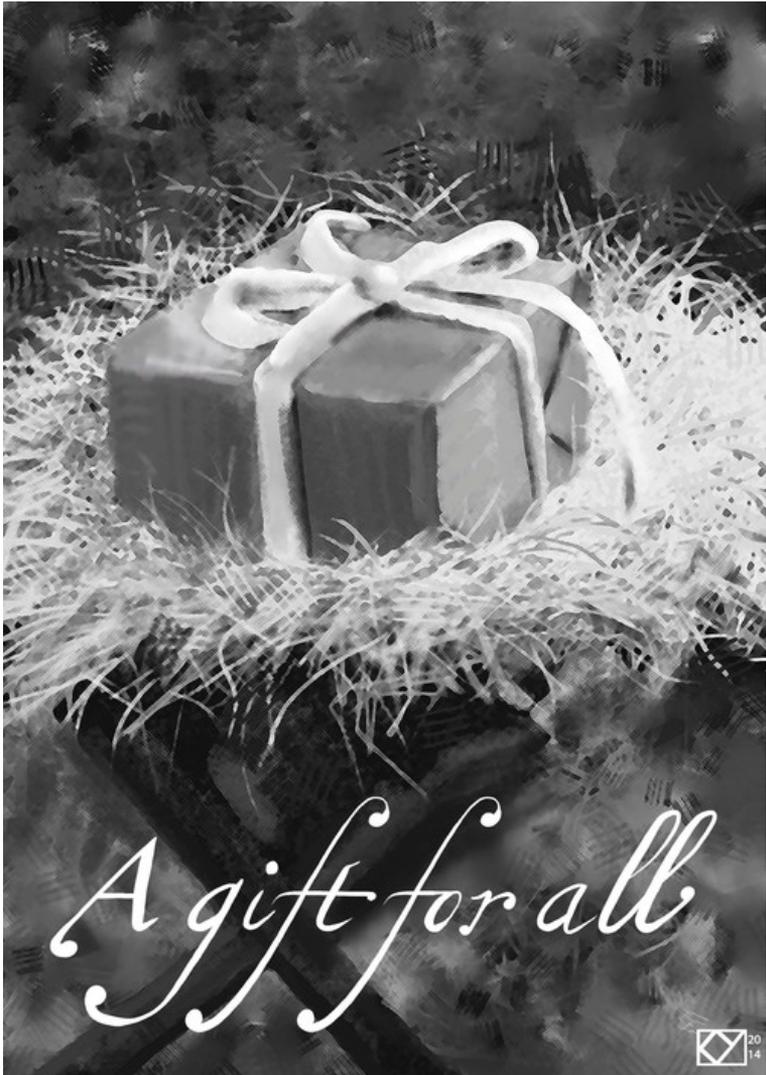


**St. John's:
Making and Maturing
Disciples of Jesus Christ**



**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH
211 EAST CARROL STREET
KENTON, OH 43326**

St. John's Evangelical Church

211 East Carrol Street

Kenton, OH 43326

Office: 419-673-7278

Pastor Randall (cell): 724-290-3651

Office Hours: Monday – Friday (9 AM – 1 PM)

Website: www.stjohnskenton.org

Email: stjohnskenton@gmail.com

“Making and Maturing Disciples of Jesus Christ”

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2019

Nursery is provided off the sanctuary for children 0-4 years of age.

Contemporary Worship Service

7:00 PM

Welcome

Praise

Lift Up Your Eyes

Advent Wreath *Lighting the Christ Candle* Rodney Wilcox Family

L: Hear the words of the Prophet Isaiah (**Isaiah 9:2-7**): “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined... For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon His shoulders; and He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.” We stand on the brink of God’s time and light again the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

We light the Christ Candle to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus, the light coming into the world. (*All candles are lit.*)

C: Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

Praise and Worship

What a Beautiful Name/Agnus Dei

Scripture Titus 3:4-7

Prayers

Children's Message Reflecting the Light **John 1:6-9**

Offering *Glory to God in the Highest*

Scripture Hebrews 1:1-12

John 1:1-14

Sermon **Stand in the Light**

Service of Candle Light

Prayer of Thanksgiving Let us pray...

Father of life and goodness, the Christ Child, whose birth we celebrate, is the Saviour of the world. He made us Your people. Through the gifts we have received, may we live faithfully, following Him always. One day, may He welcome us into Your kingdom where He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, now and always. Amen.

Reading

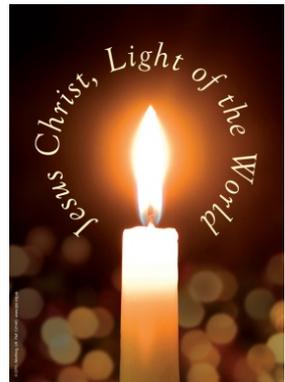
Tonight we come to the manger's side, offering our gifts; our time; our service, even our very lives. But the promise of Christmas has never been the gifts we bring, even the gifts we give to God. The promise of Christmas is God's gift to us— The gift of Hope and Joy, Peace and Love, Justice and Mercy. When the child grew up and became all that the Father intended Him to be, He said:

I Am The Light of the World,
Whoever Follows Me Will Not Walk In Darkness,
But Will Have the light of Life. [John 8.12]

Receive now the light...

Candle Lighting

(Please keep the **lighted** candle upright and tip the **unlighted** candle to it in order to receive the flame.)



Praise

Silent Night

(Please extinguish your candles and place them in the receptacles in the rear of the sanctuary at the conclusion of the service. Thank you.)

Benediction and Closing Prayer

Postlude

Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)



Welcome to St. John's Church!

*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:
and the government shall be upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be called*

*Wonderful, Counsellor,
the mighty God,
the everlasting Father,
the Prince of Peace.*

Isaiah 9:6

Traditional Worship Service

10:00 PM

“TOLLING OF THE BELLS”

(Let us begin to still our hearts and minds for worship with the tolling of the bells.)

Words of Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude *Merrily on High* G. Young

***Hymn #105** *What Child Is This*

***Call to Worship**

L: Leader C: Congregation

Advent Wreath *Lighting the Christ Candle* Weaver Family

L: Hear the words of the Prophet Isaiah (**Isaiah 9:2-7**): “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined... For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon His shoulders; and He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.” We stand on the brink of God’s time and light again the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

We light the Christ Candle to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus, the light coming into the world. *(All candles are lit.)*

C: Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

L: The Christ’s candle’s light that shines for us here tells out the good news that God has come near! God came, a poor baby, in one time and place, to show all creation the wealth of God’s grace.

C:

Hymn # 103 (verse 2) *O Come All Ye Faithful*

God of God and Light of Light begotten, Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb; Very God, begotten not created; O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Hymn #110 (verse 4) Angels from the Realms of Glory

**Saints, before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending, In His temple shall appear.
Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ, the
newborn King.**

Scripture Titus 3:4-7

Let Us Pray Unto the Lord:

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (*debts/debtors*)

Children's Message Reflecting the Light John 1:6-9

Giving of Tithes and Offerings:

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory *Away in the Manger*

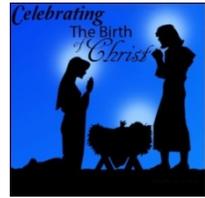
Organ/piano duet

*The Doxology (# 572)

Chancel Choir Cantata

The Glory of Christmas

By Lloyd Larson



Soloist(s) – Child of Promise, Child of Love – Carol Wilcox
Jesus is Born Tonight – Sydney Dyer

**Scripture Hebrews 1:1-12 Liturgist: Jerry Pfister
John 1:1-14**

Sermon Stand in the Light

Service of Candle Light

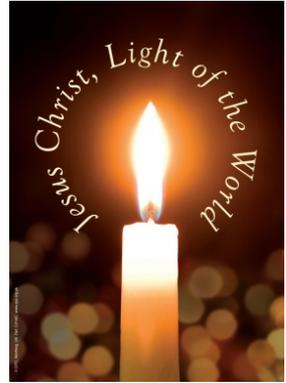
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Reading

Tonight we come to the manger's side, offering our gifts; our time; our service, even our very lives. But the promise of Christmas has never been the gifts we bring, even the gifts we give to God. The promise of Christmas is God's gift to us— The gift of Hope and Joy, Peace and Love, Justice and Mercy. When the child grew up and became all that the Father intended Him to be, He said:

I Am The Light of the World,
Whoever Follows Me Will Not Walk In Darkness,
But Will Have the light of Life. [John 8.12]
Receive now the light...



Candle Lighting

(Please keep the **lighted** candle upright and tip the **unlighted** candle to it in order to receive the flame.)

Hymn # 117

Silent Night

(Please extinguish your candles and place them in the receptacles in the rear of the sanctuary at the conclusion of the service. Thank you.)

Benediction and Closing Prayer

Hymn # 120

Joy to the World!

Postlude

Joy to the Lord

G. F. Handel

*—Those who are able, please stand.

Altar Flowers: The flowers on the altar are given in memory of Max V. and Florence C. Lease and Frederick W. and Ruth Ann (Lease) Kaufmann.

Scripture Readings:

Hebrews 1:1-12 (ESV):

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are My Son,
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be to him a Father,
and he shall be to Me a son”?

⁶And again, when He brings the firstborn into the world, He says,

“Let all God's angels worship Him.”

⁷Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds,
and His ministers a flame of fire.”

⁸But of the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;

therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

¹⁰And,

“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,
and the heavens are the work of Your hands;

¹¹they will perish, but You remain;
they will all wear out like a garment,

¹²like a robe You will roll them up,
like a garment they will be changed.

But You are the same,

and Your years will have no end.”

John 1:1-14 (ESV):

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. ¹¹He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. ¹²But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Far too often, when a cantata is performed, too much of the “credit” goes to the director. Please let me set the record straight; it is the tireless efforts of the voices and the musicians in this offering we bring entitled “The Glory of Christmas!”

which lift the spirit and tune the heart for welcoming the New Born King! Coupled with the practice and precision of our narrators, Michelle and Gus, our instrumentalists, Teresa, Randy and Dennis, we are humbled to present tonight’s musical meditation. So, If you feel the need to give glory, give glory to God for the gifts he has given...especially the gift of a baby...the Savior of the World!

Dave





In loving memory of our Grandparents
by LeVern and Nancy Weaver.

In honor of our Children and
Grandchildren by LeVern and Nancy Weaver.

In loving memory of N. Franklin Strous by the Tracy Strous Family.

In loving memory of Nancy B. Moody by the Tracy Strous Family.

In loving memory of Loved Ones by Gary and Janet Billenstein.

In loving memory of Bob and Vivienne Hommel by Dick and Carol
Wilcox.

In loving memory of Thomas (Bud) and Anita Wilcox by Dick and Carol
Wilcox.

In loving memory of my Mother, Gladys Clay, by Nancy clay.

In loving memory of my Grandparents, George and Louise Rader, by
Nancy Clay.

In honor Family and Friends by Donovan and Kristi Weaver.

In loving memory of our parents by Gordon and Jane Donnelly.

In loving memory of our parents by Dan and Jo Ann Erwin.

In honor of our Children and Grandchildren by Dan and Jo Ann Erwin.

In loving memory of Jack Katterjohn by Richard Katterjohn.

In honor of our Grandparents: Ross and Diann Weaver, Ron and Ruth
Oates, David Dyer, Sue Dyer, and LeVern and Nancy Weaver by Sydney
and Levi Dyer.

In loving memory of our loved ones who have gone before us by Shawn,
Tasha, Sydney and Levi Dyer.

In loving memory of Charles and Mary Jane Smith by Sheryl Anstine.

In loving memory of Pamela Woll Neuhauser by Jeff and Diane
Neuhauseer.

In loving memory of my parents, Ralph and Medrith, and brother Steven by
Becky Craig.

In loving memory of my parents, Richard and Gladys Clay, by Barbara
Roof.

In loving memory of Charles and Mary Baker by Steve and Carmen Baker.

In loving memory of Loved Ones by Willis and Marion Anderson.

In honor of Kelsey, Owen, Kamryn, Ruby, Kolbie, Zane, and Autumn by Sharon Styer.

In loving memory of Harold, Eileen, Ken, Don Faler by Jim and Marilyn Bidwell.

In loving memory of Merla Mae Ries by Kea Shaffer.

In loving memory of Kenny and Sadie Hess by Kea Shaffer.

In loving memory of DeVern Weaver by Ross and Diann Weaver.

In loving memory of John & Aubrey Gliebe and Gladys & Floyd Jones by Lonnie and Jennifer Stayman.

In loving memory of Loved Ones by Mike and Teresa Styer and Family.

In loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. John Leoffert and Gladys Unger by Marilyn Hempy Gordon.

In loving memory of Harold and Faye Rickenbacher by Paul and Nancy Rickenbacher.

As a gift by Janet Jones.

In loving memory of Andy Tice by Grandma Ginny.

In loving memory of George and Irene Bidwell by Their Children.

In loving memory of Charles & Dolly Leoffert, George & Loretta Leoffert and Pete & Florence Kirchner by Don & Sherry Smith & Family and Jerry & Sandy Dick & Family.

In loving memory of Husband Bruce C. Baker by Jane Baker.

In loving memory of Parents Mr. E. Robert and Edna Mae Philips and sister Margaret Jean Philips by Jane Baker.

In loving memory of Grandparents: Elgin and Ida Mae Wilcox and E. B. and Grace Philips, and Aunts and Uncles by Jane Baker.

In loving memory of friends and co-workers: Dick Styer, Dean Martino, Connie Harvey, Brett Molk and Pat Higgins by Jane Baker

In memory of Thomas and Anita Wilcox by Nancy Wilcox and Dave Burkhart.

In memory of Frieda and Rolland Burkhart by Dave Burkhart and Nancy Wilcox.

In memory of loved ones by Dave Burkhart and Nancy Wilcox.

In loving memory of Donald E. & Mary E. Harkenrider, Paul W. & Rose M. Somerf, and Robert D. Grace and In honor of Joseph G. & Cherly A. Harkenrider by Shane Harkenrider.

A Prayer of Repentance and Salvation

Dear Heavenly Father, I thank You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, and for His death on the Cross for my sins and for the sins of the whole world.

I repent of my sins and turn to You for salvation. I surrender my life to You; come live in me.

Change me, cleanse me, forgive me, and make me the person that You want me to be in this world.

I receive You, Jesus Christ, as my personal Lord and Savior, today and forever more.

In Your holy name I pray. Amen.

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Senior Minister: Rev. Dr. Randall J. Forester

Contemporary Worship Leader: Kendra Dilts

Chancel Choir Director: David Beazley

Children's Choir Director: Hope Cauley

Bell Choir Director: Jane Baker

Organists: Randall S. Rogers, Teresa Broseke, Linda Zeigler

Ushers: Rodney & Trish Wilcox & family (7:00)

Weaver Family (10:00)

