



I AM

bringing

GOOD news  
of

GREAT joy

for all

people



## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Family of faith,  
even when we fail to trust God's love,  
and even when we fail to love others as we should,  
God still loves us. That door never closes.

There is always room in the inn.

So hear and believe this good news:

**God invites us into a life of faith. God loves us through every season of life.  
God forgives us when we lose our way and invites us deeper every step of the  
way. We are loved, invited, claimed, celebrated, and forgiven. Thanks be to  
God!**

**MUSICAL RESPONSE** *O Come All Ye Faithful*  
SPC Bell Choir

John Francis Wade  
arr. Kristine Johaneck

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God,

we've heard this story many times—

Mary and Joseph, the angels, the shepherds.

We've heard it many times,

but we want to hear it like it's the first.

So move among us.

Circle back.

Draw close.

Crack open our hearts and fill them with your goodness.

Help us to hear what it is you might be saying to us  
with curiosity, joy, and hope.

This is an invitation.

Come be here with us.

Gratefully we pray, Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READING**      Isaiah 9:2-7

**ANTHEM**      *Still Still* (Austrian Carol)      arr. Kristine Johaneck  
SPC Bell Choir

**SCRIPTURE READING**      Luke 2:1-20

**MEDITATION**      Rev. Kate Jones Calone

❖ **HYMN** no. 119 *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* (verses 1 & 3)

## OFFERING

*Tonight, in addition to our regular offering, we invite you to contribute to the Christmas Joy Offering, which supports leadership development for communities of color and provides support for Presbyterian church workers in their time of need. You may leave your offering in the plates outside the sanctuary as you depart.*

## ❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**One who became flesh, wherever there is heartbreak, wherever there is devastation, wherever there is loss, you are near. One who became flesh, wherever there is joy, wherever there is love, wherever there is life, you are near. On this holy night, bring your abiding presence close to all throughout our community. Bless our offerings to the work of your incarnational ministry of love and justice. Amen.**

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

**The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving, with Intercessions, and The Lord's Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**Sharing the Bread and Cup** (Please hold the elements until all are served.)

**Prayer after Communion**

**We are filled with joy for we have heard good news of great joy.**

**We are filled with love for we have tasted the sign of God's great love.**

**We are filled with hope for the angels still sing in our world.**

**We now go to live out this joy, hope, and love we have found! Amen.**

## SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*The Christ candle represents Jesus, the Light of the world. The candle lighting ceremony is symbolic of the spreading of the Gospel Light from one life to another. The lighted candle is never tilted, but always held upright when giving light to another. Please extinguish your candles after the last stanza of Silent Night by placing an empty communion cup over the wick and smothering the flame.*

## ❖ CANDLELIGHT CAROL 122 *Silent Night*

STILLE NACHT

**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.**

**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!"**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous start, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.**

**❖ RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION**

May the news of the angels  
fill our lives and hearts with great joy.

**May the star that guided the wise  
lead us to the truth of understanding.**

May the witness of the shepherds  
affirm in us the message of the Gospel.

**May the sound of the incarnate Word  
bring us peace and hope.**

May the presence of the sacred baby  
remind us of our own holiness.

**And may this Christmas  
gift us, bless us, comfort us, and challenge us  
as we journey into another year.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Away in a Manger*

James R. Murray  
arr. Kristine Johaneck

SPC Bell Choir

*Please extinguish your candle and put it the receptacles provided as you leave.*

Parts of tonight's liturgy are from *A Sanctified Art*, [www.sanctifiedart.org](http://www.sanctifiedart.org)

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We welcome **Jean Hrbek** as our Worship Assistant this evening.  
Thanks to Jean for this service!



*The Setauket Presbyterian Church*

*Established in 1660*

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*Setauket Presbyterian Church is a member congregation the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and thereby of  
the Presbytery of Long Island.*



# Open Door Exchange Mattress Fundraiser

*A sincere thank you to everyone who donated.*

*In Honor of:*

Kathy Coen

Earl and Minnie Dudley

The Staff of SPC

Natalie and Bill Treanor

Dorothy Campbell

Len and Pat Calone

Matthew DeMarinis

Pastors at SPC

Family and Friends

Pastor Kate and Pastor Ashley

Family of Kathy Gray

*In Memory of:*

Alice and Bill Wansor

Ken Nicklas

Greg and Terry Casey

Gerri Wells

Mack and Roxana James

Barbara and Earl Towers

Marilyn Heim

Kathy Jones

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Lynn and Ed Campbell

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& Meg Calone

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Alice Nicklas

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*Thank you to all who contributed but did not specify in memory or in honor.*

Barbara Curtis

Jeffrey Kessler