Welcome to Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church for this special Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. We extend a warm greeting to each of you and hope your time with us will be a meaningful way for you to celebrate the birth of God's Son, Jesus Christ.

Christmas is the celebration of God taking on human form and coming to earth through the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ. God's advent in Jesus was for the specific purpose of making atonement for sin through Christ's sacrificial death on the cross, offering forgiveness to all who would accept it by faith as His gift, and restoring men and women to a right and eternal relationship with their Creator and Lord.

Christmas means that real peace and hope is possible for all who find it in Jesus and place their trust in Him as Savior and Lord. This is the Gospel, the good news. This is why we celebrate Jesus' birth. His coming is God's proclamation of love for us and commitment to our eternity with Him.

It is our hope that you know the true peace and hope that Jesus came to bring. It is our hope that you know the true glory of Christmas in your heart by faith. It is our hope that this year you will enjoy an uncommon closeness to the Savior who came to earth for you and that this experience tonight will aid you in your adoration of "the newborn King."

If during this holiday season or at any time of the year you believe the staff or members of the Beverly Heights Church may be able to serve you in some way, please do not hesitate to contact us. We would consider such an opportunity a privilege and we welcome such inquiries.

Merry Christmas to All!



Christmas Eve Lessons Carols and the Celebration of Light

Thursday, December 24, 2020 $\,*\,$ 5:00 PM Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church $\,*\,$ Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania

Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor Mr. Peter Chace, Director of Next Generation Ministries Valerie Stipcak, guest organist

A warm welcome is given to all who come into this place for worship tonight! We pray that a new freshness will accompany your celebration tonight so that the wonder of Jesus' coming to earth for you and for your salvation will fill you with awe as if you have heard this good news for the very first time. Rejoice! Jesus is born!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude Christmas Carol Selections

Various

Introit Festive Trumpet Tune

German

Chad Winkler, trumpet; Valerie Stipcak, organist

Pastoral Greeting

Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor

Prayer of Invocation

Carol **No. 208** vv. 1-4

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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;

Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light; Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb: Very God, begotten, not created;

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above; Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning:
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

The Christmas Gospel Matthew 1:18-25

Carol **No. 225** vv. 1, 2, 4, 5

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall:
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Special Video Presentation

Good News!

Once in Royal David's City

David Ray

First Song, New Song and His Song choirs

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on Him, On His anointed One To proclaim to the poor The year of the favor of the Lord

There is good news,
There is good, good news,
He is binding up the broken!
There is good news,
There is good, good news,
He is bringing us to freedom!

Singing, go tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

The Christmas Gospel Luke 2:1-7

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply Echo back their joyous strains.

Refrain: Glo-ria in excelsis Deo, Glo-ria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

The Christmas Gospel Luke 2:8-20

Special Music What Glory Now Our Eyes Have Seen

The Devlin and Winkler families

What glory now our eyes have seen From angels' praise on high The King of Glory condescends To shine into our night

Glory to God in the highest The saints and the angels sing Praise and adore Him Messiah Glory to the newborn King

And now we see the kingdom come The darkness turns to light The shout of sin is overthrown By the baby's cry

Now this light our eyes have seen Our faith turned into sight The promise of the coming King We now behold in Christ

THE CHRISTMAS STORY RETOLD AND CELEBRATED

The children are asked to come forward for this special portion of the service which has been planned with them in mind.

Parents are welcome to accompany those children who are shy about coming by themselves.

"He's Here!" From The Jesus Storybook Bible

See Screen

Lighting of the Christ Candle The Countdown is Complete!

THE CELEBRATION OF LIGHT

Carol **No. 203** vv. 1-3 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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 th' angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

> Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Diety,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.

From Darkness to the Passing of Light

Boswell

Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor

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! 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 Prayer

Carol **No. 195** vv. 1-4 Joy to the World!

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: let men 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.

Benediction

Postlude

Angels We Have Heard On High He Is Born arr. Albrecht arr. Hudson Please place used candles and cups on the tables at the exits.

For those who would like to contribute to a Christmas offering, red boxes may be found at the front exits following worship tonight.

Sunday, December 27

Services at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Please join us as we gather together for worship.

Merry Christmas!

Beverly Heights Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (E.P.C.) that has worshipped God and served the community on this site since its founding in 1929. The church is comprised of over 300 members spanning the age spectrum from those in the nursery to those living in local assisted living settings. The life and ministry of the church is focused on five ministry essentials by which we decide the right things for our congregation to engage: worship, discipleship, fellowship, missions and stewardship.

Worship is considered Job #1 for believers at Beverly Heights, and weekly corporate worship is enjoyed in two Sunday worship services: Early Morning Worship (8:30 AM) which is contemporary in style and Late Morning Worship (11:00 AM) which is traditional. Between the two services (10:00 AM), a full range of Christian Education is offered to children and adults alike.

If you are interested in receiving more information about Beverly Heights, we invite you to visit our website at www.beverlyheights.org or to call the church office and speak with our administrative assistant, Amy Lucas. She can be reached at 412-561-5100.

We wish you and your family a most blessed Christmas season!