

FAIRFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Christmas Eve Family Service, 5:30 p.m.

December 24, 2009

Prelude *Manger Medley* Jane Welborn, organist

Welcome Rev. Dixie W. Brachlow

Advent Wreath Lighting The Dobson Family

Call to Worship

Leader: The people who walked in darkness...

People: Sometimes we walk in darkness.

Leader: have seen a great light.

People: We live in darkness and in light.

Leader: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them
has light shines.

**People: Whenever we find ourselves in the night, God's
morning dawns anew.**

Leader: For a child has been born for us.

**People: God's child has come to be with us, and he will rule
with peace and justice forever and ever.**

**All: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace,
goodwill to all.**

*Carol #188 *Angels We Have Heard on High* (verses 1,2)

Opening Prayer

Anthem *Baby Jesus, We Love You* Joy Choir

Talk with Children Robbie Dobson

Special Music *The Friendly Beasts*
Donna Horn, George Herring, Dixie Brachlow

*Carol #203 *Away in a Manger*

Scripture Retelling Luke 2:1-20 Sarah Dobson, Richard Dunn

A Christmas Story "Believe!" Stephen Brachlow, narrator

Cast: Sarah Gaston, Brittany Bessette, Micah Clark, Grace Herring,
Sam Patterson, Zachary Hale, Andrew Dunn, Kelsey Young, Taylor Hale,
Lisa O'Kennon, Sydney Beasley, Griffin Herring, Kevin O'Kennon,
Josh Patterson, Austin Brown

Carol #180 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (verses 1,2,4)

Offering *The First Noel* arr. Innes

Prayer for Christmas Eve

L: God of life, tonight the world is reborn with the birth of Jesus, the Christ.
You enter the world to save us and give us new life and hope.

**All: Thank you for the gift of Jesus, who came to show us your
way.**

L: Loving God, you are the guardian of the poor. Many children are living
tonight in places no better than that stable in Bethlehem. God of
comfort, we thank you that we have a warm place to gather, and friends
and family to care for us. We pray that we might provide shelter, food
and loving care for others.

All: We pray for the homeless, the poor, and the hungry.

L: God among us, in the birth of Jesus you show us your love for the world.
We pray that all people would come to know your forgiveness and grace.

**All: Fill us with joy as we live and believe in Christ. Let us love
and serve others through Jesus the Savior, now and always.**

The Lord's Prayer

*Carol # 186

Silent Night! Holy Night!

*Benediction Christ is born! **Alleluia!** (3 times)

*Congregational Response *Joy to the World*

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.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

MAY GOD GIVE YOU HOPE, PEACE, JOY, AND LOVE

All offerings received tonight will go toward the Christmas Joy offering, unless otherwise designated. Tonight we are receiving the Christmas Joy Offering. The Christmas Joy offering of our denomination is taken to support “the unmet needs of families who have given their lives to the mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), some of them after their retirement, others while they continue to serve.” Monies collected also assist students at racial ethnic schools and colleges. “As we celebrate the love of Jesus that the angel heralds-overflowing into, through, and beyond our lives - may our gifts bear joyful witness to that uncontainable love.”

There is no nursery provided tonight, but parents are welcome to take restless children to the nursery at any time during the service.

Thanks to Gene & Peggie Rosen and Billy Putze for the luminary decorations for our Christmas Eve services.