

**First Cumberland Presbyterian Church**  
**CHRISTMAS-EVE CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION**  
*December 24, 2011, 5:00 P.M.*

+Please Stand

**Prelude and Chimes**

**“Angels From the Realm of Glory”**

Arr. Smart

**Welcome**

**+Call to Worship**

Pastor: “In the beginning the Word already existed. He was with God, and He was God. He was in the beginning with God. He created everything there is. Nothing exists that He didn’t make. Life itself was in Him, and this life gives light to everyone. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it!

People: **But although the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him when He came. Even in His own land and among His own people, He was not accepted. But to all who believed Him and accepted Him, He gave the right to become children of God!**

ALL: **For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but His only Son has made Him known!”**

**+Invocation**

**+Opening Hymn**

**“O Come, All Ye Faithfull”**

No. 249

**+Lighting of the Advent Candles**

Josh Rech

Prophecy (Hope); Bethlehem (Love);  
Shepherds (Joy); Angels (Peace)

**+Carol**

**“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”**

No. 251

**The Birth of the Savior**

**Luke 2:1-21**

(The Living Bible)

**+Hymn of Praise**

**“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”**

No. 277

**+Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**+Carol**

**“What Child Is This?”**

No. 281

**Preparation and Invitation to the Lord’s Table**

Pastor: Jesus said: “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled!”

People: **On the night in which He became the Passover Lamb, Jesus took the bread, blessed it and broke it.**

Pastor: And He said: “Take it and eat it, for this is My body. And He took the wine after supper, blessed it, and passed it to His disciples and said:

People: **“This is my blood which seals the covenant between God and His people. It is poured out to forgive the sins of many.”**

Pastor: Jesus said: “I am the bread of life; those who come to Me will never go hungry and those who believe in Me will never thirst!”

People: **“Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup we do remember the Lord’s death until He comes again!”**

**The Silent Prayers of Confession**

**+Carol**

**“Once in Royal David’s City”**

No. 286

**Instructions for the Lord’s Table**

**The Prayer of Consecration**

**Coming Forward to Receive the Bread and the Cup**

(First, the elders will serve those who prefer not to come forward; then, everyone is invited to come down the center aisle in two single-file lines. After receiving the bread and the cup, please place your empty cup in the basket provided. Following Communion, you may return to your seat down the side aisle and meditate on what the Lord has done for you!)

**Sharing the Good News with the World**

Pastor: Jesus said: “I am the light of the world. Those who follow Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life!”

People: Jesus also said: “You are the light of the world—like a city on a mountain, glowing in the night for all to see. Don’t hide your light under a basket! Put it on a stand and let it shine for all...”

Pastor: ...In the same way, let your life shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your Heavenly Father.”

**Lighting Our Candles from the Christ Candle**

|         |                              |         |
|---------|------------------------------|---------|
| +Carols | “Silent Night”               | No. 253 |
|         | “Joy to the World”           | No. 270 |
|         | “Go Tell It on the Mountain” | No. 258 |

**+Benediction and Blessing**

**+Extinguishing of the Candles**

(Please take your candles with you and return them to the containers in the narthex. Thank you, and Merry Christmas!)

**+Postlude**

**+Please Stand**

**Thank You!**

Our sincere thanks to those who shared their musical talents to the glory of God, to the elders who served Holy Communion and to all those who led us in worship this evening.

**Christmas Post Office**

Please check the tables in the narthex and take your unclaimed Christmas cards home this evening! The peace of Jesus Christ be with you!

# **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service**



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