

✠ ENTRANCE ✠

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.
(Matthew 18:20; NRSV)

Welcome and Announcements

Ricky Tipps

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. *(Titus 2:11-14; NRSV)*

*Opening prayer

Pastor

*Call to Worship *(Responsively)*

Pastor

Rejoice and sing.
A CHILD is born!
Sing songs of praise.
For the PRINCE of PEACE is in our midst.
Rejoice and sing.
CHRIST is born! Hallelujah. Amen.

*Hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

196 BH

✠ PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD ✠

Gospel Reading Luke 2:1-14;

Pastor

Special Music

David Cost

Message Luke 2:1-14;

Pastor

"I Am Bringing You Good News"

✠ RESPONSE TO THE WORD ✠

*Hymn "O Holy Night"

194 BH

*Prayer of Confession *(Unison)*

Pastor

When the shadows of sin and sorrow surround us, shine on us with the light of YOUR comfort and YOUR grace. When the despair of the world overwhelms us, lift us with YOUR promise of hope. When we forget the Good News of YOUR presence, cry out with YOUR message of love, that we might hear and remember anew. Christ is born. Christ is with us. We are not alone. In your beloved name, we pray. Amen.

*Words of Assurance & Encouragement

We are not alone. We who were walking in darkness have seen a great light. Light has dawned, and the grace of GOD has appeared, bringing salvation to us, salvation to all. Thanks be to God. **Thanks be to GOD!**

*Affirmation of Faith

Pastor

*Doxology "Glory Be to the Father"

The Celebration of the Holy Communion

Pastor

✠ SENDING FORTH ✠

*Closing Hymn "Silent Night, Holy Night"

206 BH

If you would like to make a profession of faith, join the church, or simply pray at the altar, you may come during the closing hymn. We welcome you to our fellowship!

*Charge & Benediction

Pastor

Go forth and shine light in the darkness. Go and bring peace into our troubled world. Proclaim hope in the midst of despair. Go with GOD'S blessings – for a CHILD has been born to us, who is Love for the nations and LIGHT for the world.
Amen

Postlude

Phyllis Turner

In the Life of our STONEGATE Community

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2021;
5:30 p.m. – SOCIAL TIME – HOT APPLE CIDER & GINGERBREAD
6:00 p.m. – CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Sunday, December 26, 2021;
10:45 a.m. – MUSIC & WORSHIP

Sunday, January 2, 2022;
10:45 a.m. – MUSIC & WORSHIP

Friday, December 24, 2021;
9:00 a.m. – ~~NO FRIDAY'S BREAKFAST~~

Friday, December 31, 2021;
9:00 a.m. – FRIDAY'S BREAKFAST

Sunday, January 9, 2022;
10:45 a.m. – MUSIC & WORSHIP
ORDINATION & INSTALLATION NEWLY
ELECTED TWO ELDERS

You Are All Invited

The Pastor's weekly messages are published on our website at www.stonegatecpc.org

☞ For Our Guests ☞

We are so thrilled to have you worship with us today. We truly hope you are encouraged and inspired to grow closer to GOD as we worship the true and living GOD together.



Some prayers, litanies, and other worship resources or their parts used in the bulletin, except as noted, come: "From The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021 Edition, edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. Copyright © 2020 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission." and others, come from unrecognized, unnamed resources, or are our own ideas.



THEME IDEAS

Everything turns around on this night of nights. The Light of the World arrives in the humblest of circumstances, and angels proclaim glory to the humblest of servants. Light breaks into the darkest of times, and yokes of oppression are shattered to free the enslaved. A CHILD becomes the SAVIOR proclaimed by centuries of prophets bringing Good News for all people, and for creation itself. Even the trees will break forth in song, for everything turns around on this night called Christmas Eve.



STONEGATE CHURCH

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN

Worship Service at 6:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve, DECEMBER 24, 2021



Experience the Love of CHRIST in Community!

☞ WORSHIP LEADERS ☞

Rev. Dr. Mark Marian Sontowski, *Pastor*
Phyllis Turner, *Pianist*
David Piatt & Pam Brown, *Worship Leaders*
David Cost, *Special Music*
Ricky Tipps, *Welcome & Announcements*

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