



at Calvary Presbyterian Church
December 24, 2023 ~ 4th Sunday of Advent

The poinsettias are dedicated to the Glory of God, and to loved ones.

Sunday, December 24 - 7pm

Christmas Eve Celebration

Musical Preludes start at 6:30pm



- Go Tell It on the Mountain* Colin Gilmore & Steve Gilbert
- In This Very Room* Linda Fioretti, Janny McGrath,
Kathy Mesmer, Jane Price
- While by the Sheep We Watched* Bob Cornatzer –Trumpet
- Sweet Little Jesus Boy* Alyx Reinhardt
- Joseph's Song* Dave McGrath
- This Holy Christmas Night* Lori Gilmore & Valaree Gilbert

Sunday, December 31

10am Worship Leader - Rev. Dr. Patty Epprecht

Refreshments will be provided by Sally Dinn and Janny McGrath.

John Cecchini and Tica Simpson will greet us at the door and pass the offering plate.

We thank them for helping to provide a joyful start to our Sundays.
We thank all volunteers for their service to Calvary throughout the year.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

You can shop as usual on Thursdays until the end of the year and into 2024.

The Shop will be closed for donations on Tuesday, December 26.

Starting in January, the Thrift Shop will be open on the first and second Saturdays of each month until summer break.



Numbered boxes of giving envelopes may be found on the table in the library. If you see a box for someone who you can deliver to, please feel free to take it to them.

Speaking of giving, here is another reminder that any monetary contributions received by the church office after December 24, 2023 will not be deposited until January 2024, and therefore will not appear on 2023 annual statements.

Please bear this in mind, especially if you are using the postal service.



The Mission team hopes that you will support us in the donation of a pair of goats to a needy family through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. Goats help supply milk, cheese, yogurt (and meat, but not our goats - other goats) to a family in need. You will find a jar in the narthex for donations, or place a clearly marked

envelope in the collection plate. A check with "goats" on the memo line is also great! We will end this collection on December 31.



Monday, January 1, 2024

Church Office closed

Sunday, January 7

10am Worship Leader: Dorothy Talavera

Refreshments: Deidre Golden Greeting & Offering: Georgie Ackers, Dorie Cecchini

*all hands needed to remove and store
the Christmas decorations back in the attic*



The Monday ladies' study group will meet Monday January 8th at 1:00 at the home of Jana Horton Cox. Then we will try a Wednesday evening (7:00) in the pastor's office starting January 24th for a couple of weeks. For clarification or more information, please contact Jana, Sheila McMenamin, or Lyn Wargny.

We will have a **Soup Sale** starting January 7. Anyone who would like to make a pot of soup may sign up in the narthex.

The sale will end Feb. 11, Super Bowl Sunday.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

300 Fourth Street • Riverton, NJ 08077

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The Welcoming Church

December 24, 2023

4th Sunday of Advent

10:00am

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

The only brotherhood that can be recognized, is amongst the children of God.- John Calvin

HANDBELL PRELUDES	<i>Bring a Torch Jeannette, Isabella</i>	French carol, arr. Thompson
	<i>Go Tell It on the Mountain</i>	Folk hymn, arr. Thompson
	<i>Trepak from The Nutcracker</i>	Tchaikovsky, arr. Callahan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Malia and Anela Asbury

HANDBELL INTROIT

Adeste Fideles

J. Wade, arr. D. Wagner

CALL TO WORSHIP

Luke 1: 46-55

Rev. William Gaskill

*GATHERING HYMN

#142 Long Ago, Prophets Knew

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of birth, God of joy, God of life, we come to you as a people hungry for good news. We have been so dead to miracles that we have missed the world's rebirth. We have preoccupied ourselves with pleasures and have overlooked the joy you offer us. We have been so concerned with making a living that we have missed the life you set among us. Forgive us, gracious God. Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your gift; open our lips and hands to share it with all humanity in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. (Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear these comforting words: If you repent and believe in God's redeeming mercy, your sins are forgiven. Trust in God's promises and begin anew your life with God and all people in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*CONFESSION RESPONSE

#106 Jesus, Name Above All Names

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

HANDBELL OFFERTORY

Worship Christ the Newborn King

Mendelssohn, arr. M. Akers

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

#496 Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL PRESENTATION *Away in a Manger*
Reese Chiolan

J. Murray

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

HANDBELL ANTHEM *Carol of the Bells* Ukrainian Carol, arr. Wagner

SCRIPTURE READINGS 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 ~ Luke 1:26-38

This is the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Thanks be to God

SERMON "Open Ears/ Open Heart/ New Life" Rev. William Gaskill

CLOSING HYMN #745 *Jesus Shall Reign*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*HANDBELL RESPONSE *We Wish You a Merry Christmas* English carol, arr. Thompson

*THE PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

(As you leave the sanctuary, share greetings of Christ's peace with one another.)

*POSTLUDE *Masters in This Hall* French carol, arr. R. Hughes

...Today, we offer our thanks to:

Rev. William Gaskill for leading us in worship this morning. As always, we thank our A/V volunteers Michael Gilbert and Jerry Blackman for sharing their time and talents. This morning we also thank Pat Bruncker for refreshments and Bobbie Beck and Nancy Sapper for greeting and collecting the offering.

Join us for refreshments after the service in Assembly Room.

...Our prayers for:

our President and all our elected officials, all world leaders, our men and women in uniform, peace in the world, victims of natural disasters, those endangered by war and violence; Calvary's mission and ministries; all our friends and members at Calvary, and in particular: Lynn Amatrudi; Dovieanna & Anthony Falconiero; Ed Gilmore; Ed Hartmann; Nancy Hall; Stacy Cardwell, friend of Nedra Cawley; Pam Jones Nelson, cousin of Allison Farnen; Christie, wife of Rob Hoag; Trevor, nephew of Dave & Janny McGrath; Jesse James, nephew of Terry Pahl; Jeff Peterson, friend of Alyx & Maria; Guido Rodrigues, husband of Lauren Pahl Rodrigues; Bill Robbins, brother of Dorothy Talavera; Delanco friend Aurelio Conigliaro; Steve Harker, husband of Cindy.

