



FOR THE BEGINNING

— LOVE KNOWS YOUR NAME —

Our Worship of God

December 24, 2024

11:00 pm

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

~ Christmas Eve Service ~

Pre-Service Music

Organ Selections

Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

Prelude in G Minor

Olivia, *organ*

God Rest Ye, Merry

Calvin, *piano*

Manger Medley

Sophia, *violin*

Nancy Clark, *piano*

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
Sing We Now of Christmas

Bell Ensemble

arr. Mitchell Eithun

Prelude

Change Ring Prelude on *Divinum Mysterium*

Nancy Dreier & Noah Hartsfield, *handbells*

Colleen Ostercamp, *piano*

Greeting

Pastor Greg Hunt

† Call to Worship (responsive)

Adapted from Luke 2:1-14

In those days,
in the beginning,
Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem.
He was to be registered,
and she was expecting a child.
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,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth, peace to all whom God favors.”

Let us worship our with-us God.

Let us sing songs of praise!

†Opening Hymn 152

Angels We Have Heard on High

Lighting of the Advent Candles

The Hoell Family

In a weary and worn world,
how do we begin again?
Where do we start?

Let us begin with hope.

Let us begin with peace.

Let us begin with joy.

Let us begin with love.

Yes, let us begin with hope, peace, joy, and love,
For Jesus is near.

†Music of Christmas

Away in a Manger

*Away in a manger no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay*

*The cattle are lowing the Baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes
I love Thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh*

*Be near me Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there*

Prayer for Illumination

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise be to Christ.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Hartsfield Family

From the beginning, God has spoken words of blessing.

At Christmas, we remember the blessing of Jesus.

We remember the angels singing

The stars shining

The shepherds running

That love was born.

This night, we light the Christ Candle because God is here.

The Spirit is near.

Love knows our name.

The Christ Candle is lit.

May we rest in that good news.

Unto us a child is born.

Glory to God in the highest heaven!

Amen.

†Special Music

O Holy Night

*O holy night the stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn*

*Fall on your knees
O hear the angel voices
O night divine
O night when Christ was born
O night O holy night
O night divine*

*Led by the light of faith serenely beaming
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming*

*Here came the wise men from Orient land
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger
In all our trials born to be our Friend*

*He knows our need
To weakness is no stranger
Behold your King
Before Him lowly bend
Behold your King
Before Him lowly bend*

*Truly He taught us to love one another
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother
And in His name all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we
Let all within us praise His holy name*

*Christ is the Lord
O praise His name forever
His power and glory
Evermore proclaim
His power and glory
Evermore proclaim*

Message

Pastor Greg Hunt

Invitation to the Table

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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 sin, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Celebration of Holy Communion

Prayer After Communion

†Hymn 151

Go Tell It on the Mountain

†Sharing the Light of Christmas

Pastor Greg Hunt

*(The congregation will form a circle around the sanctuary
and receive light from one another.*

*When lighting your candle, it is best to tip the unlit candle
towards the flame of the lighted candle.)*

Christ, the light of the world, gives each one of us light,
So that we too may shine with gratitude, hope, and love.
Receive the light that comes to you:
It comes from the Christ candle,
But it reaches you only through your neighbors.
Receive the light from a sibling in Christ.
Hold the light, enjoy the light, and be thankful.

*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.*

†Benediction

O Come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
Blow out your candles now,
but take the light of Christ into the world with you.

Worship Notes

Prelude, Change Ring Prelude on Divinum Mysterium, by Fred Gramann, arr. Kevin McChesney

Angels We Have Heard on High, Words & Music: Traditional French carol & melody.

Away in a Manger, James Ramsey Murray, John Thomas McFarland, Martin Luther CCLI Song #38583 © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

O Holy Night, Adolphe Charles Adam, John Sullivan Dwight, Placide Cappeau CCLI Song #32015 © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain

Go Tell It on the Mountain, Words: John W. Work, 1907. Music: Afro-American Spiritual.

Silent Night, CCLI Song # 27862, Franz Xaver Gruber | John Freeman Young | Joseph Mohr

Liturgy adapted from litany by Sanctified Art, LLC.

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BRUNCH WORSHIP
December 29

Brunch Worship - Sunday, December 29

10:15 am in the Fellowship Hall

Join us for Brunch Worship on Sunday, December 29, at 10:15 am. Brunch Worship is an opportunity to connect with God and one another as we gather around tables to share engaging worship, a scrumptious meal, and meaningful conversation! Brunch Worship is a communal endeavor, and you can contribute by bringing a potluck dish to share and by signing up to serve when you arrive. A few reminders, there will be no 9:15 or 11:15 am services.

