

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2021

Joyful Reflections

Cynthia Dobrinski

Jubilee Bells

In the Bleak Midwinter

Wilbur Held

Organ: Marcello Velame

Nativity Intermezzo

Flute: Chris Kustka

*Shao Ying Low
Piano: Marcello Velame*

Love Has Come

Arr. Myers

*French Melody
Soloist: Sean Starke*

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Michael Ryan

Jubilee Bells

In Dulci Jubilo

Bell setting by Albert Zabel

Bells: Nancy and Rich Vodhanel, Heather Palframan & Marcello Velame

Organ: Kathleen Healy-Wedsworth

German Carol

What Child Is This

arr. Gary Lanier

Sax: Rich Vodhanel

*Traditional English Melody,
Piano: Marcello Velame*

O Holy Night

Adolpe Adam

*Soloist: Stanley Wilson
Organ: Kathleen Healy-Wedsworth*

Impressions on an Appalachian Folk Carol

Douglas Wagner

Bell Choir

Bring a Torch

Setting by Christopher

Uehlein Organ: Kathleen Healy-Wedsworth

French Melody

A Grand Celebration

Derek Hakes

Jubilee Bells

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2021

Order of Worship

(You are welcome to join in the singing this evening with masks on.)

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Nancy Vodhanel and Heather Palframan

We light these candles to be reminded of what we have prepared for these past Advent weeks. With the prophet Isaiah, we join in God's vision for a kingdom where hope, peace, joy, and love prevail and we look to welcome the one anointed to lead us into it. We light these candles to kindle our anticipation as the time arrives to welcome Jesus Christ, Savior of the world.

The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more. *Isaiah 2:4*

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
The leopard shall lie down with the kid,
The calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them. *Isaiah 11:6*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing. *Isaiah 35:1-2*

The Lord will give you a sign.
Look, the young woman is with child
and shall bear a son,
and shall name him Immanuel – God is with us. *Isaiah 7:14*

Call to Worship

Leader: Blessed be God who alone works wonders! Blessed for ever be God's glorious name!

People: Through the tender mercy of our God that day has dawned upon us from on high to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet in ways of peace.

Leader: Living Word of Light and Love, you became a human being, you pitched your tent among us, and lived the fulness of our humanity, full of grace and truth.

**People: A Child is born to us, alleluia!
A Son is given to us, alleluia!
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Prayer of Adoration and Praise (unison)

**Great God, as you came at night when all was still,
so enter our lives this night.
Illumine our paths with the light of Christ's presence,
that we may clearly see the way, the truth,
and the life of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Lighting of the Christ Candle Isaiah 9:2, 9:6-7

Erin O'Kane

*Hymn # 133

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!

Service of Light

Christmas Prayer

Let us rejoice in the Mystery of the Incarnation
in the Humanity of God,
in the Wonder of the Word made Flesh.

**Let us rejoice that God is with us,
a hidden silent presence,
transforming to gold the leaden rock of earth.**

Let us rejoice that the best name of God is Love,
a Love that draws us like a magnet,
that nothing can defeat, neither evil nor pain nor death.

**Let us rejoice in God revealed to us as a baby,
whose weakness is stronger than our brittle pride,
whose light shines clearer than our willful blindness.**

Let us rejoice that God has given us one another,
that we might learn to bear the beams of love.

**Let us pray that we may not betray God's trust in us,
nor our own in one another.**

Let us pray that we may have courage to change our lives,
as nations and as individuals,
that the hungry may be fed, the poor achieve dignity,
the oppressed go free, and the stranger be welcomed.

**Let us pray for those in authority among us,
that they may respect the law and seek to reform it,
and work for justice and the common good.**

Let us pray for the peacemakers of the world,
And all who through their vision and struggle
seek to make us citizens of one earth.

**Let us remember the lonely and anxious among us,
the elderly, the homeless, and the starving,
the foolish and the despairing,
the sick at heart and those in pain,
the dying and those who mourn,
and those whose hearts are hardened against the love of God.**

Let us remember those who rejoice with us,
but upon another shore and in a greater light,
that multitude that no one can number,
whose hope was in the Word made flesh,
and with whom, in this, we for evermore are one. Amen.

Sharing the Light of Christ

*Hymn #122

Silent Night, Holy 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.

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.

The Light of the World:

John 1:1-5

*Hymn #134

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 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.

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.

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.

Benediction

May the Christ, who, by his incarnation,
gathered into one the things of heaven and earth,
fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill,
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Alleluia!**

Go forth in peace and joy.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Postlude

Toccata on Angels We Have Heard on High

Richard Elliot

Worship Leaders:

Liturgists:	Elder Gretchen O’Kane, Erin O’Kane, Morgan Davies, Kathryn Davies, Cari Suarez
Advent Candle Lighting:	Nancy Vodhanel, Heather Palframan
Hymn Leadership:	Sean Starke
Jubilee Bells	Katja Gruening, George Kustka, Allison Upton, Kim Davies, Sue Martin, Rich Vodhanel, Nancy Vodhanel, Sam Schoelkopf, Heather Palframan, Sue Starke, Barbara Prestridge and Kathleen Healy-Wedsworth
Organ and Piano:	Kathleen Healy-Wedsworth and Marcello Velame
Video Editing:	Rich Vodhanel
Zoom Host:	Jim Wright
Pastor:	Rev. Katja Gruening

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

The Christmas Poinsettias are dedicated to the Glory of God

In Loving Memory of:

***Craig Sergeant and George & Dorothy Bett
by The Sergeant Family***

***William, Helen & Robert Schanck and David & Ann Muyskens
by Bill & Kirsten Schanck***

***My Wife Audrey Semple
by Barry Semple***

***Anita & Jack Mackay, Sr., Marie & Sergio Campagnola Sr.
and Virginia B Hammond
by Jack, Michele, & Evan Mackay***

***Our Parents Margaret & Leopold Wagner and Helen & Jens Jorgensen
by Al & Jane Wagner***

My Parents Helen and Melville Halliday

My Sister Patricia Gasperini

My Husband Dr. Joseph A Davies III

By Joyce Davies

Audrey Semple, George Drawbaugh,

Bob & Sophie Barnes and Mimi Rosevear

By Lisa Barnes

Kathrine Joyce Hagan & Jeanne Hagan Smith

by The Regn Family, Steve, Kathy, Erik & Charlie

Robert J. Murphy, Doug and Charlotte Fitzgerald & Helen Murphy

by Judy Murphy

Karl B. & Marjorie P. Litzelman

by Linda Litzelman Curry

Norma & Bernie Andia, Shirley & Bud Minton and Betty & Walt Moore

by John, Libby and Michelle Andia

Gladys & Richard Pearson and Barbara & Steve Vodhanel

by Nancy & Rich Vodhanel