

The Order of Worship

December 24, 2012

11:00 P.M.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

We welcome all to this service of worship, especially our visitors and guests. In the time before the service begins, we invite all who worship here to take a moment to offer a prayer lifting up to God the life and work of this family of faith and its pastors.

PROCURE A CANDLE IN THE NARTHEX

PRELUDE Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ, Verse 2

Heinrich Scheidemann

Praise Be to Thee, Jesus Christ

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr

Andreas Armsdorff

All Glory Be to God on High

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

Johannes Brahms

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips

INTROIT O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Day-Spring come and cheer Our spirits by Thine advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. (Refrain)

O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. (Refrain)

Latin antiphons, c. 8th and 12th centuries

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Oakes and Schilling Family

CALL TO WORSHIP

Laura Dupper

Leader: Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

People: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Leader: And this shall be a sign for you.

People: You will find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

Leader: And suddenly there was, with the angel, a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God.

People: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

***HYMN NO. 31** (blue hymnal) Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

***HYMN NO. 116** (red hymnal) Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 9:2,6-7

Eric Adamcik

SCRIPTURE Psalm 96:1-6,10-13

Kaitlyn Price

***HYMN NO. 40** (blue hymnal) Joy to the World!

Antioch

SCRIPTURE Micah 5:2-5a

Connor Sears

***HYMN NO. 44** (blue hymnal) O Little Town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-7

Thomas Bryenton

CAROL Christmas Eve Carol

Jeffrey H. Rickard

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set thy people free; From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in thee.

Hodie Christus natus est, Salvator apparuit. [Christ the Lord is born today, the Savior has appeared.] Alleluia, born today.

Born thy people to deliver, Born a child, and yet a king; Born to reign in us forever, Angels in the heavens sing.

Charles Wesley and Neil Phillips

Jan Barber, Kathryn Van Eenam, and Renee Wiesehuegel, Handbells

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-14

Chris Phillips

MOTET Lully, Lulla, Lullay

Philip W. J. Stopford

Lully, lulla, Thou little tiny Child, By, by, lully, lullay.

O sisters too how may we do for to preserve this day this poor youngling for whom we sing By, by, lully, lullay? (Refrain)

Herod, the king, in his raging, charged he hath this day his men of might in his own sight all young children to slay. (Refrain)

That woe is me, poor Child for Thee, and ever morn and day. For Thy parting neither say nor sing, By, by, lully, lullay! (Refrain)

Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors, 15th century

Meredith Mackay, Soprano

SCRIPTURE John 1:1-5,14

Buran Phillips

CHRISTMAS EVE MEDITATION

Buran Phillips

***HYMN NO. 41** (blue hymnal) O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste fideles

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Tonight we will be celebrating Holy Communion by the method of intinction, where worshipers may

come forward and take a piece of bread to dip into the cup. The ministers and ushers will direct you.

MUSIC FOR COMMUNION A Child My Choice Richard Dirksen

Let folly praise that fancy loves, I praise and love that Child Whose heart no thought, whose tongue no word, whose hand no deed defiled. I praise him most, I love him best, all praise and love is his: While him I love, in him I live, and cannot live amiss.

Love's sweetest mark, laud's highest theme, man's most desired light, To love him life, to leave him death, to live in him delight. He mine by gift, I his by debt, thus each to other due, First friend he was, best friend he is, all times will try him true.

Though young, yet wise, though small, yet strong; though man, yet God he is; As wise he knows, as strong he can, as God he loves to bliss. His knowledge rules, his strength defends, his love doth cherish all; His birth our joy, his life our light, his death our end of thrall.

Alas! he weeps, he sighs, he pants, yet do his angels sing; Out of his tears, his sighs and throbs, doth bud a joyful spring. Almighty Babe, whose tender arms can force all foes to fly, Correct my faults, protect my life, direct me when I die! Amen.

Robert Southwell

SERVICE OF CANDLE LIGHTING ...

The lights will be dimmed and the minister will light a candle from the Christ Candle. The minister will then light the candles of the ushers, who will then light the candles of the first person on each aisle. Light will then be passed from worshiper to worshiper. Remember that the lighted candle remains upright and the unlighted candle is tipped to the lighted candle.

***HYMN** Silent Night, Holy Night

Stille Nacht

(The candle is held close to the breast)

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.

(The candle is extended outward)

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."

(The candle is extended upward)

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.

Following the singing of the final hymn, the ministers will lead a silent recessional to carry the light outside, weather permitting. After everyone has gathered in the front courtyard, we will sing the first verse "O Come All Ye Faithful."

***BENEDICTION**

*Indicates standing.

ELDERS: Bill Wiesehuegel, Tim Ryan, Ruthie Carey, Rick Oakes, Lana Daverman, Bob Daverman, Jonathan Wiesehuegel, Tim Crais

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: Chancel Choir

OUR THANKS to Jan Barber, Kathryn Van Eenam, and Renee Wiesehuegel for their enrichment of our worship tonight as they accompany the Chancel Choir.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30: Worship is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. only. We return to our regular schedule on Sunday, January 6th.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE OPEN on December 31st from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Please bring to the office your 2012 contributions and any pre-paid pledges for 2013 no later than 10:00 a.m. on December 31st. We will resume our regular office hours on Wednesday, January 2nd.

College /Young Adult Gathering

Our College and Young Adult group will gather on Friday, January 4th at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Tim and Anne Crais (6818 Haverhill Drive). Barbara, Tim and Anne will make sure you have a good dinner, and we'll all enjoy catching up before it's time to get back to our busy schedules.

Symbolism of the Lights

The significance of the Candlelight Service is twofold. First, in the distribution of the lights, we see dramatized before us the spreading of the Gospel Message and the growth of the church through the centuries. The pastor's candle is symbolic of Christ, the living Word, and is an extension of the Christ candle in the Advent wreath. The ushers who carry the light to the congregation represent the Apostles

whom Christ sent out to spread the Word and draw the world to Him. The church has grown because men and women and young people who have heard the Good News have been faithful in telling someone else about it, and this is symbolized by your passing the light to the person beside you. The ushers will light the candle closest to the aisle. As each candle bursts into flame and the sanctuary gradually brightens, we catch the significance of Jesus' statement that we are "the light of the world," and that we should spread this light to the "very ends of the world." Secondly, we find significance in the lights during the singing of the dedication hymn. During the singing of the first verse, we hold our lights close as we rededicate ourselves to Christ. As we sing the second verse, we hold the candle out in front of us as we rededicate our homes and families once again to him. During the last verse, we hold our candles high as we rededicate our part of His church here to the task of taking the Gospel Light to every corner of the earth. After the Benediction, please extinguish your light. Receptacles for the spent candles are located in the narthex.

Please use extreme caution in the handling of the lighted candles to prevent accidents with the hair or clothing of the person in front of you and the pews or carpet. Children must be carefully supervised. For safety's sake, it is requested that children under six should "share" their parents candle.

Advent Flowers 2012

We would like to thank everyone for their contributions to our Flower Guild during this Advent Season.

Ken and Ellen Anderson. In memory their mothers, Lucille Anderson and Alice Burgoon
 Anonymous. In honor of Anne Dungan
 Laura Barron. In memory of her mother, Harriette Rowe
 Marlene Browning. In memory of Larry Browning
 Chappell children and grandchildren. In memory of Bill and Lola Chappell
 Anne Davidson. In honor of John and Sarah Stevens
 Christie Dowling. In honor of her mother, Betty M. Caldwell
 Don and Connie Graham. In honor of their family
 Kathy and Charlie Graves. In memory of Stanley "Bub" Jurgeson
 Betty and John Hanes. In memory of their friends, Chris Salsbery and John Rayson
 Gary, Katherine, Kaitlyn and Nathan Harmon. In memory of Benjamin Harmon and Barbara Goan
 Paula Hogan. In memory of John Hogan
 Sky and Kathy Huck. In memory of Phyllis and Albert Clark, parents of Kathy Clark Huck
 Anne and John Langley. In honor of Mrs. Robert B. Shepard
 . . .and their grandchildren, Bryson and Molly
 Ed, Cile, Danielle, Hannah and Eva Mathews. In memory of Matt Mathews

Norman, Linda and Caroline McRae. In honor of Barbara Adamcik
 John and Ibbie Muntz. In memory of their mothers, Mildred C. Jack and Laura S. Muntz
 Rookie and Jane Norton. In memory of their parents and in honor of their grandchildren
 Rick and Janice Rawe. In honor of all the members of the Flower Guild
 Larry Ridley Family. In honor of the Westminster staff
 Sandra and Gary Rowcliffe. In honor of the blessings of their children,
 Eliza, Claire, Caroline and Garrett
 Elizabeth and John Salsbery. In memory of Chris Salsbery
 Cindy Spangler. In honor of Rachael Spangler
 . . .and in loving memory of Vivian Gammon and Lauren Woodall Roady
 Julia Tortorelli. In memory of her grandparents, Flora and Joseph Tortorelli
 . . .and Alberta and William Bertelsen
 Kathleen and Larry Tragesser. In memory of Clovis and Gene Tragesser
 . . .and Justine and George Dukas
 Robin and Joe Ben Turner. In honor of Joel, Ashley, Will, Nathalie and Bennett
 Renee and Bill Wiesehuegel. In memory of Shirley Jean Rechenbach
 Jim and Linda Yates. In memory of Bob Cantrell, Chris Salsbery and Barbara Schilling

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 Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate
 Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster
 Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries
 Angela Grobe, Children's Christian Education
 Tim Crais, Interim Education Coordinator
 Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper
 Sandra Williams, Administrative Assistant
 Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

THE SESSION

Class of 2013
 Ruthie Carey

Class of 2014
 Terry Crow

Class of 2015
 Ellen Anderson

Kristi Gordon
Buz Johnson
Tim Ryan
John Salsbery
Youth Elder: Nathan Seidner

Dave Dupper
Angela Partelow
Cindy Spangler
Bill Wiesehuegel

Jean Bonnyman
Hap McSween
Rick Oakes
Jack Woodall

TRUSTEES

Roy Hawk

Norman McRae

Joe Ben Turner