



**JOURNEY
TO THE CENTER OF
CHRISTMAS**
A Christmas Musical for Children
Written by Dennis & Nan Allen
Arranged by Dennis Allen
Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church
Children's Program
Sunday Morning, Dec. 17

WELCOME TO SPIRIT OF LIFE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

14401 Pilot Knob Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124
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952.423.2212

Thank you for joining us for our special Christmas program!

ORDER OF WORSHIP DECEMBER 17, 2023

We hope you experience the joy of God's love in our diverse, inclusive, and compassionate community. Come as you are; all are welcome!

◇ Worship is at 10:00 am Sunday mornings, and can be live-streamed or watched later on YouTube or Facebook.

◇ Restrooms are in the first hallway to the left on exiting the sanctuary.

Regular attenders, visitors, & members, please complete & return Connect/Prayer cards in offering plate or to the Welcome Table at the back of the sanctuary.

Prelude

Introit: Noel by Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, and Matt Redman (Spirit of Life Choir)

Welcome

Advent Candle (Alvine Laure & family)

***Song** O Come All Ye Faithful

Christmas Program: Journey to the Center of Christmas

Narrator – VeraRae Boucheu

Captain Elayna – Star Trek captain – Laynie Davis

Zor – Robot – Josh Gracek

Maya space girl – Maya Sivan

Charlie space boy – Charlie Currens

Professor J. Ingle Bell – Briyelle Kube

Solo – It's Christmas that's Why- VeraRae Boucheu

Solo – Christmas Over – Briyelle Kube

Choir – Michelle Davis, Samantha Davis, Ken G Bssoume, Lydia Davis, Johnny Currens, Tony Davis, Peter Ekame

Mary – Samantha Davis

Joseph – Ken G Bssoume

Angel – Maya Sivan

Shepherds – Johnny Currens and Tony Davis

Mail carrier – Michelle Davis

Songs – Noel, Noel

Journey to the Center of Christmas

It's Christmas, That's Why – VeraRae Boucheu

Christmas Overload – Briyelle Kube

The Story - First Noel/Away in a Manger/Silent Night (*congregation sing along*)

Finale – Repeat of Journey to the Center and Noel, Noel

Call To Offering

Ushers will circulate offering plates for those who wish to give in this way. Online giving is also available on our website.

Offertory Sing Noel by Jason Cox and Lee Black (Spirit of Life Choir)

Prayers of the People

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.

Announcements

***Closing Song** Tell It Everywhere by Jason Cox and Lee Black (Spirit of Life Choir)

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Please join us for coffee and refreshments after worship.

Announcements

Visitors: Welcome to Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church! Thank you for worshipping with us. Visitors, regular attenders and members, please complete the Connect/Prayer card and indicate if you wish to receive our weekly emails. If you don't have a card, please pick one up from our Information Table at the back of the sanctuary. Please return completed Connect/Prayer card in offering plate or in box labeled accordingly at the back. If you have any questions, please ask at the Information Table or Pastor Rob.

Sunday Events:

- **Children's Sunday School class** is suspended on Dec 24 and Dec 31. Class resumes January 7th.
- Today is our **Children's and Adult Christmas Program, "Journey to the Center of Christmas: A Christmas Musical"** during our morning worship. The musical is adapted by Karen Johnson, directed by Karen Johnson, assisted by Chris Sachs, Rob Smith, Martha Davis, Rose Mc Murray.
- SPECIAL NOTICE: We will have a brief **congregational meeting** immediately following worship today, December 17th, for the sole purpose of electing an elder to fill the open position. The nominating committee presents Patience Mbonifor to consider to serve as ruling elder.
- Everyone is invited to stay after worship today, December 17, for a very special **Ukulele Concert** featuring Dan Yuko Kurtti and friends. We will have 8 - 10 ukulele's leading us in Christmas songs!

Weekday Events:

- **(Monday) Coffee & Conversation meets Mondays, 9:30-10:30 am.** Plan to join us the Monday and come as you are. This is a gathering online and in person. It is open for you to pop in and out any time so feel free to drop in and say hello. *Note, same time and same login, recurring meeting each week. Join Zoom Meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/286584190>.
- **Meet in the Middle meets Wednesdays, 4:30-6pm.** It's another exciting year of Meet in the Middle at *Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church*! We do many of the same things we did at summer kids camp. From 4:30-6pm, kids will be playing games, making arts and crafts, eating snacks, singing, Bible lessons and more! Parents join the kids for 6pm dinner. (A free will offering will be taken for dinner).

Join us for Worship next Sunday, **Christmas Eve Day, at 10 a.m.** It will be a casual time so wear your pj's. We will be singing lots of Christmas Carols and having a little fun. Our **Candlelight Christmas Eve** worship is at 5:00 p.m.

We are extending the date and are happy to accept donations through Christmas for the **Giving Tree project** (providing Spirit of Life Families needing assistance during the holidays). We are collecting gift cards in \$25 increments (\$25, \$50 or \$75) for grocery stores (Cub, Aldi), gas stations (Holiday, Speedway, Quik Trip) or Walmart/Target. A box is provided in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for your generosity!

We will offer the **GriefShare** series on Thursday evenings starting on February 1, 2024 both in person at the church and online. The starting time will be 6:30 pm and adjourns at 8:30. Bob and Rebecca Shepard will lead as co-facilitators. If you have lost a loved one you can feel alone and experience sadness and depression. This 13-week grief recovery program will allow you to meet others with similar experiences and meet others who understand what you are going through. You will learn practical tips for navigating your grief. To register contact Bob Shepard or go to GriefShare.org (GriefShare.com will take you to a different program).

Little Free Food Pantry: It's cold outside!! Our little free pantry continues to serve many in our neighborhood. However, with our freezing weather we must now discontinue glass jars and canned food. Good options for winter include anything in a box (potatoes, pasta, powdered milk, etc) or bag (cereal, tuna or chicken in foil packets, rice, ramen, etc.) or plastic jar (peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce). Many thanks for your help in feeding hungry neighbors through our pantry.

Please note date change: Valentine Cabaret will be held February 3, 2024, so please save the date. If you want to share a musical talent, donate a silent auction prize or donate a dessert please contact Sayra Maberry or Eric Scott!

Prayer Ministry at Spirit of Life Please use the connect card and turn in at the offering time if you have a prayer request to share today. During the week, please email our deacon, Chris Sachs at ccsachs123@gmail.com to share a prayer request with our Spirit Care Prayer Team.

NOTE: Pastor Rob Smith will be taking family time December 25th—January 2nd. If you have a crisis emergency, contact Ryan Currens at 952-564-7042.