

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2017
7:30 & 11:00 PM

Prelude *Gesù Bambino* by Pietro Yon
Emily R. Bohl, soprano & Lauryn Kay, mezzo soprano

O Magnum Mysterium by Tomás Luis de Victoria
Festival Singers

Angels We Have Heard on High & Joy to the World arr. Judy Hunnicutt
Chancel Bells

Welcome

* **Hymn in Procession** *Joy to the World* No. 246

Prayer for Christmas (unison)

Gracious God, we pray this night for all who have come with us to Bethlehem. We pray for those who are poor and cold and hungry like the shepherds, that they may hear the good news. We pray for those who are wandering and searching like the magi, that they may find the place to leave their gifts and their burdens. We pray for those who are busy, hurried and preoccupied like the innkeeper, that they may know the peace that comes from a genuine act of hospitality. We pray for ourselves – we who each need comfort and peace, even joy, in this starlit season and all the days of our lives. Amen.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

* **Hymn** (vs. 1-4 & 6) *O Come, All Ye Faithful* No. 234

First Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7 OT Page 638

Minister: The word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Presentation of our Gifts and Lives to the Christ-Child

Offertory Anthem *In the Bleak Midwinter* by Harold Darke
Lauryn Kay, mezzo soprano; Maurice Burgess, baritone & Chancel Choir

* **Doxology, No. 94** *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

* **Hymn of Affirmation** *Angels We Have Heard on High* No. 238

* **Gospel Lesson** Luke 2:1-20 NT Page 58

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Anthem *Candlelight Carol* by John Rutter
Chancel Choir

Sermon *“Surprise”* Rev. Mitch Houston

Anthem *O Holy Night* by Adolphe Adam
Shelby Krallman, mezzo soprano; Matt Pedelty, baritone & Chancel Choir

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Music for the Breaking of the Bread and the Taking of the Cup

Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child arr. Mark Hayes
David Richardson, baritone

Some Children See Him by Alfred Burt
Emily R. Bohl, soprano

Prayer of Thanksgiving after Receiving

Candlelight Service and Medley of Carols

A small candle or glow stick will be given to each person as you enter. If we miss you, there will be time during the announcement period for the ushers to distribute candles and glow sticks to those who have not received them. The pastor will take the light from the Christ Candle and distribute it to the ushers. The ushers will, in turn, receive light from the pastor and distribute it to the congregation. *After the singing of “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” – please extinguish your candle.* After the service, as you exit, please place your candles in the boxes provided. Children may keep their glow sticks.

“Silent Night, Holy Night” No. 239

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 host 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!

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

No. 240

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King, peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies; with th' angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Deity, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born 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 new born King!"

* **Blessing and Dismissal**

* **Postlude**

* Congregation stands

*The altar greens are given to the glory of God and in loving memory
of Julie Nicole Jett by Bob, Pat and Brad Jett.*



Rev. Mitch Houston, Senior Pastor

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