



Let's Worship Christ, the Lord!

A Hybrid Worship Experience In-Person and Online
Tonight's worship team— Music Director: Jayne McDonough
Worship Leader - Beverly Mate; Message: Rev. David Wenker, Pastor;
Worship Production: Norris Clark

• **December 24, 2025 • 6:00 p.m.**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship



The Rev. David Wenker, Pastor

Cold Spring Presbyterian Church
780 Seashore Rd. Cold Spring, NJ 08204
www.coldspringchurch.com

Hello. we're glad you're here! We believe that everyone deserves to experience God's love in relevant and authentic ways. Our thriving faith community puts God's love into action to help make greater Cape May a better place. Join with us as we joyfully love and serve God and our neighbors through the power of the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus Christ

Message Preview: Rev. David Wenker's message is titled "When God Put Skin on His Promise"

Of all the wonders of the Christmas story, virgin birth, wise men, shepherds and angels, the greatest wonder is God becoming flesh, becoming human, becoming one of us. As John bluntly puts it, "The word became flesh and dwelt among us". More than just an oddity it is God literally putting flesh on his promise of a redeemer, the promise of God being with us. The incarnation, as it is called, becomes real to our world today as we live out Jesus presence in us and we become God made visible through our love for others.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

PRELUDE:

JAYNE McDONOUGH, ORGANIST

WELCOME:

REV. DAVID WENKER, PASTOR

CALL TO WORSHIP -

BEVERLY MATE

Liturgist: Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and goodwill to all mankind".

Congregation: The shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about".

CAROL SINGING: #40 (BLUE) “JOY TO THE WORLD!”

1. 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.

2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns:

Let all their songs employ;

While fields and floods,

Rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,

Nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make His blessings flow

Far as the curse is found,

Far as the curse is found,

Far as, far as the curse is found.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness,

And wonders of His love,

**And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.**

**CAROL: #23 (BLUE) “ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON
HIGH”**

**1. Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains,
Glo-ria In excelsis Deo;
Glo-ria In excelsis Deo.**

**2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Glo-ria In excelsis Deo;
Glo-ria In excelsis Deo.**

**3. Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord the newborn King.
Glo-ria In excelsis Deo;
Glo-ria In excelsis Deo.**

Lighting the Christ Candle: Jesus Advent Candle Lighters:

John Saalman and Jim Harveson
Reading, *Let Us Pray*

RESPONSE:

Congregation : God of hope, Prince of peace, rejoicing Father, Lord of love, your goodness is beyond our wildest imagination. You give more than we can ask or think, coming to us in flesh as a baby. Glory to God in the highest!! Amen



CAROL SINGING: #22 (BLUE) "ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY", VERSE 1, 2

**1. Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye, who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!**

**2. Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!**

CAROL # 44 (BLUE) "AWAY IN A MANGER", VS 1-3

1. Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus
laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky
looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing,
the poor Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes,
I love Thee, Lord Jesus,
look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

CAROL #31 (BLUE) "HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING", VERSES 1, 2

1. Hark the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King.
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;

**With th'angelic hosts proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”**

**2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”**

OUR CHRISTMAS PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory,
forever. Amen.`**

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE - THE CHRISTMAS
OFFERING: (OF OUR CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND CHRISTMAS
JOY OFFERING)**

With joy and gratitude for all we have been
given, let us offer our Christmas tithes and gifts
to God.

OFFERTORY: "STILL, STILL, STILL"

**Cold Spring Choir - Sue Dilks, Wayne Dilks,
Linda Hadrave, Beverly Mate, John Saalman,
Janet Wenker, and Rev. David Wenker**
Prayer of Gratitude

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL READING: JOHN 1: 1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word
was with God, and the Word was God.
The same was in the beginning with God.
All things were made by him; and without him
was not any thing made that was made.
In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
And the light shineth in darkness; and the
darkness comprehended it not. There was a
man sent from God, whose name was John.

The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE: “WHEN GOD PUT SKIN ON HIS PROMISE” - REV. DAVID WENKER, PASTOR

SERVICE OF CANDLE LIGHTING

(After the Pastor lights the ushers' candles, they will begin lighting the individual candles.

Worshippers are reminded to tip unlit candle to light it, and not to tip burning candles.)

Together join in singing: Carol: “Silent Night”

1. Silent night, holy night!

**All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and Child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

2. Silent night, holy night!

**Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing: “Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.”**

3. Silent night, holy night,

**Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

4. Silent night, holy night,

**Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our King;**

Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

BENEDICTION:

PASTOR DAVID WENKER

POSTLUDE:

JAYNE McDONOUGH

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!

God is here, with us, and goes with us into our new year. Make 2026 your year for possibilities. Join us online or in-person every Sunday at 10:30 AM, or anytime at www.coldspringworship.com. Thank you for being with us! Remember, God is here always!

Thank you for sharing your Christmas Joy with friends and family, and your Youtube, Facebook and Instagram friends, too!

Notes for Tonight's Worship:

Cold Spring Presbyterian Church

CCLI License #20561018

Streaming License #20561001

1. Joy to the World: text-Isaac Watts, Music-George Frederick Handel; CCLI # 24016
2. Angels We Have Heard On High; Edward Shippen, James Chadwick; CCLI Song #27721
3. Angels From the Realms of Glory: Henry Thomas Smart, James Montgomery; CCLI Song #31669
4. Away in a Manger: John T. McFarland/Martin Luther; CCLI #38583
5. Hark the Herald Angels Sing; Charles Wesley, Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdi: CCLI #27738
6. Still, Still, Still: Austrian Carol, Trans. George K. Evans; Public Domain
7. Silent Night: text-Joseph Mohr, music-Franz Gruber; CCLI #27862