

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF WORSHIP
December 24, 2017 · 8:00 PM

(*) Those who are able, please stand

Large print hymnals and wireless hearing aids are available; ask an Usher

CARILLON Skip Briggs

WELCOME

[PRELUDE](#) "Pastorale" Zipoli

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Scaccia Family
Unison Prayer: **Risen Christ, Light of the world, shine in our lives and shine among us now.**

*CAROL "O Come, All Ye Faithful" No. 41

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison) Leader: Evan Griffith
Invitation
Unison Prayer

**God of Love Incarnate, we confess that,
with the shepherds, we are terrified of your glory;
for in glory's light we see plainly all that is wrong in the world:
how oppression still enslaves;
how garments of war are still stained with blood;
how those seeking refuge still find no place of safety.**

**We also see what is wrong in us:
how passionately we pursue the things of this world,
but forget to ponder the mystery of faith;
how we do not practice the peace you intend
in our relationships, our community, or even in the church.**

Forgive us, we pray, and help us not to be afraid.

Like the shepherds, we want to follow and find you.

In the Savior's name we pray.

Silent Confession
Declaration of Pardon
Sharing God's Peace

*CAROL "O Little Town of Bethlehem" No. 44

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING Luke 2:1-20
"The Word of the Lord / Thanks be to God!" NT Pew Bible Page 44

[ANTHEM](#) "Night of Silence" Daniel Kantor

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 9:2-7
"The Word of the Lord / Thanks be to God!" OT Pew Bible Page 494

CHILDREN'S STORY Pastor Sam

[SERMON](#) "We Are Loved"

*CAROL "Angels We Have Heard on High" No. 23

*CHRISTMAS LITANY

Leader Loving God, For you animals prepared a bed

**People For you the heavens shone brightly
and the stars clapped their hands**

Leader For you angels sang to help calm your crying

**People For you shepherds stood watch
and marveled at how small you were**

Leader For you wise ones came running from the east,
and when they saw you,

**People They fell down on their knees because you were
Almighty God and yet you were so vulnerable**

Leader You were God and yet you had a soft spot on your head

**People God with Mary's milk on your breath,
wrapped up in swaddling clothes**

Leader God, creator of everything,
now born of flesh and blood to be with us

People Emmanuel, God with us

Leader Hope is ours

People Peace is on the way

Leader Sorrow has lost its grip

People Love has flooded every heart

Leader Emmanuel, God with us

People Light has come back into the world

Leader And the darkness of despair, and war, and hurt,
and hate shall not overcome it

People Tonight you are with us and we will never be the same

Leader We will be more tender

People We will protect the vulnerable

Leader We will stand watch

**People We will come running to soothe the pain,
to befriend the lonely, to lift up the lowly**

Leader To live as your people, to walk with you in love

People We pray all of this in the name of Emmanuel, God with us

Leader In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

OFFERING

Invitation

[Offertory Music](#) "What Child Is This" arr Guaraldi
Guests: Laura and Ron D'Angelo

Song of Praise "What Child Is This" # 53 (v3)
**So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh, Come peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings, Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!**

Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Each communion bread tray has a dish of rice cake pieces for those who avoid wheat products

Invitation to the Table

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord be with you / **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts / **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name ...

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest**

The prayer continues and concludes with The Lord's Prayer (using "forgive us our debts")

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

CAROL "Silent Night" Remain Seated

(As the flame is being passed, hold the lighted candle erect to avoid dripping wax)

Verse 1

*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*

Verse 2

*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*

Verse 3

*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*

Verse 4

*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 – concluding with

Pastor: God is good

People: All the time!

[POSTLUDE](#) Postlude on "Joy to the World" arr Ore

Thank you to Skip Briggs for providing Carillon Music; to our Usher Team; led this evening by Dave Scaccia; to our Worship Recorder, Jay Fish; to our Deacon at the Ramp, Bonnie Herter and to Laura & Ron D'Angelo for their musical contribution

Our Christmas Wreaths Hanging at the Court Street Entrances
Are Given In Memory of
Mr. & Mrs. Haydn Lewis
By Their Loving Family

Our Memorial Advent Wreath
Is given in Loving Memory of
Hazel Wooding
By Her Daughter, June Sperlik

A Memorial Christmas Sanctuary Wreath
Is Placed in Honor of
Vera Noxon
For Her Long Service to Our Church Family

A Memorial Christmas Sanctuary Wreath
Is Placed in Loving Memory of
Robert & Barbara Henderson
by Jim & Pam Henderson