

# REACH OUT IN CHRIST CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

December 24th, 2025

6:00pm

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN-

Children & Youth

#234:1,2,3 O Come, All Ye Faithful

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING - Pastor Lee

Leader: Tonight, we light the Christ candle, the central candle of Advent. This flame represents Christ, the Light of the World, who has come to dwell among us. As the Gospel of John declares:

Scripture: "And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

Leader: Let this light remind us that Christ is here, bringing hope, peace, joy, and love to all.

**All: O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel.**

**CAROL** - #240 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: On this holy night, we gather in the quiet and the dark, waiting for the light that cannot be overcome.

**People: We come to welcome the Light of the world.**

Leader: In a world longing for hope, a child is born to us.

**People: We come to receive the gift of God's love.**

Leader: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

**People: We worship Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.**

## PRAYER

Gracious God, with joy and gratitude, we gather as Your people to hear once again the timeless story of Christ's birth. In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time.

Shine, O Light, in the darkness of our world. Let the angels sing in the stillness of our hearts, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those God favors."

We pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem. Amen.

**First Lesson (Genesis 3:8-15)** – The Fall of Humanity (Alex Grimberg)

Carol - #196 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* vs. 1, 2

**Second Lesson (Genesis 22:15-18)** – The Promise to Abraham (Belinda Hill)

Choir, Daniel Rodrigo (violin) - "*Carols of Hope and Light*" by Joseph Martin

**Third Lesson (Isaiah 9:2, 6-7)** – The Prophecy of the Messiah (Bill Koah)

Handbells (Judy Simpson and Kay) - "*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*" by Michael Praetorius

**Fourth Lesson (Isaiah 11:1-9)** – The Branch from Jesse (Dwight Smith)

Carol - #230 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**Fifth Lesson (Luke 1:26-38)** – The Annunciation to Mary (Joyce Bruce)

Solo (Ruthie Nelson and Daniel Rodrigo (violin)) - "*Ave Maria*" in Latin by J.S. Bach and Charles Gounod

**RECEIVING OF OFFERING** - Doxology #95

(You may use this QR code to make online offerings)



**SERMON** - *"Emmanuel: God With Us", Matthew 1:23* (Pastor Lee)

**Sixth Lesson (Luke 2:1-7)** – The Birth of Jesus (Sean Lee/Lexie Wagner)  
Skit Drama (Children and Youth Ministry) - *The Nativity Story*

**Seventh Lesson (Luke 2:8-16)** – The Shepherds Visit (Pricilla Ortoski)  
Carol - #245 *The First Noel* vs. 1, 2

**Eighth Lesson (Matthew 2:1-12)** – The Visit of the Wise Men (Cindy Lucas)  
Choir - *"Carols of Celebration"* by Joseph Martin

**Ninth Lesson 9 (John 1:1-14)** – The Word Became Flesh (Jean Ann Lewis)  
Carol - #239 *Silent Night, Holy Night*

**DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING** - Pastor Lee

## POSTLUDE

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**CIRCLE OF PRAYER**—Starla Knox, Ainsworth Brown, George Kranz, Karen McGinley, Marcia and Ralph Watt, Susan Barkman, Suzane Abbott, Rita Harned, Lettie Witt, Jean Ann Lewis, Carla Kranz, Pat McDowell, Demetrious (guest musician), Hawley Family (Kirk Miller's Cousin), Cathy White and son Wayne Surico.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

\***AWAKENED TO GRACE DAILY DEVOTIONAL**—Hard copy: \$7 in narthex, free PDF: Sign up in narthex or call office.

\***CRAFT GROUP**—Mondays 12:30pm-3pm.

\***TAI CHI CLASS**—Tuesdays 10am.

\***BIBLE STUDY**—Classes resume Jan 7, 2026, 10am.

\***PRAYER GATHERING**—Meetings resume Jan 7, 2026, 11:30am.

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And Transforming the World***



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