

*The Medley of Carols and Lighting of Candles

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

It came upon a midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, To touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King";
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains, They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds, The blessed angels sing.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little Town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently, The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.

Silent Night! Holy 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.

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.

Benediction

Postlude - Will Benton

A Joyous Christmas

arr. Leavit

*All who are able may stand

Merry Christmas!



Christmas Eve 2018
11:00 pm

Glory to God
IN THE HIGHEST,
AND ON EARTH
peace,
GOOD WILL
TOWARD MEN.

LUKE 2:14, KJV

Park Lake Presbyterian Church

Order of Worship

**Christmas Eve
December 24, 2018**

11:00 p.m.

Prelude

String Trio

Raine Allen - violin Michael Simpson - viola Jennifer Haber - cello

Scripture Reading & Lighting of Advent Candles

John 1:1-14

Of The Father's Love Begotten

Call to Worship

One Let us go, just as we are, to see what has happened. Let us go with the shepherds:

All: let us go and find the One of whom the angels sang.

One: Let us go with those who are wise:

All: let us go and find the One who brings God's truth to us.

One: Let us go with the poor in spirit, and in flesh;

let us go with those who are humbled by life:

All: Let us find the Glory of God born in a stable, and placed in a feeding trough.

One: Let us go with our friends and family,

let us go with our neighbors and with strangers,

let us go with all the children of God:

All: let us go to find the One who comes to lead us home to God's kingdom.

One: O come, let us go to the Babe of Bethlehem; O come, let us adore him!

All: Christ our Lord!

*Hymn of Praise No. 41

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

Anthem

All This For Us

Garry A. Cornell, 1979

Chancel Choir

Call to Reconciliation and Prayer of Confession

One: We begin with such great hopes, such great dreams. We are going to be better, to treat others more fairly, to love more deeply. But we come to the manger once again, knowing our failings, and aware of our brokenness. Let us confess to the One who comes, that our lives might be made new.

All: Emmanuel, God with us, we long to stand beside your manger, to let the wonder and joy of your birth fill our lives with light and beauty. But Lord we find it so difficult to turn aside from the worries and fears that fill our days and turn toward the truth of your love for us. We so easily believe the world's boasts of power and might and quickly forget your promises of justice and peace. We anxiously grab at all the glitter and gold we see around us and and forget the way you touch our lives with grace and love. We hide in the darkness, afraid to look at ourselves in the light of your life. Lord we come to Christmas, but we don't truly open our hearts and lives to the real reason you came to the world; to save us. Forgive us Lord Jesus. Save us from our sins. Transform us with the gift of your life so that we glorify and praise you in everything we do.

(time of silent prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: The true light that enlightens all has come into the world. That light shines on in the darkness, and the darkness has never been able to put it out.

This is the good news: God has heard our confession. God has forgiven our sin.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Passing of the Peace

*Response No. 56

The First Nowell (verses 1-4)

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-7

Christmas Eve Offering

Anthem

The Jesus Gift

Gilbert M. Martin, 1977

Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:8-20

Solo

O Holy Night

A. Adam, 1847; words, P. Cappeau

Alli Molnar

trans. J. S. Dwight

The Celebration of Communion

Communion will be served by intinction. Ushers will escort you forward down the center aisle to receive the bread and cup. Please return to your seat by the side aisles. If you are unable to come forward communion will be brought to you.

Bell Chime/Chord

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Bell Chime/Chord

Of the Father's Love Begotten verse 1 (solo)

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

Bell Chime/Chord

Of the Father's Love Begotten verse 2 (solo)

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

Bell Chime/Chord

Of the Father's Love Begotten verse 3 (solo)

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we