

Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church

Ed Satterfield
Musician/Vocalist

Susan Grove
Pianist

Rev. Monica Gould
Pastor

Christmas Eve 7pm December 24, 2021

Order of Worship

*Asterix is to stand in body or spirit. Bold print is congregational response.

Prelude *Special songs for the evening* Susan Grove

Welcome

Call to Worship

Glory to God in the highest,

And peace o God's people on earth.

There is good news of joy for all!

Our Savior is born: The Messiah the Lord.

Opening Prayer

Glory to you, Almighty God, for you sent your only begotten Son, that we might have new life. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for you became flesh and lived among us that we might become your people. Glory to you Holy Spirit, for you direct our lives. Now Father, Son, and Holy Spirit we worship, bow down, and adore you. Amen.

*Hymn *O Come All Ye Faithful* #41

Litany for Christmas

Congregational response: **Glory to God in the Highest.**

Call to Confession

Like a great light in a land of darkness, the mercy of the Lord shines on us. God is here. Trusting in God's grace, Let us confess our sufferings, our losses, our pain, our sins. Join me, as we pray together, saying,

Prayer of Confession

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in the darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted the good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Hear the promise of the Lord: See your salvation has come! You are a holy people, redeemed by God; sought out and not forsaken. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen!

First Reading Christ's birth foretold Isaiah 9:2-7

Second Reading The peace of Christ foretold Isaiah 11:1-3,6-9

*Hymn *Angels We Have Heard on High* #23

Story of the Sand Dollar

Third Reading The birth of Jesus Luke 2:1, 3-7

Fourth reading The Shepherds go in haste Luke 2:8-16

Meditation

*Hymn *O Little Town of Bethlehem* #44

Prayers of Intercession

Offering

Fifth Reading Lesson of Light: John 1:1-14

*Hymn *O Come O Come Immanuel* #9

The Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving Prayer

The Lord be with you **And also with you**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord our God**

Let us give thanks to the lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

Communion

Communion is open to all who would like to receive the Lord's Supper. You are invited to come forward and take a piece of bread and then take the cup of grape juice. You may dip the bread in your individual cup and partake and then return to your seat. If you are unable to come forward we will bring the elements to you after all have been served.

Prayer after communion

Lighting of Candles reflecting on the Light of Life-Jesus Christ!

The ushers will light their candles from the Christ Candle, and then will light the candles of those on the end of each aisle. Worshipers will then pass the light to their neighbors, with the unlit candle tipped to receive the flame.

*Hymn *Silent Night* #60

*Charge & Benediction

How the Light Comes: A Blessing for Christmas Day

I cannot tell you
how the light comes.

What I know
is that it is more ancient
than imagining.

That it travels
across an astounding expanse
to reach us.

That it loves
searching out
what is hidden
what is lost
what is forgotten
or in peril
or in pain.

That it has a fondness
for the body
for finding its way
toward flesh
for tracing the edges
of form
for shining forth
through the eye,
the hand,
the heart.

I cannot tell you
how the light comes,
but that it does.

That it will.

That it works its way
into the deepest dark
that enfolds you,
though it may seem
long ages in coming
or arrive in a shape
you did not foresee.

And so
may we this day
turn ourselves toward it.
May we lift our faces
to let it find us.
May we bend our bodies
to follow the arc it makes.
May we open
and open more
and open still
to the blessed light
that comes.

Poem by Jan Richardson

Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church Onancock, VA

Our Mission Statement

“Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don’t take yourself too seriously—take God seriously.” Micah 6:8
Compassionate, Fair and Loyal
nmpreschurch.org



Christmas Eve

Reverend Monica Gould c-757-709-2846 mongould@gmail.com

Naomi Makemie 89 Market St Onancock

Mailing Address- P.O. Box 397 Onancock, VA 23417

Staff and Elders Music Director-Katie Klawitter Videographer-Mike Gould, Clerk-Jennifer Stapleton Treasurer-George Heinrichs Elders: Class 2023 Megan Ames, Rick Turner, Marsh Ryon; 2022 Tracey Arvidson; 2021 Ron May, Linda Arvidson, Anne Barnes, www.NMPresChurch.org church naomimpchurch@gmail.com

Announcements: Many thanks to Ed and Susan for providing tonight’s music. Monica will be taking quiet time from 12/27-1/8 for worship & program planning & a few days with family. She will be with you in worship 1/2/22.