



December 24, 2022

10:00 pm

Christmas Eve

---

GATHERING

PRELUDE

*“Christmas Carols”*

Paul Manz

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH AND CHRIST CANDLE

*Lighting the candles today is The Hauser Family*

\*CAROL NO. 119

*“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

MENDELSSOHN

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king.  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate identity,  
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
3. Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healings in his wings.  
Mild he lays glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

\*OPENING PRAYER

God of Christmas, we give you thanks this day for a love alive, an earth-dwelling love announced long ago by angel voices on high and by an infant’s cradle cry. Help us move from receptive thankfulness to an active extension of the Christmas message. Keep us ready to welcome your presence with a Mary-like openness of faith and a Joseph-like trust, for we need both of these traits to overcome our hesitation at doing your will. Grant us a shepherd-like eagerness to be with you; a strong desire to share in the great things you do and an abiding wonder that you call us to bear witness to your Son, this world’s Redeemer. Enable us to grow with the Bethlehem child, expanding our love for you, for one another and for strangers. In Jesus’ name. Amen

FIRST LESSON –Foretelling the Savior’s Arrival

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Page 600 OT

CAROL NO. 82

*“Come thou Long Expected Jesus”*

HYFRYDOL

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

SECOND LESSON –A Ruler Comes From Bethlehem

Micah 5:2-4

Page 815 OT

CAROL NO. 121 vs. 1,2

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

ST. LOUIS

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

2. For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.

THIRD LESSON-Foretelling the Peace the Savior Brings      Isaiah 11:1-9      Page 602 OT

CAROL NO. 123 vs 1,4      *"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"*      ES IST EIN' ROS'

1. It came upon the midnight clear, glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all gracious King":  
the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.
4. And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,  
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,  
look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:  
O, rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.

FOURTH LESSON-The Angel Gabriel Comes to Mary      Luke 1:26-38      Page 53 NT

CAROL NO. 107      *"Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn"*      REJOICE, REJOICE

1. Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning.  
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! the Child of our longing.  
Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all the hearts together,  
he opens wide the heavenly door and lives now inside us forever.
4. Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night. Though dark the winter and cheerless,  
the rising sun shall crown you with light; be strong and loving and fearless.  
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our endless story;  
may God fill every day we share and bring us at last into glory.

FIFTH LESSON –Joseph Hears the Angel's Message      Matthew 1:18-25      Page 1 NT

SPECIAL MUSIC      *"Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella "*      Traditional French Carol

SIXTH LESSON –The Birth of Jesus      Luke 2:1-7      Page 54 NT

SPECIAL MUSIC      *"Gesù Bambino"*      Pietro Yon

SEVENTH LESSON –The Shepherds and the Angels      Luke 2:8-20      Page 54 NT

CAROL NO. 128      *"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"*      W ZLOBIE LEZY

1. Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;  
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!
2. Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new  
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of the gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing greet the morrow:  
Christ the babe was born for you! Christ the babe was born for you!

EIGHTH LESSON –The Mystery of the Incarnation      John 1:1-14      Page 86 NT

SPECIAL MUSIC      *"O Holy Night"*      Adolphe Adams

## PASTORAL PRAYER & 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

During the singing of "Silent Night," you may light your candles. As we begin to sing the third stanza of "Joy to the World," please RAISE your candle as a symbol of Jesus Christ, the Light which darkness will never overcome.

### CAROL NO. 122

*"Silent Night"*

STILLE NACHT

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.
2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heavenly afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia:  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!"
3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.
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, Christ the Savior is born.

### CAROL NO. 134

*"Joy to the World"*

ANTIOCH

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 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.
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, and wonders of his love.

## \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*"Noel Swisse, Grand Jeu et Duo"*

Louis Claude Daquin

---

---

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

Rev. William Scrham, Interim Pastor/Head of Staff  
Valerie Shondel, Interim Director of Music  
Sarah Solie, Soloist—Grace Hemesath, Cello—Alan Smulden, Cantor—Taylor Goodson, Percussion  
Rich Hauser & Mike Bruchac, Lay Readers  
Ray Liptak, Rob Theimann—A/V Engineers—Matthew Califf, Michael Sperrazza—A/V Team