

RECORDED CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

PRELUDE

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: On this night of carols and candlelight we come, our joyous songs uniting with those of a choir of angels in our midst.

People: On this silent night we come, journeying with the shepherds who hurry to Bethlehem and are filled with wonder because of what they see.

People: On this holy night we come, with our hopes and dreams joining those of Mary and Joseph who are watching over their newborn son.

People: On this night of joy to the world we come, giving glory to God in the highest heaven because of the birth of a Savior who will bring peace on earth to those on whom God's favor rests.

Leader: Come, O people, and let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

#HYMN No. 132 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING

Leader: May your hearts be filled with God's love towards all people as you consider the life of John the Baptist, whose calling was to make the world ready to receive God's Messiah, Jesus.

People: Thanks be to God.

Relighting the Advent Candles

Reading for Christmas Eve from Luke 2

Lighting the Christ Candle

Prayer (unison)

Let us pray: Holy God, you left the glory of heaven to take upon yourself our fragile humanity. You came to us not as a powerful king, but as a meek child. You were not born into the privilege of wealth but into the burden of poverty. You did not sleep on sheets of fine linen but on a bed of rough straw. We have lit the candles of hope, peace, love and joy. May those virtues shine brightly in our lives. And we have lit the Christ candle as we welcome Christ our Savior, the light of the world, into our hearts this Christmas. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "O Holy Night"

Elena Parr

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *A Night Like No Other*

SPECIAL MUSIC "What Child is This?" Bethany Kirkpatrick and Audrey Cabral

SCRIPTURE READINGS John 1:1-5, 9-14 and Luke 2:1-20

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE "Christmas Magic" Rev. Fred Gagnon

#HYMN No. 137 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

DEDICATION OF CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Gracious God, why is it that on the day we celebrate our Savior's birth we find presents under the Christmas tree for ourselves and our loved ones, but there are none for Jesus. He is the one we should be giving to, but oftentimes he is all but forgotten on his own birthday. We want to remedy that by dedicating our offerings to you in gratitude for sending Christ to us. Receive our gifts of time, talent and treasure, we pray, and guide us in using them to proclaim to the world how you loved the world so much that you sent your only Son, full of grace and truth, so that we may all have Eternal Life. Amen.

#HYMN No. 142 "Silent Night"

CHRISTMAS PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts and debtors)

#HYMN No. 134 "Joy to the World"

BENEDICTION (Responsive)

Leader: On this blessed night, the good news has been proclaimed! Jesus the Messiah has been born. Glory to God in the highest heaven!

People: He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Leader: Now is only beginning of the Christmas story. It has not ended, but continues to be written every time we bring Christmas magic into the world.

People: We will manifest Christmas's magic by proclaiming the hope that has been born in us, and by sharing the love of this season all year round.

Leader: As we go, may the Lord go with us, and enable us to live our lives in a way that is faithful to our newborn Savior.

POSTLUDE