



*Family
Christmas Eve
Service*

December 24, 2022 5pm

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Christmas Eve Family Worship Service

We Gather to Worship

PRELUDE

“Oh, Come Little Children”

arr. Anne A. Davis

Linda Dover, organist

This arrangement comes from a German carol, “Ihr Kinderlein, Kommet,”

with words written by Johann A.P Schutz (1794)

Oh, come, little children, oh, come one and all,

to Bethlehem’s stable in Bethlehem’s stall.

and see with rejoicing this glorious sight

our Father in heaven has sent us this night.

WELCOME

Rev. Sue Trigger

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Almighty God, we give you thanks and praise
For on this holy night, you sent us the gift of your son.
He is the Lord of all and the savior of the world
Wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

ALL: On this holy night, may our hope be restored.
May your peace be truly felt.
May we be drawn into the mystery of your love
And may your spirit fill us with joy overflowing.

ONE: On this holy night, join our voices with the angels.
Let us praise the one for whom we have waited.
The newborn king, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

***HYMN 133, Stanzas 1 & 3**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Ryan, Emily, Caitlin, Liam and Aiden Hussey

Reader: Tonight we light the four candles of Advent waiting. We light one for the people who waited for hundreds of years for God's Messiah.

Reader: We light one for Mary and Joseph waiting for Jesus to be born.

Reader: We light one for all the waiting we have done getting ready for this night.

Reader: We light one for all the people who are still waiting tonight for God's love and justice and peace.

Reader: Tonight, we can finally light the Christ Candle. On this night we celebrate that Jesus is born! The Messiah has come! So let us all say, "Merry Christmas!"

ALL: Merry Christmas!

SHARING OUR JOY

"Gloria"

by Elizabeth Charles

Joy! Singers (4s-1st graders)

Emily Hussey, director – Hilary Schmidt, assistant director

We Hear the Story

THE CHRISTMAS STORY: Luke 2:1–5

HYMN 121, Stanza 1

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

ST. LOUIS

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

MARY AND JOSEPH IN BETHLEHEM: Luke 2:6–7

HYMN 115, Stanzas 1 & 2

“Away in a Manger”

MUELLER

Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.

The cattle are lowing, the 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.

ANGELS APPEAR TO THE SHEPHERDS: Luke 2: 8–14

SINGING ALLELUIA

“Alleluia, Immanuel”

by Joanne LeDoux &

Celebration! Singers (*2nd-5th graders*) – Pam Kelly, director

Milton LeDoux

Lara Schesser, assistant director – Angela Krug, accompanist

Harrison Stromberg & Xander Circo – Nini Golston, Caitlin Hussey, & Mallory Hearn, soloists

THE SHEPHERDS GO TO BETHLEHEM: Luke 2:15–20

HYMN 147, Stanza 1

“The First Noel”

THE FIRST NOEL

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

MAGI FROM THE EAST: Matthew 2:1–11

***HYMN 151, stanzas 1 & 5**

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

KINGS OF ORIENT

We three kings of Orient are bearing gifts we traverse afar
field and fountain, moor and mountain following yonder star.
O, star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding guide us to thy perfect Light.

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Sounds through the earth and skies.
O, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Rev. Mitch Trigger

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

“Noel”

by Matt Redman, Chris Tomlin,

Lindsay & Christopher Callender, voice & guitar

& Ed Cash

Andrew Alka, piano

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Hymn 145, What Child is This

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing.

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the Son of Mary.

We Share the Light

***CANDLELIGHT HYMN 122**

“Silent Night, Holy Night!”

STILLE NACHT

Congregation & Christopher Callender, guitar

*(We will light one another's candles reminding us of the coming of the Light of the World.
Please tip your unlit candle into the flame of your neighbor's candle.)*

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.

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!

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.

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.

***CHRISTMAS LITANY**

Leader: In the beginning and in the midst of darkness, God spoke.

All: Let there be light.

Leader: In the beginning was the Word. And the Word came and dwelt among us. And the Word was the light of all peoples.

All: Let there be light.

Leader: We light our candles, knowing that the One who is the source and promise of all light is the One whose birth we celebrate.

All: Let there be light.

Leader: We are here to seek a little light by which we can see, by which we can live, by which we can love.

All: Let there be light.

Leader: We light our candles in gratitude for the love and light that shine through the babe born in Bethlehem who became the redeemer of us all.

All: Let there be light.

Leader: May we be emboldened to share the love of God with a world longing for light and hope, purpose, and love. May our actions and generosity shine in a world under the shadow of despair.

All: Let there be light.

Leader: We join the chorus of those whose carols have echoed through the years — “O come to us, abide in us, our Lord, Emmanuel.”

All: Let there be light.

(Please extinguish your candle)

We Carry the Light Into the World

***CLOSING HYMN 134**

“Joy to the World”
Stanzas 1 and 4

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! The Lord has 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.

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.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World”
Linda Dover, organist

arr. Wilbur Held

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Participants in Tonight's Service

(Some cast member names may not have been available at time of printing.)

Holy Family — Chris, Meredith, Rowan, Drake, and baby Declan Cabe.

Cattle — Caitlin, Liam, and Aidan Hussey

Donkey — Brynnley Krug

Angels — Mallory Hearn and Charlotte Hearn

Youth Angels — Tatum Faison, Morgan Krug, Natalie Walker

Sheep — Evie and James Schmidt, Ethan and Harrison Stromberg

Shepherds — Melo Golston-Circo, Nini Golston-Circo, Xander Circo

Youth Shepherds — Conor Schesser, Bradley Stromberg

King Herod — Grant Stromberg

The Magi — Lauren Callender, Miles Dalton, Kelly Kowalczewski, Ben Mason

Camels — Abel Frye, Kamden Frye, Magnolia Sellers, Max Soule

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