

CHRISTMAS EVE AT FORT KING



ON THE NIGHT OF THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD
DECEMBER 24, 2025 – FOUR O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

We Gather to Adore the Christ Child

GATHERING MUSIC

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

R. Pichard/arr. C. Tornquist

TOLLING THE HOUR

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.

**For to us a child is born, unto us a Son is given,
and all authority shall rest on his shoulders.**

And he will be called:

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

O come, let us adore him!

*CAROL #133

O Come All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELIS

*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!*

*Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord!*

*Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord!*

GREETING

PRAYER

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Stephen Barrett, Chris Berryhill

*We re-light the Candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love,
And light the Christ Candle, symbolizing Jesus Christ the Light of the World*

CHANCEL ANTHEM

This Baby

Frombach/Sommers

The Word in Lessons and Carols

FIRST LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

The Birth of the Christ-Child

CAROL, #128

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

W ZLOBIE LEZY

*Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall,
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
noels ringing, tiding bringing;
Christ the babe is Lord of all!
Christ the babe is Lord of all!*

*Flocks were sleeping, Shepherds keeping,
vigil till the morning new,
Saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of the gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing greet the morrow;
Christ the babe is born for you!
Christ the babe is born for you!*

SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

Angels Announcement to the Shepherds

CAROL, #113

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

SERMON

Draw Near to Christmas

Rev. Bob Scott

Our Grateful Response to God

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

*The Christmas Joy Special Offering is split between three worthy causes:
financial aid to church workers and their families who now find themselves in need;
scholarships to persons of color who would like to attend a Presbyterian school and college;
and Fort King's Emergency Assistance Fund which allows us to assist those in our own community.*

OFFERTORY

Emmanuel

Bob McGee/arr. Fred Bock

*RESPONSE

What Child is This

GREENSLEEVES

*So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come one and all to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this, is Christ the King
whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste, to bring him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

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 our thanks and praise.

THE 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;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE BREAD AND THE CUP

*All are welcome to come to the Table of our Lord and Savior!
Please come forward to receive the bread and cup,
returning to your pew by way of an outside aisle.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Away in a Manger

MULLER

Be near me Lord Jesus, I ask thee 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.

Candle Lighting Ceremony

*THIRD LESSON

John 1:1-5

The Mystery of the Incarnation

*CANDLE-LIGHTING CEREMONY

Ushers will share the Light of Christ with the first person in each pew; please pass the light to those next to you. To avoid dripping wax, always hold lit candles upright, and tip unlit candle when lighting.

*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!"*

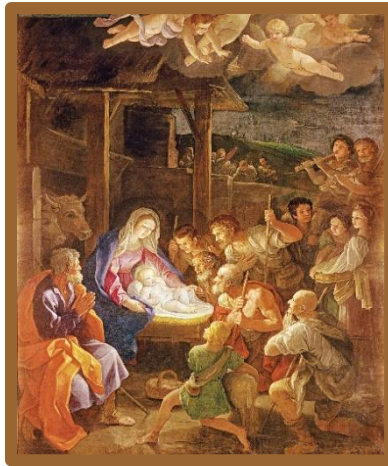
*Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at this birth.*

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

*CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Please extinguish candles, placing them in the designated baskets as you depart.

*POSTLUDE



Assisting with Today's Service:

Fort King Ministers: *All our members and friends*

Worship Leader: *Pastor Bob & Bernice Henry*

Executive Assistant: *Mary Wald*

Music Director: *John Lasheck*

Zoom: *Hal Brown*

Ushers: December: *Daniel Banks & Friends*

Nursery: *Tammy Kessler and Marlene Wittenwyler*

ANNOUNCEMENTS - for week of December 22nd, 2025 – December 28th, 2025

12/24 Wed: 4:00 Christmas Eve Service

12/25 Thu: Merry Christmas – Office will reopen on Monday the 29th

12/28 Sun: 9:00 Crossroads Adult Class

10:30 Worship in person and on Zoom