



MOUNT PLEASANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
December 24, 2024 • 6, 8 & 11 PM • Christmas Eve

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

INTROIT

*And the Glory of the Lord from "Messiah" (6:00)
The Jesus Gift (8:00 & 11:00)*

G.F. Handel • Chancel Choir
Gilbert Martin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shaw Family (6:00) & Stephenson Family (11:00)

One: This is the night when we remember how the Glory of God took flesh and was born like us, a person, to share with us, to help us, to save us. God with us! Emmanuel!

All: We light the Christ candle to proclaim that because God so loved the world, darkness is dispelled forever through the birth of Jesus, the Light of the world.

One: Come Lord Jesus, where there is hatred, bring love, where there is sadness, bring joy, where there is strife, give peace.

All: Come Lord Jesus, be light for our darkness, for the hour of your birth is near. Come, Lord Jesus, be born in our hearts through faith.

One: Then come you faithful, come and adore him. Jesus Christ is Lord!

*HYMN

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Hymn #133

*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.*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God All glory in the highest.*

*Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy
morning.
Jesus, to Thee be 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!*

*O come, let us adore Him O come, let us
adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!*

*O come, let us adore Him O come, let us
adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!*

PRAYER OF ADORATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON: THE ANCIENT PROPHECY

Isaiah 9:2-7; 40:2, 9-11

ANTHEM

See, On Mary's Arm He's Sleeping

Winnagene Hatch

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MARY AND JOSEPH GO TO BETHLEHEM

Luke 2:1-7

*HYMN

"Away in a Manger"

Hymn #115

*Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet
head.
The stars in the bright sky 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 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.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

The offering received in worship this evening will be used to support, in the year ahead, the ministry of MPPC. We thank you for your gracious support of these offerings and your support of the ministry of Christ's Church in this place. Your generosity is an empowering partnership in the ministry. Please visit onrealm.org/mppc/give/now or scan the QR to give online.



OFFERTORY

*O Little Town of Bethlehem (6:00 and 8:00)
O Holy Night (11:00)*

Kay Goodyear and J. S Bach • Chancel Choir
Tony and Haley Sane

SCRIPTURE LESSON: THE ANGEL'S SONG

Luke 2:8-20

HYMN“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

Hymn #119

*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!”*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored,
 Christ the everlasting Lord,
 late in time behold him come,
 offspring of the virgin’s womb.
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
 hail the incarnate deity,
 pleased in flesh with us to dwell,
 Jesus, our Emmanuel.
 Hark! The herald angels sing,
 “Glory to the newborn king!”*

*Hail the heaven-born Prince 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!”*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Titus 2:11-14

CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

The Sacrament is open to all who desire to draw close to Jesus Christ and who seek to share in this meal as a sign of that commitment and desire. Gluten-free wafers will be available when the cup tray is passed. They are located in the center cup.

INVITATION**THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION**COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE****CLOSING PRAYER****SCRIPTURE LESSON: THE LIGHT SHINES**

John 1:1-14

RECESSIONAL HYMN“Joy to the World!”*

Hymn #134

(The Pastors will lead the recession outside. Please follow the usher who escorts your pew section outside where they will lead you to a station for you to pick up a candle. Once you have your candle, please find a place that allows others to pick up candles.)

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
 Let earth receive her king;
 let every heart prepare him room,
 and heaven and nature sing,
 and heaven and nature sing,
 and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
 Let all their songs employ,
 while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 repeat the sounding joy,
 repeat the sounding joy,
 repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*No more let sins and sorrows grow,
 nor thorns infest the ground;
 he comes to make his blessings flow
 far as the curse is found,
 far as the curse is found,
 far as, far as the curse is found.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace,
 and makes the nations prove
 the glories of his righteousness
 and wonders of his love,
 and wonders of his love,
 and wonders, wonders of his love.*

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES**HYMN***“Silent Night, Holy Night!”*

Hymn #122

*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, 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 thy birth.*

*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 star, lend thy light;
 With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
 Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 25 - Jan. 1
Church Office Closed

Sun., Dec. 29, 10 a.m.
ONE Worship Service
(Sanctuary)

Fri., Jan. 10, 5:30 p.m.
Pacesetters
(Fellowship Hall)

Wed., Jan. 15, 5 p.m.
Chili Cook Off
(Fellowship Hall)

Jan. 24-26
Women's Retreat
(Kiawah Island)

See more details at
mppc.net/events!

STEWARDSHIP



Please visit onrealm.org/mppc/AddPledge/2025 or scan the QR to the right to submit your Estimate of Giving for 2025. Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- On Sunday, Dec. 29, we will only have **one service** at 10 a.m. This service is organized by the **college aged folks** of MPPC! There is no Sunday School.
- The **MPPC Nominating Committee** requests your prayerful recommendations for church officers (Deacons, Elders, CNC & Trustees) who are of strong faith, dedicated discipleship, and love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel in the church and in the world. Recommendation forms are available at mppc.net/nominations.
- **Pacesetters**, our fellowship program for adults 55+, is back in action for the new year! We will meet on Friday, Jan. 10 in the Fellowship Hall. Our speakers this month are Rev. Dr. Nicole Partin Abdnour and MPPC member Platte Moring. Platte served our military in Afghanistan. He will speak about his time there as well as his interactions with the people in Afghanistan. Pastor Nicole will discuss adult programming at MPPC! Dinner is \$20/person, collected at the door. Doors will open at 5:30 for appetizers and fellowship, followed by a catered meal at 6 p.m., and then the presentations will begin at 7 p.m. Please RSVP to at susanmell@mac.com or 843-697-2111 by Jan. 6.
- The MPPC pastors and staff want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas! **The church office will be closed** Dec. 25-Jan. 1, so we will see you all in the new year!

Cover Artwork by John Stuart, stushieart.com

OUR PASTORS

Rev. Dr. Nicole Partin Abdnour
Senior Pastor & Head of Staff

Rev. Bart W. Edwards
Associate Pastor for Missions

OUR STAFF

Lori Baney
MPPC Learning Center Dir.

Ellen Creed Branham
Pastor for Adult Education

Glenna Durbin
Dir. of Youth Ministry

Suzy Edwards
Dir. of Children's Ministry

Logan P. Garabato
Dir. of Communications

Glenn Hair
Dir. of Finance

Stacy Hanling
Dir. of Daily Operations

Beth Moore
Dir. of Hope House

Tony Sane
Dir. of Music Ministries

Trish Snead
Admin. Assistant

Wayne Stewart
Sexton

Joann Westberry
Finance Assistant

Alexis Wright-Singleton
Receptionist

Participating in Worship This Evening: Rev. Dr. Nicole Partin Abdnour, Rev. Bart W. Edwards, Ellen Creed Branham, Suzy Edwards, and Tony Sane.

Christmas Eve Brass Ensemble: Justin Henke, trumpet David Rainsville, trumpet Katie Ellis, horn, Katie Thigpen, trombone

Organists: Shenwei Geng and Elaine Ross

I'M NEW!

Thank you for your presence today, worship is such a special time and we are glad you chose to spend that time with us! If you would like to learn more about MPPC, here are a few suggested next steps:

- Visit mppc.net/new to find the answers to your most frequently asked questions. (You can find information about our new member classes there as well).
- Read our quarterly newsletter, *The Pelican*, at mppc.net/newsletter or subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter at mppc.net/sign-up-for-updates.
- Follow our Facebook and Instagram (@mtpleasantpres).
- Check out some of our upcoming events and volunteer opportunities at mppc.net/events or mppc.net/volunteer.
- Stop by and say hi! Whether its during the week or after worship, our pastors, staff and members would love to meet you and show you around MPPC. Our office is open Monday-Thursday from 9-5 and on Fridays from 9-1.
- Call us at **843-884-4612**.