

heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia, Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.”

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.

Please raise your candle during Stanza 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

Tom Ogburn

Postlude

Brandon Coffey & Rhonda Carpenter

Angels from the Realms of Glory
arr. Keith Christopher

** All who are able may stand*

Please deposit candles in the baskets located at the exits.

Please Join Us Tomorrow Morning

10:00 am for Coffee and Pastries in the Blue Room

10:30 am for Family Christmas Morning Worship in the Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Worship

December 24, 2016 • 5:00 PM

Tom Ogburn, D.Min., Senior Pastor

Lessons, Carols, and Candlelight

Pre-Service Music

Rhonda Carpenter, Organ, and Brandon Coffey, Piano

*Responsive Call to Worship

Richard Buerkle

Leader: All God's people—boys and girls, women, men:

People: Come and worship!

Leader: Angels, shepherds, sages and saints:

People: Come and worship! Come and worship!

Leader: All who need the Savior, all who long for comfort:

All: The Lord is come!

*Processional Carol 102

Joy to the World
ANTIOCH

Words of Welcome and Christmas Greetings

Tom Ogburn

Lighting the Advent Wreath (Christ Candle)

Tom & Beth Ogburn

First Lesson: Promise to Abraham (Genesis 22:15-18)

Arthur Clayton

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time and said, "I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

Second Lesson: Prophecy of Isaiah (Isaiah 9:2, 6-7)

Richard Buerkle

The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.
For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him,
Seraphim round him their vigil will keep;
Nations proclaim him their Lord and their Savior,
But Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep.

Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger:
Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay.
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation:
A child with his mother that first Christmas Day.

Eighth Lesson: The Word Became Flesh (John 1:1-14)

Tom Ogburn

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Carol 127

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
ANTIOCH

Christmas Eve Homily

Tom Ogburn

Service of Candlelight and Song

*Candlelight Carol

Silent Night
STILLE NACHT

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, shepherds quake at the sight. Glory streams from heaven afar,

and seen, which were just as they had been told.

*Carol 126

Angels from the Realms of Glory
REGENT SQUARE

Seventh Lesson: Visit of the Wise Men (Matthew 2:1-12)

Ben Winder

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Offertory Prayer

Ben Winder

Offertory Anthem

Sanctuary Choir

Candlelight Carol
by John Rutter

How do you capture the wind on the water?
How do you count all the stars in the sky?
How do you measure the love of a mother,
Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

*Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star-glow
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn.
Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo!
Angels are singing; the Christ child is born.*

and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.
He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.
The zeal of the Lord Almighty
will accomplish this.

*Carol 83

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
HYFRYDOL

Third Lesson: The Peaceful Kingdom (Isaiah 11:1-9)

Scott Claybrook

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—

and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;

but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.

He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

Righteousness will be his belt
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

The wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard will lie down with the goat,
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;
and a little child will lead them.

The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

The infant will play near the cobra's den,
and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.

They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

Anthem

I Wonder as I Wander
arr. John Rutter
Emma Simpson, soloist

Sanctuary Choir

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
How Jesus, the Savior, did come for to die.
For poor onery people like you and like I:
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,
And the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing:
A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing;
Or all of God's angels in heaven to sing,
He surely could have it, 'cause he was the King!

Fourth Lesson: The Magnificat (Luke 1:26-38)

Pam Neal

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"
The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

*Carol 114

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child
TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

Fifth Lesson: The Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-7)

Susan Tatum

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Solo

Joseph's Song
by Michael Card

Stan Zachary

Carol 110

Away in a Manger
MUELLER

Children's Message

Susan Tatum

Sixth Lesson: Shepherds and Angels (Luke 2:8-20)

Dave Ward

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard