

Saturday, December 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.



## WELCOME

Thank you for joining us tonight to celebrate our Savior's birth! We would love to serve you and your family's spiritual needs throughout the year. Our regular schedule is as follows:

**Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. • **Sunday Worship Service:** 10:30 a.m.

**Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer** (by Zoom): 7:00 p.m.

Our services are livestreamed every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Go to our church website at <https://christcomm.church/service-live-stream/> to watch the service. You can also participate in worship by following the Sunday bulletin, which can be accessed here: <https://christcomm.church/bulletins-and-flyers/>.

## SERVING TONIGHT

Lector:	Kirby Keller	Advent Wreath Acolyte:	Stacey Marks
Responder:	Pat Strain	Gospel Reading Acolytes:	Micah & Bethany White
Organist:	Pat Shroff	Narthex Greeters:	Dave & Kaye Focht
Flutist:	Shirley Long	Nursery:	Mary Ellen Angley & Aeryn Marks
Guitarist:	Micah White	Sound Technician:	Bob Long
Trumpeter:	Mel Leedom	Video Technician:	Andrew Valentino
Trumpeter:	Sonya Valentinon	Lead Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Timothy Valentino
Hymn Leader:	Maureen Logan		

## CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Organ Recital	<i>Bring a Torch, Jeannette Isabella</i> – Arr. Griffin	Pat Shroff
	<i>Holy Night Medley</i> – Arr. Caudill; <i>Away in a Manger</i> – Kirkpatrick/Innes	
	<i>Emmanuel/Mary, Did You Know?</i> – Arr. Doran; <i>Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring/First Noel</i> – Arr. Caudill	
Welcome & Call to Worship		Rev. Timothy Valentino
Responsive Reading	<i>God with Us</i>	Congregation
*Hymn	<i>91: O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	Congregation
Lighting of the Christ Candle		Stacey Marks
*Hymn	<i>97: Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i> (3 verses)	Congregation
Scripture Reading	<i>Isaiah 52:7-10; Luke 2:1-20</i>	Rev. Kirby Keller
Prayer Led by Pastor		Rev. Timothy Valentino
*Hymn	<i>93: Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	Congregation
*Hymn	<i>148: O Holy Night</i>	Congregation
Scripture Reading	<i>Galatians 4:1-7</i>	Rev. Timothy Valentino
Sermon	<i>Christmas Right on Time</i>	Rev. Timothy Valentino
Hymn	<i>113: Silent Night, Holy Night</i> (4 verses)	Congregation
Lighting of the Christmas Candles		Rev. Timothy & Sonya Valentino
Worship Song (A CAPPELLA)	<i>Here I Am to Worship</i>	Congregation
*Responsive Reading	<i>Christmas Declaration</i>	Congregation
*Hymn	<i>92: Joy to the World, the Lord Is Come</i>	Congregation
*Benediction		Rev. Timothy Valentino
Organ Postlude	<i>Angels from the Reams of Glory</i> – Smart/Adams/Torrans	Pat Shroff

\* Those who are able may stand.

- **Thank you for silencing your cell phone in the sanctuary.**
- **In order that wax does not drip and burn you, please keep your lit candle vertical as the unlit candle is tilted in to receive your flame.**
- **Thank you to all who purchased poinsettias to help decorate the sanctuary. You may take yours home after tonight's service.**
- **Merry Christmas to you and your family!**

Responsive Reading: **God with Us**

Behold, a virgin will conceive and give birth to a son,

**And they will call him Immanuel—which means, “God with us.”**

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

**We have seen his glory, as of the only begotten,  
who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

You who bring good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout!  
Do not be afraid!

**Say to the towns of Judah, “Here is your God!”**

*Matthew 1:23; John 1:14; Isaiah 40:9*

Scripture Reading: **Isaiah 52:7-10**

<sup>7</sup> How beautiful on the mountains  
are the feet of those who bring good news,  
who proclaim peace,  
who bring good tidings,  
who proclaim salvation,  
who say to Zion,  
“Your God reigns!”

<sup>8</sup> Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices;  
together they shout for joy.  
When the Lord returns to Zion,  
they will see it with their own eyes.

<sup>9</sup> Burst into songs of joy together,  
you ruins of Jerusalem,  
for the Lord has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup> The Lord will lay bare his holy arm  
in the sight of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth will see  
the salvation of our God.

Scripture Reading: **Luke 2:1-20**

<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. <sup>2</sup> (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. <sup>4</sup> And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Beth-lehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) <sup>5</sup> To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. <sup>6</sup> And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. <sup>7</sup> And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. <sup>8</sup> And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. <sup>10</sup> And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

<sup>14</sup> Glory to God in the highest,  
And on earth peace,  
Good will toward men.

<sup>15</sup> And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Beth-lehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. <sup>16</sup> And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup> And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. <sup>19</sup> But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.



# O Come, All Ye Faithful 91

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,  
 2. God of God, and Light of Light be - got - ten,  
 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion!  
 4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,

O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem!  
 Lo, He ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
 O sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove;  
 Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold Him, born the King of an - gels;  
 Ver - y God, be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted;  
 Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

*Refrain*  
 O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,

O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord. A - men.

WORDS: Latin hymn; attr. John F. Wade, 1751; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, and others  
 MUSIC: John F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751

ADESTE FIDELES  
 Irregular meter

# Hark! the Herald Angels Sing 97

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King:  
 2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!  
 3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right - eous - ness!

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
 Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb:  
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,  
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,

With th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
 Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.  
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King." A - men.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739  
 MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; arr. William H. Cummings, 1856

MENDELSSOHN  
 7.7.7.7 D. Ref.



# 148 O Holy Night!

Introduction (use arpeggiated chords in a triplet feeling throughout)

1. O ho - ly night! the stars are bright - ly  
 2. Led by the light of faith se - rene - ly  
 3. Tru - ly He taught us to love one an -

shin - ing, It is the night of the dear Sav - ior's birth; Long lay the  
 beam - ing, With glow - ing hearts by His cra - dle we stand; So led by  
 oth - er; His law is love and His gos - pel is peace; Chains shall He

use accompaniment figure from 1st 2 bars

world in sin and er - ror pin - ing, Till He ap - peared and the soul felt its  
 light of a star sweet - ly gleam - ing, Here came the wise men from O - ri - ent  
 break, for the slave is our broth - er, And in His name all op - pres - sion shall

worth. A thrill of hope the wea - ry world re - joic - es, For yon - der breaks a  
 land. The King of kings lay thus in low - ly man - ger, In all our tri - als  
 cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grate - ful chor - us raise we, Let all with - in us

TEXT: John S. Dwight  
 MUSIC: Adolphe Adam

CANTIQUE DE NOËL  
 11.10.11.10.11.10.11.10.10.

new and glo - rious morn; Fall on your knees, Oh, hear the an - gel  
 born to be our Friend; He knows our need, To our weak - ness is no  
 praise His ho - ly name; Christ is the Lord, Oh, praise His name for -

voic - es! O night di - vine, O night when Christ was born!  
 strang - er. Be - hold your King, be - fore Him low - ly bend!  
 ev - er! His pow'r and glo - ry ev - er - more pro - claim!

O night, O ho - ly night, O night di - vine!  
 Be - hold your King, be - fore Him low - ly bend!  
 His pow'r and glo - ry ev - er - more pro - claim.

cued notes opt. on last refrain



# Angels We Have Heard on High 93

1. An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2. Shepherds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem, and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
 4. See with - in a man - ger laid Je - sus, Lord of heay'n and earth!

And the moun-tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.  
 Say what may the ti - dings be, Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.  
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, With us sing our Sav - ior's birth.

*Refrain*

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

WORDS: Traditional French carol  
 MUSIC: Traditional French melody

GLORIA  
 7.7.7 Ref.

# Silent Night! Holy Night! 113

1. Si - lent night! ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright  
 2. Si - lent night! ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight,  
 3. Si - lent night! ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light,  
 4. Stil - le Nacht! Hei - lige Nacht! All - es schläft, ein - sam wacht

'Round you vir - gin moth - er and Child, Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild,  
 Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, Heav'n - ly hosts sing Al - le - lu - ia;  
 Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,  
 Nur das traute hoch - hei - lige Paar. Hol - der Kna - be im loc - kig - en Haar,

Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born.  
 Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.  
 Schlaf in himm - lis - cher Ruh! Schlaf in himm - lis - cher Ruh! A - men.

WORDS: Joseph Mohr, 1818; tr. John F. Young, 1863  
 MUSIC: Franz Grüber, 1818

STILLE NACHT  
 Irregular meter

## Worship Song: **Here I Am to Worship**

Light of the world  
You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes, let me see  
Beauty that made this heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You

*So, here I am to worship,  
here I am to bow down  
Here I am to say that You're my God  
You're altogether lovely,  
altogether worthy  
Altogether wonderful to me*

King of all days,  
O so highly exalted  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly you came to the  
earth you created  
All for love's sake became poor

## Responsive Reading: **Christmas Declaration**

Jesus Christ appeared in a body.

**He was vindicated by the Spirit.**

He was seen by angels.

**He was preached among the nations.**

He was believed on in the world.

**He was taken up in glory.**

So the kingdom of this world is become  
the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.

**And He shall reign forever and ever.**

**King of kings and Lord of lords! Hallelujah!**

*1 Timothy 3:16; Revelation 11:15*

## 92 Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re-  
2. Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; Let men their  
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in -  
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - ery heart pre - pare Him room,  
songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
fest the ground; He comes to make His bless - ings flow  
na - tions prove The glo - ries of His right - eous - ness,

And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His

1. And heav'n and na - ture sing,

sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719; based on Psalm 98  
MUSIC: George Frederick Handel, 1742; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

ANTIOCH  
C.M.

CHRISTMAS EVE 2023  
**CHRISTMAS RIGHT ON TIME**  
Galatians 4:1-7

*God wanted so much for us to become part of his family that he became part of ours.*

**CHRISTMAS took place because humanity had a serious problem. (4:1-3)**

Spiritually, we were like children with no maturity or authority. (4:1-2)

Spiritually, we were like slaves with no freedom or status. (4:3)

**CHRISTMAS took place because humanity was ready for the solution. (4:4-5)**

God sent his virgin-born Son at just the right time in history. (4:4)

God sent his virgin-born Son to rescue the world from its serious problem. (4:5)

**CHRISTMAS took place because humanity was made to enjoy being in God's family. (4:6-7)**

We have the Spirit of God's Son in our hearts. (4:6)

We have the honor of God's inheritance as our destiny. (4:7)