

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Please take a moment to silence your cell phones and quietly prepare yourself for worship.

CHRISTMAS CANDLE LIGHTING

Leader: In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again? When the darkness threatens to overtake us, how do we carry on? When it feels like we travel the valley of dry bones, where do we start?

All: Let us begin with hope. Let us begin with peace. Let us begin with joy. Let us begin with love.

Leader: Yes, let us begin with love, for surely love knows your name. Today, in addition to the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, we light the Christ Candle. For surely God is in this place. Surely the Spirit is near. Surely love knows our name.

All: May we rest in that good news. Unto us a child is born. A light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it. Glory to God in the highest heaven! Amen.

CHOIR PRELUDE “Sing We Now of Christmas”

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In those days, in the beginning, Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem.

All: He was to be registered, and she was expecting a child.

Leader: The time came for Mary to give birth, so she delivered her child, wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger. And the angels sang,

All: “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth, peace to all whom God favors.”

Leader: Let us worship our with-us God.

All: Let us sing songs of praise!

*HYMN “O Little Town of Bethlehem” Hymnal **121 v.1&4**

*HYMN “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” Hymnal **119 v.1**

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM “God Rest Ye Merry”

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9 :2-6

Pew Bible **p.489**

CHILDREN’S STORY

SPECIAL MUSIC

Chelsea Berry

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 65:17-25

Pew Bible **p.532**

Luke 2:1-12

Pew Bible **p.724**

Revelation 21:1-5

Pew Bible **p.878**

MESSAGE

Pastor Blake Severson

CHOIR ANTHEM “O Holy Night”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*we say sin*)

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE (*Gluten-free bread is available*)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

GOING INTO THE WORLD

SPREADING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST (Lighting the Candles)

*HYMN “Silent Night, Holy Night” *See insert*

*HYMN “Joy to the World” *See insert*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BELL CHOIR POSTLUDE “Repeat the Sounding Joy”

**Those who are able please stand*



Eagle River Presbyterian Church

December 24, 2024

Silent Night, Holy Night

1. 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.

2. 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!

3. 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.

4. 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!

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Joy to the World

1. 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.

2. Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

3. 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.

4. 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.

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