

AN EVER-WIDENING CIRCLE OF GRACE



# Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church

8505 Church Street | Crystal Lake, IL 60012 | 815-459-1132  
[www.rclpc.org](http://www.rclpc.org)



**John Dillon, Pastor**  
**Christmas Eve Services**  
**December 24, 2018 | 7:30 and 9:30**

*As a courtesy, please silence cell phones before worship.  
A “+” indicates all who are able may stand*

## WE GATHER

INTROIT

*Night has Fallen*

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 9:2,6-7

+HYMN 133: O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL (*verses 1 and 3*)

+LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: In the beginning was the Word –  
spoken and breathed, a promise made and kept.

**All: Glorify the Lord with me –  
God's promise is true!**

One: The Word was in the beginning,  
and through him all things come into being.

**All: Eternal and near at hand,  
already and not yet,  
God's promise is the foundation of all life.**

One: Glory to God!  
The Word is made flesh,  
giving voice to God's promise yet again.

*~ candle is lit ~*

+HYMN 134: JOY TO THE WORLD

+PASSING THE PEACE

One: God comes to us this night as a babe born in a stable.  
Bringing gifts of truth, love and peace.

**All: Let us accept those gifts and share them with all.**

+SUNG RESPONSE: LOVE HAS COME (*verse 3*)

GTG 110

**All: Love has come and never will leave us!  
Love is life everlasting and free.  
Love is Jesus within and among us.  
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.  
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.  
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!**

## WE GROW

1ST SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-7

HYMN 145: WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

2ND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:8-14

SPECIAL MUSIC

*A Child Is Born*

words: Alec Wilder

music: Thad Jones

+HYMN 113: ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

3RD SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:15-20

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Christmas Lullaby*

John Rutter

MESSAGE *The Holy Truth and Nothing But the Truth*

HYMN 121: O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM (*verses 1 and 3*)

OFFERING

*A Christmas Carol*

Charles Ives

*The regular offering goes to support the mission of Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church. The Christmas Joy Offering (special envelopes) goes to support retired ministers, mission workers, and Presbyterian minority educational institutions.*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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.**

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*We are celebrating communion by intinction this evening. Everyone is invited to come forward down the center aisle, receive a piece of bread (or ask for gluten-free bread), dip it in the cup, and eat. You may return to your seat down the side aisles. The bread and the cup will be brought to those who cannot or do not wish to come forward. We have an open table. Everyone is welcome.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: For us Jesus is born this night,  
innocent and vulnerable, full of grace and truth.

**All: Feeding our bodies and spirits  
with a renewal of hope and love.**

## + SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT (*see insert*)

*The minister will hold the Christ Candle and then light the ushers' candles. The ushers will move down the aisles lighting the candles of the people at the end of each pew. Each worshipper will then turn and light the candle of the person seated next to them.*

## +SENDING: JOHN 1:1-4

***First Sunday of Christmas***  
Sunday, December 30th at 10:00am

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*We gather in grace, we grow in grace, we go in grace...  
The journey continues in an ever-widening circle of grace.*

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NURSERY CARE is provided during all worship services. Infants and pre-kindergarten children are welcomed there by our trained staff.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE! Details of all church events, meetings etc. are available online at [www.rclpc.org](http://www.rclpc.org). Printed copies are available from the ushers.