

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

December 24, 2022

8:00 p.m.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

(p. 1497)

Scripture Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

(p. 1445-46)

*"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;
He is Christ the Lord."*

Luke 2:11

Piano Prelude

* **Congregational Introit** (to the tune "Away in a Manger")

**Now let the good tidings of Great Joy be heard:
Fulfilled in Christ's birth is the prophet's sure word.
As each land and nation is told of this birth,
The dawn of salvation brings light to the earth.**

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: We gather today to celebrate with great joy the Good News.

**People: Yes, for to us was born this day a Savior, who is Christ
the Lord.**

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest,

Unison: And on earth peace, good will to all.

* Hymn # 145 "O Come All Ye Faithful"

UNISON CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Your steadfast love endures forever, O God; Your name is heralded throughout the land. Songs of rejoicing are heard in Your sanctuary as hymns of praise proceed from our mouths. You fill Your people with the gift of Your Holy Spirit; You send forth a Savior with the promise of new life. You are our God, and great are Your wonderful deeds. Forgive our deliberate and indirect misuse of Your graciousness, and make us worthy to receive Christ in our lives. Amen.

Choir Anthem: *"In the Bleak Midwinter"*

A Time of Prayer

*Hymn # 132 "Angels We Have Heard On High"

Presentation of Tithes and offerings

Offertory

Lighting of the Advent Candles

The Candle of Kings

"We Three Kings"

Kerry Tucker

The Shepherd's Candle

Hymn # 136 "The First Noel" v. 1

The Angel's Candle

Special Music: "Angels from the Realms Of Glory"

Christine Rugh

The Candle of Bethlehem

Hymn #141 "O little Town of Bethlehem" v. 1 & 4

Scripture Reading: Psalm 98 (pgs. 935-36)

Christmas Meditation

* Stand, if comfortably able

Advent Candle Song
(Congregation sings)

**Light the Christmas candle now,
Sing of donkey, sheep, and cow.
Birthday candles for the King,
Let the alleluias ring.**

**Candle, candle, burning bright,
Shining in the cold winter night.
Candle, candle, burning bright,
Fill our hearts with Christmas light.**

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Special Music by Eilene Stephens:
“O Holy Night”

Hymn # 147 “Silent Night! Holy Night!”

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