

**The congregation is asked to remain seated.** *Please light each candle carefully, leaning the unlit candle toward the lighted one, then passing the light to the next person. The candles will remain lit during the singing of "Silent Night." Following the benediction, the congregation will follow the example of the pastors, raise their candles and extinguish them after they are lowered. Please place your candle in a receptacle at the door when leaving.*

**CAROL**

*Stille Nacht*

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.

✦ **BENEDICTION**

✦ **POSTLUDE**

*Silent Night*

Franz Grober

**OUR WORSHIP NOW ENTERS THE WORLD!**



✦ **All those who are able, please stand.**

**9:00 p.m.**

**December 24, 2017**

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

Worship Ways

O God of the Baby of Bethlehem, We come into your presence with praise and thanksgiving. We hear the glad tidings of the angel voices, we come to experience this good news of great joy for all the people. As the shepherds traveled to Bethlehem, we have traveled here – excited, expectant, hopeful; a bit skeptical. Let the words of sacred scripture seep into our hearts, to be treasured and pondered anew. We are here; we are ready, O God! Let the light of your love break forth! Amen.

**WELCOME**

Rev. Medina

*Please print your name in the Friendship Register provided in your pew.*

**PRELUDE**

*What Child is This?*

William Dix

Peggi Briggs - soloist

**INTROIT**

*We Wait in Hope*

Joel Rancy

All creation lies in waiting, in the stillness of the night,  
with hope anticipating the Advent of Eternal Light.

**CANDLELIGHTING SERVICE - PROCLAIM**

Mike Cochran

*Leader: Christmas is a time to proclaim.*

**People: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

*Leader: We proclaim a hope that is stronger than any trial.*

**People: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

*Leader: We proclaim a victory that is stronger than any defeat.*

**People: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

*Leader: We proclaim a peace that is stronger than any conflict.*

**People: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

*Leader: We proclaim a freedom that is stronger than any bondage.*

**All: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

**LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES AND THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**CANTOR**

**We Wait in Hope**

Joel Raney

We pro-claim with hope for the morn-ing Light, for the love of  
 Christ to il - lu - mi - nate the night. We pro-claim with joy  
 for the Sav-ior's birth; we pro-claim with hope for peace on earth.

**ADVENT PRAYER**

✠ CAROL *O Come, All Ye Faithful* Adeste Fidelis 41

INVITATION OF PRAISE AND ADORATION Rev. Medina

**PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION**

O God of peace, to you we ascribe all honor and majesty, beauty and strength. You bring forth a child whom we call blessed, upon those shoulders rest the destiny of nations. You give us the gift of life everlasting, a wonderful counselor who shall guide all your people. With shepherds and angels, we lift our voices rejoicing. All glory to you in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom you dwell. Amen.

ANTHEM *O Holy Night* John Dwight  
Peggi Briggs - soloist

CHRISTMAS READING First Coming By Madeleine L'Engle  
Reader: Rev. Christopher

**YOUTH CHAT** (September-May)

✠ CAROL *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* Mendelssohn 31

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7

✠ CAROL *Comfort, Comfort You My People* Psalm 42 3

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:1-7

✠ CAROL *Away in a Manger* Cradle Song 24

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:8-20

✠ CAROL *Angels We Have Heard on High* Gloria 23

MEDITATION: *Jesus, The One Who Is Among Us* Rev. Medina

✠ CELEBRATION CAROL *Joy to The World!* Antioch 40

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY *Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming* arr. Jeanne Cotter

✠ DOXOLOGY Old One Hundredth 592

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**CHRISTMAS PRAYER & 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Please join the Cantor singing the Great Amen.*

A - men, a - men, a - men.

✠ CAROL *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* Carol 38

**PASSING THE LIGHT OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**Leader:** Here is good news of great joy, for all people: God has rescued us from the domain of darkness, and brought us into the realm of Christ, in whom our release is secured, and our sins are forgiven.

**People:** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never captured it.

**Leader:** Let us pray that we may know the warmth and brightness of Jesus Christ, and show Christ's love to the world.

**People:** Christ, Light of the world, shine in our lives and shine among us now. Hallelujah! Amen!