

∞ ORDER OF WORSHIP ∞

DECEMBER 24, 2021 • 7:00 P.M.
CHRISTMAS EVE

*“Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!
Christmas where snow peaks stand solemn and white.
Let everyone’s heart keep its Christmas within
Christ’s pity for sorrow, Christ’s hatred for sin,
Christ’s dread of the darkness, Christ’s love for the light,
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!”
-- Philips Brooks*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAISE SONG HYMN No. 145 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.

**People: Joy to the world; the Lord is come. Let earth
receive her king.**

PRAISE SONG HYMN No.132 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

CONFESSION OF SIN (unison)

**Almighty God, whose light never fades, dawn in our
hearts and strengthen us. We know that at times we
have not followed the light of Your Word or searched
for the sign of Your love. Impress upon us the
meaning of Your Son’s birth, a sign for all generations.
Renew us by the brightness of Your presence and
may the Son of righteousness rise upon us in
brightness and glory. Amen.** (moment of silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (responsive)

Leader: Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are those
who seek the face of God.

**People: Everyone who asks, receives; and the
one who seeks, finds.**

Leader: Blessed are those who ask for
forgiveness, for they shall be forgiven.

*GLORIA PATRI (Hymn No. 622)

SOLO “O Holy Night!” Adolphe Adam
(Sung by Doug & Olivia Barton)

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE
Dan, Natalie, Nathaniel, Evelyn Carpenter

ANTHEM “Hark! The Angles Sing on High” arr. Philip Kern

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON “A Light Along the Way”
“We have seen His star” (Matt. 2:2).

HYMN No. 125 “Joy to the World”

OFFERING “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” J.S. Bach
*Doxology (Hymn No. 625)
Dedication of Offering

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND SUPPLICATION

THE LORD’S PRAYER (in unison)

SHARING OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

At this time the ushers come forward to receive light from
the Christ candle and to then distribute the light to the
congregation. The first person in each pew passes the light to the
next person, and the light continues being passed from one to
another until all candles have been lit. (Please keep your lighted
candle upright to prevent the spilling of wax.) At the Pastor’s
invitation, we then rise and sing “Silent Night, Holy Night.” After
the benediction, for the sake of safety, please extinguish your
candlelight.

*HYMN No. 147 “Silent Night! Holy Night!”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE * Those who are able, please stand

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Verse 1:

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!

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

Verse 2:

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye bright hosts of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

Refrain

Verse 3:

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

Refrain

Text: Latin Hymn; ascribed to Joh Francis Wade, translated by Frederick Oakeley
Music: *Adeste Fideles*, by John Francis Wade

Angels We Have Heard on High

Verse 1:

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Verse 2:

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Refrain

Verse 3:

Come to Bethlehem, and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Refrain

Verse 4:

See within a manger laid
Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
With us sing our Savior's birth.

Refrain

Text: Traditional French carol
Music: *Gloria*, Traditional French melody

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father,
And to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be,
World without end.
Amen, Amen.

Text: *Gloria Patri*; Traditional, 2nd century
Music: *Meineke*, Christoph Meineke

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessing flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Text: Thomas Ken
Music: Old Hundredth, Genevan Psalter, 1551; attributed to Louis Bourgeois

Joy to the World!

Verse 1:

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Verse 2:

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Verse 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.

Verse 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.

Text: Isaac Watts
Music: Antioch by George Frederick Handel, arr by Lowell Mason

Silent Night! Holy Night!

Verse 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,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Verse 2:

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!

Verse 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,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,

Text: Joseph Mohr, translated by John F. Young
Music: Stille Nacht, by Franz Grüber