Welcome to our online Christmas Eve service.

You will want to have a candle, individual candles, or glow sticks ready for the candle lighting during “Silent Night.”
(For iPhone users, see also the iPhone App “Candle HD” for a virtual candle.)

Thank you for joining us.

Christmas Eve Family Worship Service 2020 — 5pm

Prelude

“Bethlehem Night”
arr. Christine D. Anderson
Kathy Bures, handbells — Linda Dover, piano

Welcome

Call to Worship (responsive)
One: There is a surprise coming. Look in a town too small to be noticed.
Look in a stable instead of a house. Look in a feed box instead of a crib.
Look for a poor baby, not a great king. God’s surprise is coming in an unexpected place.

All: The town is called Bethlehem with a stable therein.
It houses three people who couldn’t find an inn.
The feed box cradles a newborn child.
The boy who is born of Mary mild.
We worship him called Emmanuel!
God is with us! Jesus is born!

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Hymn 110, v 3

“Love Has Come”
BRING A TORCH

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!
The Census

Rev. Mitch Trigger

Hymn 121, vs. 1

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”  
O little town of Bethlehem!  
    How still we see thee lie!  
Above they deep and dreamless sleep  
    The silent stars go by;  
Yet in the dark streets shineth  
    The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
    Are met in thee tonight.

ST. LOUIS

The Child is Born

Caitlin Hussey

Hymn 122, vs. 1

“Silent Night”  
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.

STILLE NACHT

A Full Heart

Rev. Sue Trigger

Hymn 115, vs. 1

“Away in a Manger”  
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.

MUELLER

The Shepherds

Nadine, Hank, and PJ Peck

Angel Chorus

“I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day”  
Exaltation! — Andrew Alka, soloist — Daniel Cole, drum set  
Donna Heer, accompanist & Rebecca Prater, director  
And the bells are ringing: Peace on earth.  
Like a choir they’re singing: Peace on earth.  
In my heart I hear them: Peace on earth, goodwill to men.  

arr. Mac Huff
Let Us Go to Bethlehem  

Hymn 113, vs. 3  
“Angels We Have Heard on High”  
Come to Bethlehem, and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Mary Pondered These Things  

Anthem  
“Everybody Sing! Jesus is Born!”  
by Milton LeDoux  
Joy! Singers — Emily Hussey, director

The Child is Named  

Anthem  
“More Than a Baby”  
by Ruth Elaine Schram  
Celebration! Singers — Pam Kelly, director

Wise Men Follow the Star  

Anthem  
“Festive Hodie”  
(Today Christ Is Born)  
by Greg Gilpin  
Exaltation! — Donna Heer, accompanist  
Rebecca Prater, director

Herod Meets the Wise Men  

Chief Priests and Scribes  

They Entered the House  

Hymn 151, vs. 1  
“We Three Kings”  
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 night;
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light!

Warned in a Dream

Hymn 134  “Joy to the World”

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.

Joy to the earth, 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.

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
A very big thank you to everyone who helped make this unusual Christmas Eve service wonderful!

All parents who videoed their kids and brought them to the photo shoot
All Narrators
All actors in the photo shoot
Especially our holy family — Jake, Hilary, and Abby Schmidt
Joy! Singers — Emily Hussey, director & Celebration! Singers — Pam Kelly, director
Exaltation! Singers — Donna Heer, accompanist & Daniel Cole, drum set
Bob Dover, Rebecca Prater, Sue and Mitch Trigger, vocal quartet
Rebecca Prater — Director of Music Ministries
Photography and costuming — Miles McDonald — Director of Youth Ministries,
Andi Bohjanen — Youth Intern, and Rebecca Prater
Kathy Bures — handbell solo
Linda Dover — organist/accompanist
Sue Trigger — coordinator
Mitch Trigger — helper extraordinaire
Tech Crew — Miles McDonald, Joel Kesler, Ray Kowalczewski, Eric Lee, Nelson Townsend
Patrick Bell — bulletin
Kim Krueger — graphic designer, PowerPoint, communications guru

Adapted from “The Christmas Scene Revisited” a pictorial telling of the Christmas story by Phyllis Wezeman. Used by permission.

A HUGE thank you to Miles McDonald for editing all content and turning it into a beautiful video presentation!

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