

# Christmas Eve Service of Hope, Peace, Joy & Love December 24, 2025

**GATHERING MUSIC** 

Medley of Carols

WELCOME

**CENTERING VIDEO** 

#### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH & CHRIST CANDLE

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Loving God, we come tonight to worship You through song and silence, word and wonder...

Many: rejoicing that in Christ, You became human and lived on this earth.

One: We love the Christmas season. We know the story so well.

Many: Yet, we get so busy with the many things that need to be done — the gifts to purchase, wrap, and deliver; the cards and letters that need to be written; the food, the parties, the preparations for Christmas Day — that sometimes forget Your coming is central to all that we do.

One: Let us now recall the story of Your birth, reminding us of the love You have for us and for all people.

Many: Let's make our way to Bethlehem!



**CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER** 

O magnificent God of the stars, we come tonight with breathless wonder, to see

the babe who will change our lives. We hear the names "Wonderful Counselor,"

"Mighty God," "Prince of Peace," and we are in awe. You have touched the earth

this night with your unconditional love. Touch us — touch our hearts and minds

and souls. May we never tire of this story. May we never take it for granted. Make

this night magical again. We ask this through Jesus who taught us to pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please use words that are most comfortable for you or use the words below.

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever

and ever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: ISAIAH'S PROPHESY

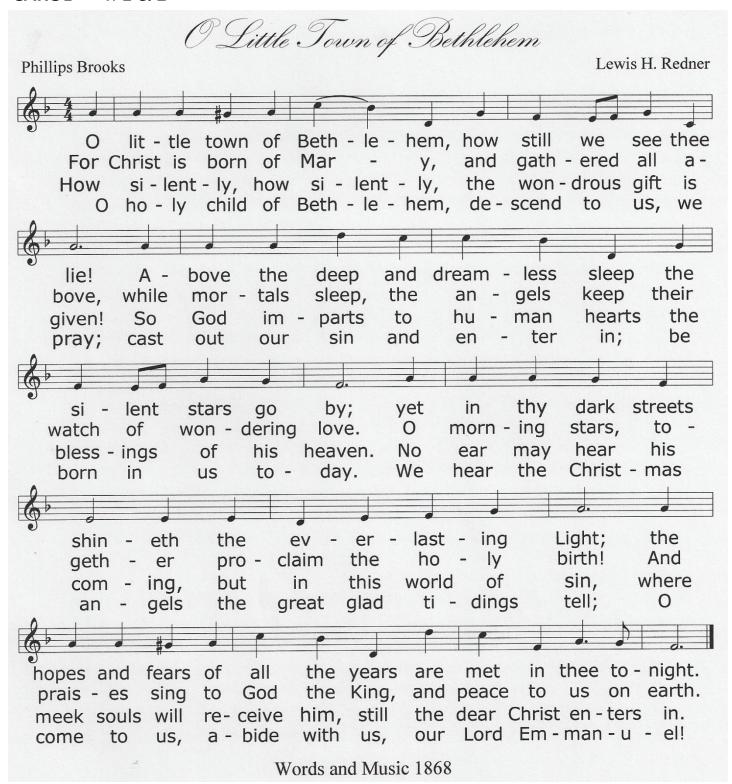
Isaiah 9: 2-3, 6-7

REFLECTION: FOR THE BEAUTY OF LIGHTS

**SCRIPTURE: THE JOURNEY** 

Luke 2:1-5

REFLECTION: SETTING THE STAGE



SCRIPTURE: THE BIRTH OF JESUS Luke 2:6-7

**REFLECTION: THE INNKEEPER'S NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS** 

SCRIPTURE: AN ANGEL APPEARS Luke 2:8-12

**REFLECTION: THIS IS A MANGER** 



**SCRIPTURE: THE CHOIR OF ANGELS**Luke 2:13-14

REFLECTION: THE TIP OF AN ANGEL'S WING



SCRIPTURE: THE SHEPHERDS' VISIT Luke 2:15-20

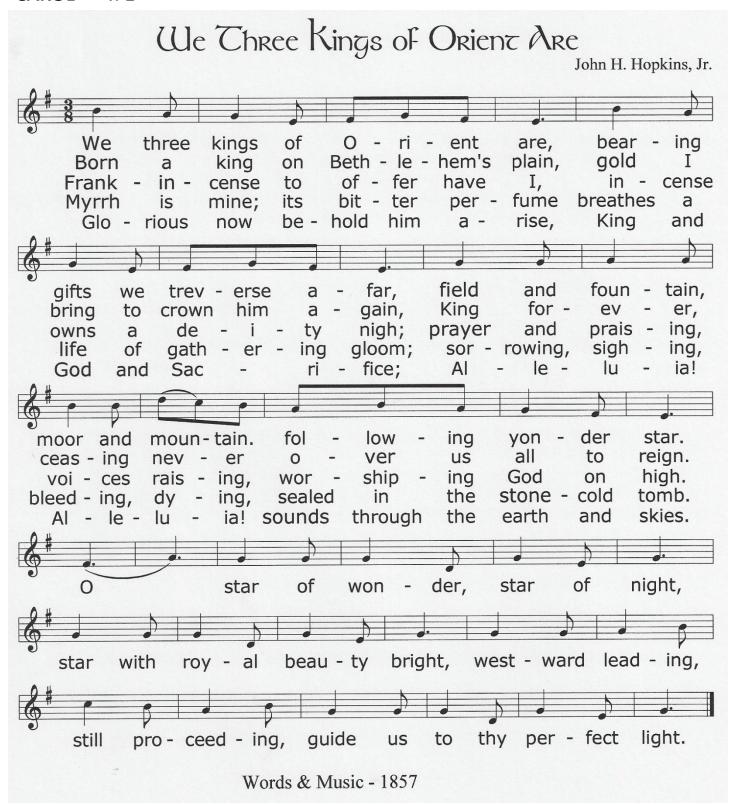
**REFLECTION: THE VISIBLE & INVISIBLE SHEPHERDS** 

#### \*CAROL



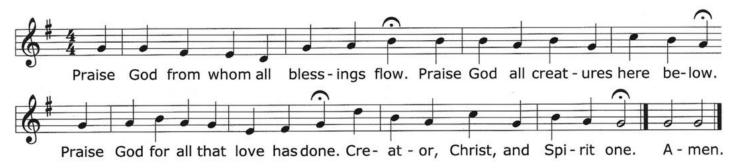
SCRIPTURE: THE MAGI ARRIVE Matthew 2:1-5, 9-11

**REFLECTION: CHERISH EACH STAR** 



#### **CALL TO GENEROSITY**

#### \*DOXOLOGY



#### \*CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Holy God, like the shepherds and magi, in our journeys we find You in unexpected places.

We find you in our worries and hear your words, "Fear not."

We find you in our wonders and hear your words, "Behold I bring you glad tidings."

We find you in quiet moments, and we know great joy.

As we put Your love into action, may we become beacons of your justice and defenders of all for whom there is no room.

With the angelic chorus of "Glory to God" singing in our ears, we will journey onward, day by day, knowing you are always with us, Christ Emmanuel.

#### LIGHTING OF CONGREGATION'S CANDLES.

The pastor will light her candle from the Christ candle. The ushers will light their candles from the Pastor's. The ushers will then light the candles of each person at the end of the aisle. Then the light will be passed from person to person with the unlit candle bending to be lit from the upright lighted candle. We will remain seated as we sing "Silent Night" as the light moves throughout the congregation.

# **CAROL** Silent Night

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright 'Round yon virgin mother and child.

Holy infant so tender and mild.

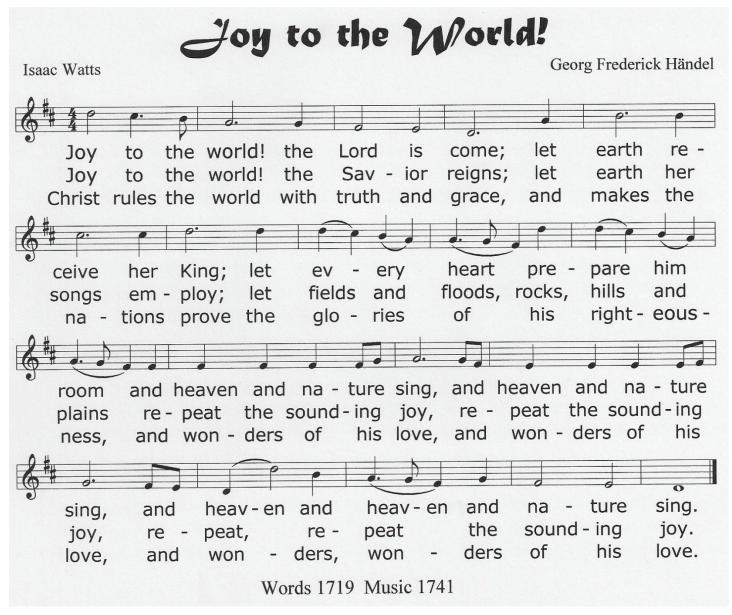
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

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.

VIDEO You Deserve Hope

#### \*CAROL



# \*BENEDICTION/FINAL BLESSING

#### \*DEPARTING MUSIC

# Acknowledgements:

"The Innkeeper's Night before Christmas" was written by Rev. Maren Tirrabassi who was also inspirational as we created other parts of the service.

The video "You Deserve Hope" is by Maxine Meixner [Instagram, @maxinem\_x].



Given By In Memory or In Honor of

Michelle & Richard Brock

Rodney Brock & Lorraine Jette

Toni Cassidy Family

Joan Chatterton Donn Chatterton Dorothy & Russ Clinton

David Clinton Dorothy & Russell Clinton

Donna & Steven DeSisto Donald & Muriel Gordon

Karen Harris → Driscoll Family

Loved Ones

Sylvia Johnston Lost Family & Friends





Given By In Memory or In Honor of

Sherry Kenney Howard F. Kenney III

Carol Lutes Holiday Blessings

The Murphy Family Benedetta Murphy

Virginia Cappie Pamela Adie

Jim & Betty Blomley

Jean Perley Loved Ones

Pam Sheehan Joe & Carol Sheehan

Gary & Susan Stead Our Beloved Son Brian

The Stead Family Loved Ones

The Stewart & Kennedy Families Loved Ones



### **TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM**

Pastor Rev. Marie Lucca

Music Director Robert Knapp

Organist Emily Knapp

Lay Leaders Gladie Kneeland

**Richard Brock** 

Advent Wreath Lighters Joan Chatterton

Sarah Hendrick & Family

Musicians FCC Bell Choir

## **UPCOMING SERVICES**

Sunday, December 28th Worship, Carol Sing & Potluck Brunch

Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup> Epiphany Worship Service

## **STEEPLE LIGHTING**

Throughout the month of December, the steeple will be illuminated in remebrance of **Raymond C. Bateman**, dedicated by his wife, Cynthia Bateman.

## **ELECTRONIC DONATIONS**

For electronic offerings please use this QR code.

