



A Service for Christmas Eve

Candlelight and Communion

December 24, 2007

7 & 11 p.m.

Gathering

Prelude *Meditation on 'See Amid the Winter's Snow'* -Lasky

*Processional Hymn "O Come, All Ye Faithful" No. 41

*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!*

***Refrain:** 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! (Refrain)*

*Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all Glory in the highest! (Refrain)*

*Opening Sentences (responsively)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

For to us a child is born; to us a son is given.

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

*Prayer of the Day

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 before us and the life to live for him, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Light Promised

Scripture Readings

Genesis 1:1-5
John 1:1-5

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O come, Desire of nations, bind All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

The Light Given

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-14

Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

No. 31

*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 God-head see; Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased in flesh with us 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, Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:15-20

Anthem (7 p.m.)

Still, Still, Still

Traditional Chancel Choir

A Christmas Tale for All Ages

Pastor John P. Leggett

*The Christmas Creed (*unison*)

**Our life flows from the one God and Creator of us all,
who formed light to fill the dark void of space,
who gave us the light of life to shatter our darkness,
who is the source of light which no darkness shall ever overcome.**

**Our life flows from Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
who came into the world to light its dark paths,
who is the true light that enlightens every person,
who gives to all who follow his way the gift of knowing
that they are children of God.**

To God be wisdom and honor, glory and power, now and forever. Amen.

Offertory

Christmas Pastorate

-Karg-Elert

*Doxology

No. 592

God Shares the Supper with Us

*Invitation to the Lord's Table

*The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (*responsively*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is our right to give our thanks and praise.

(The pastor continues the prayer, with congregational responses as follows:)

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

(The congregation will sing the following to the tune of "Angels We Have Heard on High")

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and God of might.

Heav'n and earth are full tonight, with your glory beaming bright.

Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!

...all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread and the Pouring of the Cup

Communion of the People

(We welcome all who come on the name of Christ to feast at God's Table. We will come forward to receive communion. Please move toward the center of the church and move to the station serving your section. Take and eat a piece of bread from the loaf; then take and drink the cup. Stewards will collect your used cups. Move back to your seat by the opposite aisle.)

The Light Reflected

*Lighting of the Candles

*Hymn

Silent Night

No. 60

*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.*

*Benediction

*Hymn

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

No. 29

Refrain: *Go, tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!*

*While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens There shone a holy light. (Refrain)*

*The shepherds feared and trembled When lo! above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)*

*Down in a lowly manger The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)*

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Pastor John P. Leggett
Pastor Ann Pettit
Bob Jerome, Organist
Jacob Laughlin, 7 p.m. Acolyte
