



Saint John's United Church of Christ, Orwigsburg

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2020 - 11:00 p.m.

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
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Lighting of the Candles

Prelude- *Christmas Carol*
 Christopher Holler, saxophone

Somewhere In Your Silent Night - Casting Crowns
 Ally Murphy, solo

†Call to Worship (Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7)

Leader: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.
 On those living in the land of the shadow of death,
 this light has dawned.

**All: For unto us a child is born, to us a Son is given,
 and the government will be on his shoulders.
 And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

†Processional Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

†The Invocation

Dear Lord we are your people. We come to you in this most joyous and holy time of the year to celebrate the birth of your son and the birth of hope in the world. Today we face a world much like he was born into. Human nature has not changed in 2,000 years. We still face disease, unrest, and, for many, poverty and hunger. Yet, like then, the promise of a redeemer gives us the strength and the resolve to live our lives not in fear but in hope. May the star of Bethlehem which shined for us again this year light our way to the peace that surpasses all understanding as we live in the certainty of your love for us and for all creation. Amen

Musical Response – *Mary Did You Know* – arr. The Hound + the Fox
Tracey Holler, flute; Christopher Holler, saxophone

The Gospel of Jesus Christ *Matthew 1: 18-23*

Musical Response – *O Come, O Come Emanuel*
(*Jesus, We Will Wait on You*) arr. Caleb and Kelsey Grim
Christopher Brossman, Ally Murphy, duet

The Gospel of Jesus Christ Luke 2: 1-7

Carol - *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

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

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ Luke 2:8-14

Carol – *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

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!”

Hark the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

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 th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.

Hark the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

The Gospel of Jesus Christ Luke 2:15-20

Musical Response – *Midnight Noel* – arr. Mark Hayes

Christopher Brossman, Solo

The Gospel of Jesus Christ Matthew 2:1-12

Song of Praise - *O Holy Night* – Adolphe Adam

Christopher Brossman, solo

Gospel of Jesus Christ John 1, selected verses

The service of the Lights

Carol - *Silent Night*

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.

The Christmas Blessing

Carol – *Joy to the World*

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.

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

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

***Worship Leaders:
Jamie Barton & Kay Jones***

***Blessings and Merry Christmas to you from St. John's United Church
of Christ in Orwigsburg.***