



**CHRISTMAS EVE 2024 – 7:30pm**

Prelude

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

*Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Flute Choir

Chancel Choir

Welcome and Invocation

Call to Worship

Paul Reader

O Come, All Ye Faithful

**Lesson 1**

Genesis 3:8-15 (responsive)

*God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall crush the serpent's head.*

*We then long for this one to come – for He will make things right.*

Paul Reader

#92 Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

**Lesson 2**

Isaiah 9:6-7, Micah 5:2

*Isaiah prophesies that the coming King would hold several titles above all others, while Micah prophesies that the coming King would be born in Bethlehem.*

*We marvel: to such a small town comes such a great King!*

Margaret Key

#96 O Little Town of Bethlehem

**Lesson 3**

Luke 1:26-38

*The angel Gabriel announces to Mary the birth of Jesus, the Son of the Most High. He is the seed of the woman announced in Genesis, the King born in Bethlehem foretold by Isaiah and Micah.*

Vicky Starr

What Child Is This?

#### Lesson 4

Matthew 1:18-23

Rees Hunt

*The angel tells Joseph of the one to be born to Mary –  
He will save his people from their sins.  
The question remains: Has He saved you from your sins?*

Choral Anthem – *In the First Light*

Chancel Choir

#### Lesson 5

Luke 2:1-7

Harry Lehr

*Luke tells of the birth of Jesus. The one through whom all the galaxies  
were made now lies as a baby in a feeding trough.*

Go Tell It on the Mountain

#### Lesson 6

Luke 2:8-20

Carolyn Chawla

*Hearing the announcement of the heavenly host, the shepherds  
journey to see the Savior announced to them. Now that you have  
heard of this Savior will you journey to see Him and receive Him?*

#97 Hark the Herald Angels Sing

#93 Angels We Have Heard on High (verses 1, 3 & 4)

**Message**

Rev. Keith Fink

**Mission Impossible**

Luke 1:34-38

Special Music – *All Is Well*

Chris & Vicky Starr

Candle Lighting Liturgy  
Silent Night! Holy Night!

The Farrells

Benediction  
Postlude

## Genesis 3:8-15

### Responsive Reading

Leader: And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day,

**People: and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.**

Leader: He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

**People: The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate."**

Leader: Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

**People: The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.**

Leader: "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring;

**People: "he shall bruise your head,  
and you shall bruise his heel."**

## Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Liturgy

UNISON: **Love divine, all Loves excelling  
Joy of heaven to earth come down,  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling  
All Thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion  
Pure, unbounded love Thou art.  
Visit us with Thy salvation  
Enter every trembling heart** (Hymn #74)

Leader: “How can this be?” Mary asked the angel who had foretold the birth of Christ. Two thousand years later, we continue to ask, “How can this be?” Immanuel – God with us. Of all the wonders of Christmas, this is the most amazing. The Lord God, Creator of the universe, came to live among us. He made His entry, wrapped not in royal robes, but in swaddling clothes lying in a manger.

Lighter: Tonight we light the final candle, often called the Christ Candle, to rejoice in God’s grace that He chose to restore us to Himself and provided the way to make it happen.

UNISON: **After the angel spoke to Mary, she replied, “I am the Lord’s servant. May it be to me as you have said.” Often a work of God comes with two edges, great joy and great pain, and in that matter-of-fact response, Mary embraced both. She was the first person to accept Jesus on His own terms, regardless of personal cost** (Philip Yancey, *The Jesus I Never Knew*).