

December 24, 2021

7:00 p.m.



Invited
Home

Christmas Eve



OVERLAND PARK
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

7600 West 75th Street
Overland Park, KS 66204
913.677.4646

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Senior Pastor — Rev. Laura Ann Phillips
Associate Pastor — Rev. Chuck Pickrel
Director of Music — Mary Beth Boucher
Accompanist — Julie Dean

Sunday Services

Adult Christian Education — 9:00 a.m.
Worship — 10:30 a.m.
Children Worship and Wonder — 10:45 a.m.

Acknowledgements and permissions: Permission to use and stream the music in this worship service obtained from ONE LICENSE #A-730652 and CCLI #36152 and CSPL143030. All rights reserved.

Portions of our liturgy adapted from resources written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed / A Sanctified Art LLC; and Gathered by Love: Worship Resources for Year C, by Lavon Bayler, United Church Press: Cleveland, OH 1994, Pages 8-9.

THE GATHERING — We Enter into God's Presence

Sharing Christ's Peace and Gathering in the Light

Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

you may respond: And also with you.

Rev. Chuck Pickrel

Prelude to Worship

“’Twas in the Moon of Wintertime” Reverberations Bell Choir

(“Jesus Your King Is Born”) Indian Christmas Carol, 1642, arr. Frances L. Callahan

Invitation to Worship

Pat Gilling

one: An unmarried teenage girl was invited —

*all: **to carry Christ into this world.***

one: An ordinary carpenter was invited —

*all: **to be a father to a child unlike any other.***

one: The shepherds were invited —

*all: **outcast and isolated, included at the manger.***

one: The Magi were invited —

*all: **foreigners and seekers, included at the manger.***

one: And if she was invited, and he was invited, and they were invited —

*all: **then we can trust that we too are invited.***

one: This story is for us.

*all: **This love is for us.***

one: Family of faith, this is our invitation.

*all: **Welcome home.***

Opening Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Hymnal #119; vv 1,2,4

Invocation

Rev. Chuck Pickel

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Reiter family

In God's house, there is hope — for God loves us too much to leave us just as we are.

(lighting of the purple candle of hope)

In God's house, there is peace — for all that separates us from God falls away.

(lighting of the purple candle of peace)

In God's house, there is joy — because God created music, and coffee, and dance floors,
and laughter that is contagious, and endless rounds of peek-a-boos with babies;
and if those things have God's fingerprints, then God's house surely exudes joy.

(lighting of the pink candle of joy)

In God's house, there is love — because God is love, from start to finish,
and that love exists for us all.

(lighting of the purple candle of love)

And in the center of our hope, in the center of our peace, in the center of our joy,
in the center of our love, is God — who came to this earth to dwell among us.

(lighting of the white Christ candle)

So tonight we light the Christ candle, for God's love just could not stay away.

Welcome home. Amen.

Response

“When God Is a Child”

Hymnal #132

THE WORD — We Receive God' Word
A Service of Lessons and Carols

Lesson	Genesis 2:4-9 (Common English Bible)	Carla Labunski
Carol	"Of the Father's Love Begotten"	Emily Boedeker
Lesson	Isaiah 11:1-6 (Common English Bible)	Roy Nickum
Carol	"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"	Hymnal #153, vv 1,4
Lesson	Jeremiah 31:31-34 (Common English Bible)	Pat Gilling
Carol	"Joy to the World"	Hymnal #143; vv 1,2
Lesson	Matthew 1:18-24 (Common English Bible)	Teresa Phillips
Carol	"Angels We Have Heard on High"	Hymnal #155; vv 1,2
Lesson	Luke 2:1-7 (Common English Bible)	Pat Warner
Reading	"Who Built the Stable?" a Nativity Poem by Ashley Bryan	Rev. Chuck Pickrel
Carol	"Away in a Manger"	Hymnal #147; vv 1,2
Lesson	Luke 2:8-20 (Common English Bible)	Rev. Laura Ann Phillips
Carol	"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"	Hymnal #150; vv 1,3

THE RESPONSE — We Respond in Worship

Prayers of the People Rev. Chuck Pickrel

Our Lord's Prayer

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Doxology "The First Noel Doxology" tune & refrain: Hymnal #151

Celebration of Communion

Communion Response "Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus" Chalice Chancel Choir
arr. Dan Galbraith with Emily Boedeker

SENDING FORTH — We Go Out into the World

Invitation to Discipleship Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

Sharing in the Light Rev. Laura Ann Phillips and Rev. Chuck Pickrel

Closing Hymn "Silent Night" Hymnal #145

Blessing and Benediction Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

Postlude "Joy to the World" arr. Melody Bober Julie Dean, piano

Thank you for worshipping with us tonight!

Please be sure you have registered your attendance with us on the sign-in sheet in the hallway. If you are a guest or visitor with us, pick up our newsletter, The OPCC Scene, or see our website for current event, activity, opportunity, and contact information here at OPCC.

COVID-19 Protocols

Please social distance from people who are not in your household. Face masks must be worn the entire time you are at OPCC, except for when actively taking communion. Our complete "Returning to OPCC Covenant" is available in the church entryway and on our website at www.bit.ly/opccInPerson



For those with children...

Make yourself comfortable in the Sanctuary, and/or in our family-friendly worship space in the Overflow Room. We welcome the sounds and movements of little ones that remind us God is moving in our midst! If you need different/additional space for your little one, our nursery is open for your use, but is not staffed tonight. You are welcome to use this space located up the east hallway on the right hand side (toward the Fellowship Hall).

We gratefully acknowledge those who have donated poinsettias or made donations to the OPCC Food Pantry in memory of, or in honor of, loved ones. Poinsettias may be taken home following tonight's service.



JoAnn Altschul	in memory of Joe Gavin Altschul
Barb & David Collins	in honor of David's parents, Ira & Etta Mae Collins
	in honor of Barb's mom, Ruth Baker
	in memory of Barb's dad, Cecil Baker
Sue Elliott	in memory of Corwin Elliott
Liz & David Hobbs	in honor of our family
Norma Hultgren	in memory of Gary L. Hultgren
Carla Labunski	in memory of Ania Johnson
Jennifer & Peter Lee	in memory of Ed, Diana, & Andrew Lee
	in memory of Jack & Margo Brown
Calvin McBride	in memory of parents, Ferman & Virginia McBride
	in honor of siblings, Kenneth McBride and Loretta Garza
Teresa Phillips	in memory of Wayne & Ada Phillips
Ann Sandler	in memory of my mother, Dorothy Kirk
	in memory of my husband, Marc Sandler
	in memory of my brother, Jim Kirk
Laura Starks	in memory of Ben & Rubye Starks
Chuck & Pat Warner	in honor of our family

donations to the Food Pantry

Marijane Green	in memory of Andrew Green
Liz & David Hobbs	in honor of our family