



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24, 2024

***"Be reverent, for this is the house of the Lord.
Before the service, speak to God.
During the service, let God speak to you.
"After the service, speak to one another at the fellowship area."***



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Our Vision

Nurturing Disciples to be a Spirit-filled, Impactful Church

The 4 Essentials

***Personal Growth, Building Community,
A Voice to Our Nation, A Vision for the World***

The Christ candle should be lit at the start of the service. Everyone should have a candle ready to be lit at the end of the service.

GATHERING

INTRODUCTION

We have come together in God's presence, to celebrate the great festival of Christmas. In this service we hear and receive the good news of the birth of Christ and we offer to God our thanksgiving in the joyful singing of carols.

THE BIDDING PRAYER

As we gather together in the name of Christ, we pray for the world He came to save:

For the Church, that it may be enabled in our generation to surrender anew to God's holy Wisdom, and bear the good news of God's love to a needy world;

For the world, which already belongs to Christ, that all its peoples may recognize their responsibility for its future, and may be inspired by the message of Christmas to work together for the establishment of justice, freedom and peace everywhere;

For all in special need, the sick, the anxious, the lonely, the fearful and the bereaved, that the peace and light of the Christ-child may bring hope and healing to all who sit in darkness.

We commend all whom we love, or who have asked for our prayers, to the unfailing mercy of our heavenly Father, and say together, as Christ Himself taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in Heaven

Hallowed be Your Name

Your Kingdom come

Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

For Yours is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory forever and ever.

Amen.

TESTIMONY

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

God announces in the Garden of Eden Adam and Eve's punishment for their rebellion and that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises to Abraham that by his descendants all the nations of the earth will obtain blessings.

CAROL

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH 196

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
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring
By Thy own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thine glorious throne

CCLI Song #31999

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" words & music by Charles Wesley | Rowland Hugh Prichard

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THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.

FOURTH LESSON

Micah 5:2-5a

The king is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor and peace for all God's creation.

CAROLO Come, O Come, Emmanuel (*stanzas 1, 2*)

UMH 211

O come, O come, Emmanuel
 And ransom captive Israel
 That mourns in lonely exile here
 Until the Son of God appear

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high
 And order all things far and nigh
 To us the path of knowledge show
 And cause us in her ways to go

*Rejoice! Rejoice!
 Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel*

FIFTH LESSON*Luke 1:26-35, 38*

The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give birth to God's promised Son, whose kingdom will never end.

SIXTH LESSON*Luke 2:1-7*

Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.

CAROLO Little Town of Bethlehem (*stanzas 1, 2*)

UMH 230

O little town of Bethlehem
 How still we see thee lie
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 The silent stars go by
 Yet in thy dark streets shineth
 The everlasting light
 The hopes and fears of all the years
 Are met in thee tonight

For Christ is born of Mary
 And gathered all above
 While mortals sleep, the angels keep
 Their watch of wondering love
 O morning stars together
 Proclaim the holy birth
 And praises sing to God the King
 And peace to all on earth!

*CCLI Song #2590723**"O Little Town of Bethlehem" words & music by Lani Smith | Lewis Henry Redner | Phillips Brooks**Words: Public Domain; Music: 1970, 1983 The Lorenz Corporation**CCLI Licence #620790***SEVENTH LESSON***Luke 2:8-16*

The shepherds go to see the Saviour of the world and find Him lying in a manger.

CAROLThe First Noel (*stanzas 1, 2*)

UMH 245

The first Noel, the angel did say
 Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
 In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
 On a cold winter's night that was so deep

They looked up and saw a star
 Shining in the east beyond them far
 And to the earth it gave great light
 And so it continued both day and night

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
 Born is the King of Israel*

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EIGHTH LESSON*Matthew 2:1-11*

The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.

CAROLWe Three Kings (*stanzas 1, 2, 3, 4*)

UMH 254

We three kings of Orient are
 Bearing gifts we traverse afar
 Field and fountain, moor and mountain
 Following yonder star

King forever, ceasing never
 Over us all to reign

*O star of wonder, star of light
 Star with royal beauty bright
 Westward leading, still proceeding
 Guide us to Thy perfect light*

Frankincense to offer have I
 Incense owns a Deity nigh
 Prayer and praising, voices raising
 Worshiping God on high

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
 Gold I bring to crown Him again

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
 Breathes a life of gathering gloom
 Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying
 Sealed in the stone-cold tomb

CCLI Song # 7145523
 "We Three Kings" words & music by John Henry Hopkins Jr. | Wen Reagan
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NINTH LESSON*John 1:1-14*

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

CAROL

O Holy Night

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth
Long lay the world, in sin and error pining
'Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

Fall on your knees

O hear, the angel voices

O night divine

O night, when Christ was born

O night divine

O night, O night divine

Truly He taught us to love one another
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break
For the slave is our brother
And in His name all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy
In grateful chorus raise we
Let all within us praise His holy name

Christ is the Lord, oh, praise His name forever

His power and glory evermore proclaim

His power and glory evermore proclaim

CCLI Song # 7164258

"O Holy Night" words & music by Hannah McClure | Paul McClure

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MESSAGE

Anticipating a Promise

Rev Shearn Sya

CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

UMH 234

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him
Born the King of angels

O come, let us adore Him

O come, let us adore Him

O come, let us adore Him

Christ the Lord

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal
Lo He shuns not the Virgin's womb
Son of the Father
Begotten, not created

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger
We would embrace thee with love and awe
Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning
Jesus, to thee be all glory given
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

CCLI #7185360

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" words & music by C. Frederick Oakeley | Crowns Of Creation Ministries Corp | John Francis Wade

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LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

The leader lights their candle from the Christ candle, and passes their light on to the next person, who passes their light on to the next, and so on.

CAROL

Silent Night, Holy Night

UMH 239

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

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

Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Saviour is born
Christ the Saviour is born!

Silent night, holy night
Wondrous star, lend thy light
With the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born!

CCLI Song #27862

"Silent Night, Holy Night" words & music by Franz Xaver Gruber | John Freeman Young | Joseph Mohr

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DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Tonight's WORSHIP ENABLERS

Sermon Title	Anticipating a Promise
Preacher	Rev Shearn Sya
Worship Leaders	Mrs Gerviene Sya, Mr Amos Lau
Readers	Dr Chuah Hock Aun, Mrs Mary Wolf Mr Chuah Toh Thye, Mrs Janet Ng Mr Ryan Loke, Dr Mallise Tong Mr Hendrix Cheong, Ms Vanessa Ngu, Ms Selina Ngu
Musicians	Ms Emily Ngu, Mr Edwin Oon Mr Amos Lau, Mr Tairven Lee
Sound	Mr Daniel Purba
Visual	Mr Calvin Fong
Streaming	Ms Wong Fong Yi
Ushers	Ms Teo Lay Tinn, Ms Tan Yu Ai

Tomorrow's WORSHIP ENABLERS

Christmas Day Service (10.00am)

Sermon Title/Text	Building upon the Faithfulness of God's Promises (John 1:14)
Preacher	Rev Shearn Sya
Worship Leaders	Mrs Lim Huey Yoke Mr William Ng, Ms Cheah Yan Li
Readers	Mrs Joanna Tham
Musicians	Ms Emily Ngu, Ms Adelya Yeoh Mr Eian Chan, Mr Shane Tan
Sound	Mr Jason Tham / Mr Mark Chieng
Visual	Mr Calvin Fong
Streaming	Mr David Law
Ushers	Ms Wong Siew Eng, Ms Tan Yu Ai Ms Teo Lay Tinn, Dr Serena Nga, Ms Julia Yap Ms Joanna Yap, Ms Erin Chan, Mr Euan Chan

Next Sunday's WORSHIP ENABLERS

	<u>10.00 am Service</u>	<u>5.00 pm Service</u>
Sermon Title/Text	TBA	TBA
Preacher	Mr Tan Chong Jin	Mr Tan Chong Jin
Liturgist	n/a	Mrs Loo Li Lin
Worship Leaders	Mrs Angela Khong, Mrs Lee Wee Lyn	
Reader	Ms Clarissa Hii	Ms Selina Ngu
Musicians	Ms Emily Ngu, Mr Edwin Oon Mr Eian Chan, Mr Tairven Lee	TBA
Sound	Mr Jesse Ong	TBA
Visual	Mr Calvin Fong	Ms Cheah Yan Li
Streaming	Mr David Law	n/a
Ushers	Mrs Connie Lim, Ms Emmy Chia Ms Tan Yu Ai, Mr Vincent Lee	Mdm Jenny Hoo Mr Tony Teh
Finance Stewards	Mr Lim Pang Kuan Mdm Nellie Goh Beng Hong Mr Khoo Boo Thye	n/a