



## Christmas Eve Service of Word and Worship

*Christmas Eve*  
December 24, 2022

Rev. Mike Edwards, Pastor

Leslie Orlovsky, Musician

### Entrance

*Please enter in anticipation of the coming baby Jesus...*

### Prelude

Musician

### The Lighting of the Altar Candles

Acolytes

### † Call to Worship

L: Rejoice, for God is with us — Emmanuel.

**P: In the darkness of our world shines God's holy light.**

L: Now there is reason to hope, to love, to laugh, to live.

**P: God is truly with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**

### Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful

Hymn #234

### Opening Prayer

Gracious God, with joy and thanksgiving we gather as your people. We have come to hear again the timeless story of Christ's birth. In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time. Shine, O Light, in the darkness of our world. Sing, O angels, in the stillness of our hearts, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those God favors." This we pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem. Amen.

### Lighting of the Advent Candle

L: Advent hope moves us; Advent love leads us; Advent joy stirs us; Advent peace stills us, that we might affirm our King Jesus. It is time we set flame to this Advent affirmation by lighting the Christ Candle.

**P: We believe that Jesus is the Son of God. He was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea. He was the long-awaited Messiah who's coming was prophesied. The same Jesus lives today in our hearts. He deserves our highest loyalty and total commitment. In Jesus Christ, our hope is fulfilled; our love is consummated; our joy is complete; and our peace is sealed.**

L: Rejoice, a Savior is born.

**P: A savior is born, indeed. Joy to the world!**

**The Coming of Jesus Is Announced to Mary and Joseph**

Luke 1:26-38, Matthew 1:18-25

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming, Hymn #216 Verse 1 & 2

**The Preparations for the Birth of Jesus**

Luke 2:1-5

O Little Town of Bethlehem, Hymn #230 Verse 1

**Jesus is Born**

Luke 2:6-7

Away in a Manger, Hymn #217 Verse 1

**Special Music**

**“Manger Throne Medley”**

Choir

**Jesus' Birth is Announced to the Shepherds**

Luke 2:9-14

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear, Hymn #218 Verse 1 & 2

**The Shepherds Find the Baby Jesus**

Luke 2:15-18

**The Wise Men Bring Their Gifts to Jesus**

Matthew 2:1-11

The First Noel, Hymn #245 Verse 1 & 2

**Homily**

Minister

**THE PASSING OF THE LIGHT**

**Hymn**

**Silent Night**

**Hymn #239**

† **Going Forth to Carry the Light into the World**

†*The congregation is invited to stand, as you are able.*

The candles that were lit after each passage of Scripture

Mary — Light blue candle

Joseph— Royal blue

Baby Jesus — Simple white candle

The Angel --- Yellow. The Gabriel candle is taller.

The Shepherds --- Green

The Wisemen --- Purple

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Sunday Morning Worship 9:30 AM