
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

A Service of Scripture and Carols
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

December 24, 2010
7:30 P.M.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Dick Hippeard, *Saxophone*

GREETINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: On a night long ago, when the stars shone brightly in the sky,

P: Jesus Christ was born.

L: Underneath the light of one especially bright star,

P: Jesus Christ was born.

L: In a plain and simple manger,

P: Jesus Christ was born.

L: Wrapped in a mother's embrace and a father's care,

P: Jesus Christ was born.

L: So that we might know God better,

P: Jesus Christ was born.

***HYMN**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

CB 249

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

RESPONSIVE LESSON: Luke 2:1-5

L: In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.

P: (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.)

L: And everyone went to his own town to register.

P: So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David,

L: Because he belonged to the house and line of David.

P: He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

***HYMN**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

CB 250

RESPONSIVE LESSON: Luke 2:6-14

L: While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.

P: She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

L: And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

P: An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

L: But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

P: This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

L: Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

P: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

HYMN

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

CB 278

RESPONSIVE LESSON: Luke 2:15-20

L: When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, 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."

P: So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

L: When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child,

P: and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

L: But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

P: The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

***HYMN**

"Away in a Manger"

CB 261

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 7:10-16

MEDITATION

"The Neon Nativity"

Dr. Williams

OFFERING: *Offering Plates are in the rear of the sanctuary for any who wish to make an offering this evening.*

COMMUNION AND CANDLELIGHTING

SPECIAL MUSIC “O Holy Night” Mark Robertson, *Soloist*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Breaking of the Bread (*Please partake when served*)

Communion of the People

CANDLE LIGHTING

L: We honor Messiah with Christ candle’s flame
our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.
O Come all you faithful, rejoice in this night,
as God comes among us, the Christian’s true light.

*The pastor will pass the light to the elders.
The elders will pass the light throughout the congregation*

***HYMN** “Joy to the World!” CB 270

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| 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 men their songs employ;
While fields & floods, rocks, hills & 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. |

***HYMN** “Silent Night” CB 253

Andy Easley, *Guitar*

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| 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. – x 2 | 2 Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly host sing: “Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born.” – x 2 |
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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. – x 2

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. – x 2

***BENEDICTION** – *Please extinguish your candle now.*

***POSTLUDE**

* Congregation please stand, if able

PH = Presbyterian Hymnal / CB = Celebration Hymnal



Christmas Eve

C A N D L E L I G H T
S E R V I C E