neighbor.*

### CAROLS

PH #44, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

PH #60, *Silent Night, Holy Night*

*Please extinguish your candle as the lights come up.*

#### GIVING JOYFUL THANKSGIVING

### SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-14

### \*CAROL

PH #23, *Angels We Have Heard on High*

### SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:15-18, 20

### CAROL

PH #50, *Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow*

### EIGHTH LESSON

John 1:1-5, 14

### NINTH LESSON

Matthew 22:36-39

### \*CAROL

PH #29, *Go, Tell it On The Mountain*

#### THE BLESSING OF JOY

### \*MERRY CHRISTMAS!

*Please share the peace and joy of Christ with one another!*

\*CAROL PH #40 *Joy to the World!*

*As you leave the sanctuary, please return candles to the basket near the doorway.*

