



“Advent Candle,” by Lauren Plummer
(Hand-printed linocut)



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 24, 2022
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FBC SANCTUARY
7:00 P.M.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 24, 2022

The Incarnation positions Jesus among the most vulnerable people, the bereft and threatened of society. The first advent shows God wrestling with the struggles common to many the world over. And from this disadvantaged stance, Jesus lives out God's peace agenda as a counter-testimony to Caesar's peace. This is the story of advent: we join Jesus as incarnations of God's peace on this earth for however long it takes. God walks in deep solidarity with humanity, sharing in our sufferings and moments of hope. Amid our hardship, God is with us. Emmanuel remains the name on our lips in troubled times.
-- Kelley Nikondeha

Gathering Music Evelyn Falen, organ/Neal Purvis, trombone/Will Cooper, trumpet

Welcome Rev. Cristina Adams

Prelude "The Birthday of a King"
W. H. Neidlinger / Tedd Smith and Don Hustad, © 1966 Hope Publishing Co.
Alfred Publishing Co. Used with permission. CCLI#20126570

Lighting of the Christ Candle The Schmidt Family

Congregational Carol, No. 103, Verses 1, 2, & 3 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"
ADESTE FIDELES

Evening Prayer and The Lord's Prayer Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer Response, No. 110 "Away in a Manger"
MUELLER

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

The First Lesson *Humanity's Brokenness Enters the World* Rev. Dr. Angie Jackson
Genesis 3.1-9

Congregational Carol, No. 83 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"
HYFRYDOL

The Second Lesson *An Angel Promises a Great People* Rev. Roger Jackson
Genesis 22.15-18

Congregational Carol, No. 113 "Of the Father's Love Begotten"
DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

The Third Lesson *Those Living in Darkness Have Seen a Great Light* Rev. Cristina Adams
Isaiah 9.2, 6-7

Congregational Carol, (CONGR 84) “The People Who in Darkness Walked”
BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN

The Fourth Lesson *The Peaceable Kingdom* Rev. Dr. Angie Jackson
Isaiah 11.1-4

Congregational Carol, No. 105, Verses 1 & 2 “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”
EST IST EIN ROS’

The Fifth Lesson *Mary to Carry the Child of Promise* Rev. Cristina Adams
Luke 1.26-38

Congregational Carol, No. 91, Verses 1 & 2 “My Soul Proclaims with Wonder”
WALNUT

The Sixth Lesson *The Baby is Born!* Rev. Roger Jackson
Luke 2.1-7

Congregational Carol No. 104 “Once in David’s Royal City”
IRBY

Offering: “No Room in the Inn” Heartland Community Health Center

Heartland Community Health Center treats people of a wide-variety of socio-economic statuses, and will never turn a patient away based on their inability to pay. They offer medical, dental, pediatric, and mental/behavioral health care on a sliding-scale basis. Heartland also partners with Harvesters to offer a Care Cupboard, because they know that access to healthy food is integral to healthy lives and bodies.

Offertory “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”
W. Zlobie Lezy/ Aff. Martha Lynn Thompson
©1983 in Ready to Ring! By Agape Music. Used by permission CCLI #20126570

Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Seventh Lesson *The Shepherds and Angels* Rev. Dr. Angie Jackson
Luke 2.8-16

Congregational Carol, No. 127 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
MENDELSSOHN

The Eighth Lesson

The Magi

Rev. Cristina Adams
Matthew 2.1-12

Congregational Carol, No. 126

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”
REGENT SQUARE

The Ninth Lesson

The Word Made Flesh

Rev. Roger Jackson
John 1.1-14

Ministry of Music

“The Wexford Carol”

Elaine Hagenberg (ASCAP) © 2019 Beckenhorst Press, Inc. Used with permission CCLI #20126570

Celebrating the Table of Peace

Invitation to the Table

Celebrating the Bread & Cup

[“Three Tunes - Away in a Manger ---Public Domain / Arr. Evelyn Falen]

Hymn of Peace (No. 134) and Candle Lighting

“Silent Night”
STILLE NACHT

Chiming of the Hour

Pastoral Benediction

Postlude

“O Holy Night”

Adolphe C. Adam / Robert J. Hughes. © 1985 Lorenz Publishing Co./ The Lorenz Corp.
Used with permission. CCLI#20126570

FBC PASTORAL STAFF:

Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant, Senior Pastor
Rev. Cristina Adams, Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families

LITURGISTS:

Rev. Dr. Angie and Rev. Roger Jackson

MUSICIANS:

Cantor & Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist: Evelyn Falen
Will Cooper, trumpet/Neal Purvis, trombone FBC Bell Choir directed by Sandy Heacock

LIVE STREAM VIDEO CREW:

Video: Susan Pauls, Jim Lord Audio: Marylee Southard Social Media Chat Moderator: Jenny Purvis

For those who donated poinsettias for the altar you are welcome to take them home following tonight's service. The FBC Staff expresses our sincere gratitude for the Christmas gifts given to us by such a loving and caring congregation!