



CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
DECEMBER 24, 2022
5:00 PM

GATHERING

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *Living God, on this holy night we gather - to stand with shepherds, amazed at your glory; to sing with angels, rejoicing in your work; to wait with Joseph, trusting in your promise; to sit with Mary, cradling your love. May the good news of this night inspire us to tell the world of our great joy: for to us is born a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord. Glory and praise to you forever! Amen.*

OPENING SENTENCES

Rev. John White

One: There is good news of great joy for all!
ALL: ***Our Savior is born: the Messiah, the Lord.***
One: The grace of God has come to us.
ALL: ***Jesus Christ brings salvation to all.***

WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Christmas Fanfare
Dr. Terry McRoberts

House

WELCOME

Rev. John White

***LITANY FOR CHRISTMAS**

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.
ALL: ***Glory to God in the highest!***
One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
ALL: ***Glory to God in the highest!***
One: For a child has been born for us, a Son has been given to us.
ALL: ***Glory to God in the highest!***
One: He is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
ALL: ***Glory to God in the highest!***
One: To us is born in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.
ALL: ***Glory to God in the highest!***
One: And the Word became flesh and lived among us.
ALL: ***Glory to God in the highest!***
(silent prayers)
One: Christ is born! Give him glory! Christ has come down from heaven! Receive him!
Christ is now on Earth! Exalt him! O earth, sing to the Lord! O you nations, praise him in joy, for he has been glorified!
ALL: ***Amen.***

***HYMN: 133 O Come, All Ye Faithful**

ADESTE FIDELES

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE (*see insert*)

The Hiscox Family

RESPONSE (*all singing, refrain only Hymn 88*)

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

VENI EMMANUEL

***HYMN OF PRAISE: 112** *On Christmas Night All Christians Sing*

SUSSEX CAROL

SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Lane Bowen

A great light in the darkness.

***HYMN: 124** *Still, Still, Still*

STILL, STILL, STILL

SECOND READING

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Gabi Cox

An angel appears to Mary

SPECIAL MUSIC

Who Would Send a Baby?

Mary Kay Beall

Susannah White, soloist

THIRD READING

Luke 2:1-7

Graylynn Richardson

Mary gives birth in Bethlehem

***HYMN: 140** *Once in Royal David's City*

IRBY

FOURTH READING

Luke 2:8-20

Ayden Johnson

Angels announce the Messiah

***HYMN: 113** *Angels We Have Heard on High*

GLORIA

CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION

Rev. Courtney Bowen

***HYMN: 134** *Joy to the World*

ANTIOCH

SERVICE OF CANDLELIGHT

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

One: We light our candles, knowing that the One who is the source and promise of all light is the One whose birth we celebrate.

ALL: *Let there be light.*

(A candle is lighted)

One: Arise and shine, for your light has come! The glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

ALL: *Alleluia! Thanks be to God.*

(The Light of Christ is shared)

**Congregation standing, if able*

FIFTH READING

John 1:1-14

Rev. John White

The light of God illumines our darkness.

***HYMN: 122** *Silent Night! Holy Night!*

STILLE NACHT

***BENEDICTION** *(please extinguish candles)*

Rev. Courtney Bowen

Leader: Go into the night, glorifying and praising God for all you have seen and heard.

People: *Alleluia!*

Leader: May Christ be your light, this night and forevermore.

People: *God's name be praised! Amen.*

POSTLUDE

Hymn Improvisation on Angels from the Realms of Glory

Burkhardt

Dr. Terry McRoberts

